

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.

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

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the January 2, 2019 regular meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz –Yes; the motion carried.

Superintendent Lagrou discussed corrections to the January 14, 2019 Inventory meeting minutes due to an error in the Excel spreadsheet formulas. The beginning inventory valuation was changed in two places in the minutes to \$1,205,149.90 – in the grid and in the paragraph under the grid. The ending inventory valuation was changed to \$1,213,129.90. Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the January 14, 2019 inventory meeting be approved as amended. 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:\$ 24,977.95
Total receipts:\$ 3,096.98
Cash total in all funds:\$ 977,407.29

It was moved by Mr. Stotz, 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).

Chris Schneider was present to introduce herself and she advised that she was considering running for Sandusky County Clerk of Courts for 2020.

Cindi Welty was present to inform the trustees that she was running for Judge Dewey’s open seat in Sandusky County Common Pleas Court for 2020.

John Hoffman was present and stated that he was interested in the Oakwood Cemetery status.

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION

Joe Garrett of Trebel advised that two public meetings were held, as required, on January 11, 2019 at the township house in order to apply as an aggregator. The only attendee was Brent Binkley, who showed up for one of the meetings.

The next step in the aggregation process is for the trustees to adopt the Ballville Township Electric Aggregation Program Operation and Governance Plan tonight. The plan includes the PUCO's rules of aggregation in vague terms. The trustees had previously received a copy of this document. It can be changed and, in that event, the process would be to hold two public meetings first.

Following brief discussion, Mr. Garrett asked for a motion that any elected official can sign aggregation documents in the event the chairman is not available.

Every two years the PUCO application paperwork will need to be completed.

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to adopt the Ballville Township Electric Aggregation Program Operation and Governance Plan. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, for any elected official to sign aggregation documents on behalf of the township. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried.

The Government Aggregation List – Request Form was signed by Chairman Kusmer. It directs a utility to release the customer's information and data for bid purposes. It shows homes and usage.

The Certification Application for Electric Governmental Aggregators was signed by Mr. Kusmer.

Mr. Garrett stated that Trebel will file the application. He mentioned that if the PUCO emails the fiscal officer that he should be notified. Trebel will compile the bids. There is a window of 30 days to review bids and he will return in March with the results. The price is locked in when the township signs the contract with the supplier.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson

The trustees signed a deed for:

Calvin Merritt, McGormley Cemetery, Section 13, Lot 16, Graves 7 & 8

Superintendent Lagrou stated that there is a funeral for Robert Severs on March 22.

Cal Anderson of OTARMA worked with Mr. Lagrou today at the township house and it looks like it is possible to convert the township's cemetery information that has been entered into Pontem software to UAN (Uniform Accounting Network, the state auditor's software). Mr. Lagrou advised that the UAN software is very similar to Pontem. The township can make its own entity changes with UAN instead of having to contact Pontem to make changes in elected officials, etc. Mr. Anderson should be in the area for the next two weeks if the township needs additional assistance.

The Pontem software contract is up on March 31 and the township will need to provide a 30-day notice of non-renewal in February sometime if the transition to UAN is successful so that no renewal fee is owed to Pontem.

Mapping for the cemeteries was briefly discussed, and Superintendent Lagrou advised that he will look into that with UAN. Mrs. Ickes reported that the UAN Cemetery Module is added at no additional charge since the township pays for the basic Accounting and Payroll modules. This change to UAN means a \$500.00 a year savings to the township.

The township has only two veteran foundations left and Superintendent Lagrou asked the trustees for approval to purchase 12 more at \$40.00 a piece from Seislove Burial Vault. It was discussed that this could be done once permanent appropriations are set, probably in February. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to issue a PO to Seislove after permanent appropriations are in place. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried.

Jacob Brown of the Sandusky County Veterans' Association spoke to Mr. Lagrou and advised that they would like to purchase more veterans' graves. They discussed the usual quantity of 16 graves for \$5,000.00, the same price as in the past. After discussion, the township price will remain the same, which breaks down to \$312.50 a grave.

Discussion took place on Oakwood Cemetery, and Mr. Ferguson subsequently asked about the township's resident and non-resident pricing policy. Chairman Kusmer advised that pricing may have to change if the township has to take Oakwood Cemetery over, but it will be the same for all cemeteries. Phil Klausz posited the matter of city annexation and who would be responsible for Oakwood Cemetery in that case. Discussion continued on annexation and city/township limits. John Hoffman was present representing St. Joseph Cemetery Association. St. Joseph Cemetery is in the city limits, and it is believed that a small part of the St. Ann section is in Ballville.

City water is going to Lutz Elementary and discussion took place on that as well.

Mr. Ferguson held an informational meeting on Oakwood Cemetery on January 12. He said that he received good feedback and many people told him it was an "eye-opener" regarding Oakwood's staffing.

Discussion took place that, if the township has to take Oakwood Cemetery, the current Oakwood Board would like the money they have to go into the local Sandusky County Foundation because otherwise the township could use that money for other things/cemeteries. Chairman Kusmer advised that the township would have its own Oakwood Cemetery Fund.

