

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018 – 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with Chairman David P. Stotz leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Trustees Richard A. Geyer and W. Robert Kusmer.

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, that the minutes of the December 4, 2018 meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz –Yes; the motion carried.

Ellen Ickes, Fiscal Officer, provided printed financial reports to the trustees: Appropriation Status, Payment Listing, Receipt Listing, Fund Status, Cash Summary by Fund, Resources Available for Appropriation, and Comparison of Budget and Appropriated. A verbal financial report was given as follows for today’s meeting:

Total bills:\$ 50,939.05

Total receipts:\$ 28,427.08

Cash total in all funds:\$ 1,005,025.05

It was moved by Mr. Kusmer, seconded by Mr. Geyer, that the financial report be approved and the bills be paid. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer –Yes; the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A sign-in sheet was passed around and all present were requested to sign in (attached).

Sandusky County Commissioner Scott Miller was present, and advised that the county EMS has been certified at a level that is only achieved by 5% of the state; the county budget has been finalized; the Sandusky County Sheriff’s Department is utilizing the old detention center for some of their operations. He also invited residents to the commissioner meetings, held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. until noon. A different time could be set up at another location, including the township house if requested.

Mr. Miller also stated that the “hum” in his home continues, and he is hoping that OUPS can figure out what causes it. They have had all utilities turned off to find the source of the sound with no luck. It is now suspected that there could be a buried electric line that is causing this.

Joe Garrett of Trebel LLC was present and spoke briefly with the trustees about continuing the process of working with Trebel for the township’s electric aggregation. While Mr. Garrett was present, the trustees signed the Energy Consulting and Management Agreement with Trebel, which Mr. Garrett then took to obtain Trebel signature(s). He stated that he will return a signed form to the township.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson and Jim Gillis

Mr. Gillis informed the trustees that he will not be attending the trustees' meetings during the months of January, February, or March.

Superintendent Lagrou stated that there are a few cremation burials scheduled.

Jack Ferguson advised that he personally will hold an informational meeting regarding Oakwood Cemetery on January 12, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at the Ballville Fire Department Community Hall. He would like to explain the cemetery to interested persons. The Oakwood Cemetery Board held a meeting earlier in the month at Keller Koch Chudzinski Funeral Home, at which time a vote of lot owners was held to decide if the cemetery would be turned over to the township. Mr. Ferguson stated that many people at that meeting did not vote because they were confused. The meeting on January 12 is a meeting he is holding himself to share information. He emphasized that if/when the cemetery association turns the cemetery over to the township, the township should get the money along with the cemetery.

Discussion took place, including the effect of last week's passage of HB 500 that states that when a cemetery is turned over to a township, all money associated with a cemetery must be turned over, too.

Mr. Ferguson asked the trustees if he could place a sign in Hydraulic Park to advertise the January 12 meeting. He advised that it would be on wheels. Solicitor Barney will be asked for guidance on the request.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from December 18, 2018, which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

He also advised that the Zoning Commission will hold a meeting on January 24, 2019.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood

Mr. Wood stated that there was no December Parks Board meeting.

Superintendent Lagrou said that Conner Park was winterized for the year.

Mrs. Ickes advised that there are no 2019 temporary appropriations in the township's park development fund or the state capital grant fund for Chudzinski Johannsen Park, and therefore there can be no expenditures until the township receives its first amended certificate from the county auditor, most likely in February after the current year is closed out. The township will be in temporary appropriation mode during that time for all funds.

Superintendent Lagrou stated that he has not yet received the letter from Andy Brown of the Sandusky County Parks regarding written confirmation for the township to continue to hold the funds for the 2017 grant award until a decision is made by the township to make the intended purchase from the General Fund. So far, the township only has received informal verbal acknowledgement.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

Leaf collection should be done on December 21. Accommodations will be made to township residents as needed after that date. The township will be purchasing a new suction hose and giving it to the City of Fremont to replace the hose the township had to borrow to finish leaf pickup. The township will keep an extra hose on hand in the future.

Ax-Pro has removed a few more trees. The leaning tree on Darr Road was looking more precarious every day and it was good to get those trees removed.

On Thursday, December 20, Ballville will host the superintendent's luncheon, and the county engineer's office has been invited. Superintendent Lagrou invited the trustees and fiscal officer to attend. Those attending from Ballville will bring a dish to share.

Mrs. Ickes advised that Erie Blacktop has been paid by all townships and the State of Ohio's OPWC for the Issue II road repaving project.

She also advised that she obtained Doug Crowell's signature on the Universal Farms contract today for brush drop-off for 2019. It is available for the trustees to sign tonight. The trustees signed the contract during the meeting.

Mr. Lagrou said the Baker Road project is done except for needing some topsoil, and that water is flowing.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Ickes advised that year-end payment checks and maintenance employee payroll checks will be dated January 2, 2019 unless the trustees want to hold a special meeting on December 31 to sign checks dated December 31. The trustees advised that there would be no meeting on December 31. Bills received through the end of 2018 and payroll for those employees from December 15-31, the last pay period of 2018, will be recorded in 2019.

The trustees were asked by Mrs. Ickes to vote on the renewal with CareWorksComp for the township's group rating program for Workers' Compensation for 2020 at a cost of \$600.00 annually. An invoice from CareWorksComp was just received and was dated December 10; this is usually received and voted on in March each year. Today CareWorks advised that December is when the invoices will be sent out in the future.

Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to renew the Workers' Comp Group Rating Program for 2020 with CareWorks Comp for the \$600.00 invoiced. Upon a vote – Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried.

On December 10, Cal Anderson, IT specialist from OTARMA, met with Mr. Lagrou, Mr. Bain, and Mrs. Ickes regarding cybersecurity. He recommended that the township install Windows 10 on computers running older versions of Windows due to older versions not being supported in the future. Mr. Anderson will be a good resource for the township, and his services are available at no charge. He is willing to assist in the conversion of Pontem cemetery software, which costs around \$500 a year, to UAN's cemetery module, the cost of which is included in the township's UAN fees for accounting and payroll. He offered best practice procedures and discussed cost-saving ideas, including that the township revise and maintain its website. He will spend however much time the township needs to run computer and technology-related applications and is willing to do so on-site when needed. He was hired by OTARMA in 2018 to assist townships.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, for the reduction in the appropriation for the Issue II road repaving project to actual cost so that the revenue can be adjusted on the year-end amended certificate, as requested by Mrs. Ickes. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; as Resolution 2018-39:

RESOLUTION 2018-39

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO ADJUST THE APPROPRIATION IN FUND 4401 - 2018 OPWC ROAD REPAVING FUND TO ACTUAL COST.

Mrs. Ickes requested a motion for a resolution to reduce appropriations for the Chudzinski Johannsen Park Fund for the state grant since the only expenditure was for \$6,000.00 for ODNR administrative fees, not the \$300,000.00 appropriated. Potentially all/some of the appropriations would have been spent if the contract had been finalized earlier in the year. Once the appropriation is reduced, the revenue can be reduced and reflected accordingly on the year-end amended certificate. Reducing the revenue before the appropriation would result in a compliance violation citation by the state auditor. Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to reduce the appropriation and then the revenue in the new park fund for state grant money to actual expenditures in 2018. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; as Resolution 2018-40:

RESOLUTION 2018-40

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO REDUCE THE APPROPRIATION IN FUND 4903 - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND TO THE ACTUAL 2018 EXPENDITURES FOR CHUDZINSKI-JOHANNSEN PARK DEVELOPMENT THEN TO REDUCE REVENUE.

A motion was requested by Mrs. Ickes to approve revised temporary appropriations for 2019. She advised that the Chudzinski Johannsen Parks appropriations have been removed. The decision late in the year not to proceed with work in the park and the inability to obtain a timely amended certificate reflecting carryover over and revenue into 2019 is sought after discussion with County Auditor Jerri Miller. Mrs. Ickes advised that the county Budget Commission only meets once a month and this request will facilitate a correct year-end amended certificate for carryovers and revenues. Upon passage of permanent appropriations, the carryover and revenues will be reflected adequately for appropriations to be made in 2019.

Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for passage of 2019 appropriations to replace those passed on December 4, 2018. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; as Resolution 2018-41

RESOLUTION 2018-41

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO REVISE AND REPLACE THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENDITURES ADOPTED DECEMBER 4, 2018 IN RESOLUTION 2018-37 TO THE AMOUNT OF \$305,777.39 FROM JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2019

Mrs. Ickes advised that legal notices for the Wednesday, January 2 regular meeting of the trustees (instead of Tuesday, January 1) and the Monday, January 14 inventory meeting have been placed.

Trustee Kusmer said that with the passage of HB 500, the county engineer does not require a copy of the township’s inventory. The township’s inventory is currently in an Excel spreadsheet, and Mrs. Ickes suggested that the township might be interested in looking into UAN’s Inventory module, something that Cal Anderson of OTARMA may be able to help with.

Trustee Kusmer stated that a township resident showed him an email that a township trustee sent out before the November 6 election regarding the township’s additional/new General Fund levy on the ballot, which subsequently failed. The trustee’s email message urged residents not to vote for the levy, stating that Ballville Township had over \$1 million dollars, the township didn’t need the money, and that it was so the trustees could build a new township house.

Mr. Kusmer continued by stating that he didn’t like this, that the trustee was self-centered and not concerned about the township, but only concerned about getting re-elected and having health insurance through the township. Mr. Kusmer stated that he found this despicable, and that the trustee had lied to the people.

Trustee Geyer spoke and said that he didn’t lie to anyone. The township had over \$1 million in cash and that Trustee Kusmer plans to build a new township hall.

Trustee Kusmer responded that the levy was for the General Fund.

Animated discussion between the two trustees took place regarding lies and truth. Trustee Geyer said that there is a resolution that said the township is going to build a township hall and a salt bin. He stated that he never lied and that the township has over \$1 million in cash. Discussion ensued.

At 6:38 p.m. Chairman Stotz tapped the gavel to bring order to the meeting.

Trustee Geyer stated that he never lied while he was in office.

Kerry Wood stated that Mr. Geyer lied about Mr. Wood during the last trustee election. Another animated discussion ensued about lying.

At 6:41 p.m. Chairman Stotz again struck the gavel to seek order in the meeting’s proceedings.

Superintendent Lagrou advised that the property across Tiffin Road was meant for future development, probably 10-20 years away.

Trustee Geyer stated that Trustee Kusmer lied and that it was in the minutes. Mr. Geyer referred to the Stahl Road drainage project and things that took place, and he said that it took a long time. He stated Mr. Kusmer was a habitual liar.

Chairman Stotz spoke and stated that the trustees should “knock it off”.

Purchase orders and checks for bills were signed by the trustees at this meeting.

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen K. Ickes, Fiscal Officer

David P. Stotz, Chairman