Mrs. Ickes advised that this is all supposition as to what will happen, and how it might happen. It is likely that the township will have an Oakwood Cemetery Fund and the money in it would be restricted to Oakwood Cemetery expenses.

She advised that the township does not currently have a perpetual fund for cemeteries.

Mr. Lagrou stated that funeral director Scott Hanes told him that cremations have been reported to be at a 55% rate across the state. Superintendent Lagrou said the township's cremations were around 70% in 2018 versus full burials.

The discussion turned again to Oakwood Cemetery's efficiency and potential ways to cut costs. Oakwood reportedly pays \$1,800.00 for each mowing of the old side. With 25 mowings a year, Mr. Ferguson suggested that employees doing the work might provide a cost-savings.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from January 15, 2019, which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

Mr. Bain also met with Cal Anderson of OTARMA today and he helped him with some things on his computer. At the December meeting with Mr. Anderson, it was suggested that perhaps the township could provide Mr. Bain with a used i-pad for photos, forms, etc. that could be useful in the field or office.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood

Mr. Wood stated that the township's upcoming bicentennial was discussed at last night's Parks Board meeting. Each person is supposed to bring five ideas for the celebration to the next meeting.

The Parks Board elected officers for 2019: Kerry Wood, Chair; Kimberly Wood, Vice-Chair; Christie Gooslin, Secretary.

The Parks Board will review the 1996 by-laws of the Parks Board and make recommendation to the trustees.

Sue Babione will still help with grants. Attendance by Parks Board members was briefly discussed. Mr. Lagrou advised that they were glad to see Joe Pemberton at the meeting last night.

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life "Cancer Walk" was discussed. This year's event on June 8 marks the 22nd year the event has been in Conner Park. The Parks Board has decided that there will be no concessions and no portable restrooms. It will be set up more like the NAMI walk where the group coming in takes care of things, resulting in fewer township employee hours. The Cancer Walk may run from noon-6:00 p.m. Mr. Wood stated that the access to the park should be enough for a good event and volunteers will help make it work.

It was confirmed by Mr. Lagrou that the township will not have any future concessions, as the Cancer Walk was the lone concession event the township has had in the past few years. Mrs. Ickes advised that the sales tax reporting on concessions is no longer necessary and she will advise the state accordingly.

Superintendent Lagrou will provide a list of events scheduled for Conner Park for the trustees to review and approve at the next meeting.

Andy Brown of the Sandusky County Parks District sent an email to Mr. Lagrou on January 7, 2019 to confirm that there is no time limit or penalty on the money the township has received on the 2017 Sandusky County Park District grant. The township will need to spend the proceeds of the grant to acquire the equipment desired, along with the township's portion, or else it must return the grant proceeds to the Parks District. Mr. Lagrou has been in touch with DWA, the equipment provider regarding the current pricing.

Chairman Kusmer stated that he would like to get the Chudzinski-Johannsen Park going by separating work for road preparation and pavement into two distinct projects. Roadway and signage bids could go out as early as February this year. The state funds for this project must be used by June, 2020.

The township will be receiving a lower-quality dirt that has rocks in it from Universal Farms. The dirt comes from the new Kroger store project and Mr. Lagrou stated it would be fine for making mounds where the township wants them.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

The township crew has enlarged the parking lot at Hydraulic Park with the addition of an area 25 ft. x 30 ft. This should keep the recycling truck driver from putting a dumpster in front of the storage building door.

This week's weather forecast is for 1-3 inches of snow on Thursday, and maybe as much as 8-12 inches of snow and blowing on Saturday, starting in the morning.

Four loads of salt arrived today and Mr. Lagrou has ordered more.

The township crew was out over last weekend due to a good snow with lots of ice. They have been getting the trucks ready for the winter weather.

Superintendent Lagrou advised that there is no need to renew the Sam's Club membership this year since there will be no concessions for the Cancer Walk and alternate sources have been found for other items that had been purchased there.

The trustees signed a road permit submitted by AT&T. There will be no open cut; instead they will be drilling and pushing through under the road on CR 43 from Rt. 53, going west, down to the state agriculture farm.

Mrs. Ickes reported that in completing year-end reports, the township had no injuries to report for 2018. Good job by the township crew!

A draft of a township information sheet for posting at the township house was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, for the passage of a resolution of necessity for a General Fund levy. The motion passed 2-1 following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer - No; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; as Resolution 2019-1:

RESOLUTION 2019-1

A RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE §5705.03 REQUESTING THE SANDUSKY COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY AN ADDITIONAL 1.25 MILLS FOR CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for the passage of a new credit card policy, required to be in place by February 2, 2019. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; as Resolution 2019-2

RESOLUTION 2019-2

A RESOLUTION CREATING A CREDIT CARD POLICY AND REPEALING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS CREDIT CARD POLICIES

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. Stotz, to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 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

W. Robert Kusmer, Chairman

