

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 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, along with James Barney of Kocher & Gillum, Solicitor.

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the January 15, 2019 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:\$ 23,198.58
((\$8,664.18 of this should have been reported
at 1/15/19 meeting for payroll taxes)
Total receipts:\$ 18,017.36
Cash total in all funds:\$ 977,715.34

Chairman Kusmer moved that the bills be paid and noted that payment for the Sandusky County Economic Development check for \$2,500.00 included in the bills would be discussed later in the meeting. 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.

The trustees reviewed the Staples account credit card activity for the last billing period, and Chairman Kusmer signed the credit card attestation. Payment by check is included in the above referenced bills.

Mrs. Ickes advised that the 2018 year-end annual financial report was filed with the Auditor of State on January 24, 2019.

After discussion, Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to not pay the \$2,500.00 pledge to the Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) this year. Chairman Kusmer advised that the township considers payment each year based on the township’s finances. He has discussed this accordingly with Beth Hannam of SCEDC. Upon a vote – Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried and the pledge will not be paid this year. Check number 28928 had been prepared and will be voided.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Ballville Fire Department Chief Doug Crowell provided copies of the year-end report to the trustees. He provided a summary of 2018 as follows: 196 runs (30 more than the year before); five fire runs; 144 rescue/EMS calls. Total fire loss was \$44,000 with the largest being \$30,000 from a Norfolk-Southern engine fire. They have received \$1,500 in an EMS grant; and \$670 in a reimbursing Fire Marshall training grant for training from the previous year; and \$1,000 OTARMA grant through the township. Inspections were down. There were four runs to assist the Old Fort Fire Department, and he noted there were only two the year before. A lot of time is spent on increased EMS runs, mostly due to the current drug abuse environment, and also in response to people who are in need of assistance from the healthcare system. Some of the calls are to the same places, with over 30 calls each for two specific residences. Chief Crowell stated this is something that all departments are dealing with, not just them. The fire department has had water rescues and has assisted elsewhere. The Ballville Fire Department is well- trained and well-equipped, but when their focus is in certain areas, other areas suffer. Some of the training requirement hours have been lowered. In the course of discussion, Chief Crowell advised that the fire department building was paid off in 11 years instead of 20; however, that is the kind of thing that hurts them when they apply for grants.

Chief Crowell said they inspected 1022 Oakwood, what used to be the General Cutlery building. The county Land Bank cannot do anything because the owner is only six months behind on property taxes. The Chief sent a letter to the owner regarding the poor condition of the building and advised that it either needs to be repaired or demolished. He advised that ORC states there are 30 days to appeal, and that gives the owner 90 days to act. Follow-up in Common Pleas Court would be next and the owner can be forced to sell or relinquish the property. Civil penalties are enforced after 90 days. Chief Crowell advised that the letter that was sent usually gets results.

The Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the Public Employees Risk Reduction Program (PERRP) representatives recently paid the fire department a surprise site visit and they had a compliance audit. In August, the law changed and the fire department no longer fall under OSHA. One of the things they will need to do pertains to additional recordkeeping, and the Lexipol software purchased with the OTARMA grant will help in that regard.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson and Jim Gillis

Mr. Ferguson had nothing to report.

The trustees signed the following deed to Troy Kuieck:
#19109 McGormley Cemetery Section 8 Lot 10 Grave 7&8

Mr. Lagrou advised that there are a couple of cremation burials scheduled for March and April.

He has invoiced the Sandusky County Veterans' Association \$5,000.00 for 16 veterans' graves.

Discussion took place on a request by Dave Frederick of Fremont Monumental regarding a person who wants to place a two-person mausoleum at McGormley Cemetery. The township had a similar request five or six years ago. Mr. Ferguson pointed out that these are made with a material that is caulked at the joints, and not from granite or concrete (good for 50 years). Superintendent Lagrou said that this could take up the space of eight graves. Side-by-side vs. stacked options for mausoleums were discussed.

Trustee Kusmer stated that the township has decided in the past that they do not want mausoleums. He noted that the older mausoleums in Oakwood Cemetery are falling apart. It is estimated that it would cost \$12,000-15,000 to put a mausoleum in and then there would be maintenance costs on top of that.

The township's cemetery regulations were discussed, and the trustees agreed they do not want mausoleums in the township's cemeteries. Solicitor Barney will prepare a resolution to this effect.

Superintendent Lagrou suggested that the township consider raising the price for full-burials on weekends and holidays as they are more costly. They often wait on the funeral processions to arrive and families frequently linger at the gravesite. Three employees are needed for a full-burial. Cremation burials are not a problem as they only need one employee, and pricing can stay the same.

Mr. Lagrou advised that he and Mrs. Ickes are working on the software conversion from Pontem to UAN.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from February 5, 2019, which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

There are a couple of problem properties that were discussed from Mr. Bain's report.

Solicitor Barney reviewed the township's zoning resolution and explained that the township can put the costs on the owner of a problem property, but a tenant causing the problem can be charged criminally for a junk vehicle. Chairman Kusmer said, after giving notice, the car owner has 15 days to remove the vehicle or the township will remove it and pass the costs on to the owner. Solicitor Barney will prepare something for the zoning inspector to send to the current properties that are problematic.

Mr. Bain advised that a zoning variance hearing has been scheduled on February 20 for Jeff Gabel of Gabel Construction.

The January 24 Board of Zoning Commission meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

Nancy Francis submitted a resignation letter, and it was noted that she mentioned OPERS concerns. Mr. Geyer made a motion, with a second by Mr. Stotz, to accept Ms. Francis' resignation with regret. Upon a vote – Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed. The trustees signed a letter for Ms. Francis thanking her for her service.

Following discussion, changes are necessary on the zoning boards due to existing vacancies.

Mr. Kusmer advised that he talked to Tom Ackerman, who had expressed interest in serving on the Board of Zoning Commission. Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to accept Mr. Ackerman as an alternate on the Board of Zoning Commission. Upon a vote – Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed.

Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to appoint Alternates Brad Stearns and Dave Schwartz as regular members of the Board of Zoning Commission. Mr. Schwartz will complete the unexpired term of Ray Rellinger through 12/31/19; Mr. Stearns will complete an open, unfilled term through 12/31/23. Upon a vote – Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed. Mr. Klausz noted that a chairman needs to be elected.

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer to appoint Alternates Zeke Villarreal and Dale Hill as regular members of the Board of Zoning Appeals. Mr. Villarreal will complete the term left open by the resignation of Brad Lawrence at 12/31/18, through 12/31/2023, and Mr. Hill will complete the unexpired term of Nancy Francis through 12/31/2021. Upon a vote – Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed.

As of February 5, 2019:

BOARD OF ZONING COMMISSION - 5 year terms end 12/31			BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS - 5 year terms end 12/31		
Dave Schwartz (2/5/19)	1/1/2015	12/31/2019	Larry Bilbrey	1/1/2015	12/31/2019
Philip Klausz	1/1/2016	12/31/2020	Jonathan Winters - Chair	1/1/2016	12/31/2020
Walter Lamson (Vice Chair)	1/1/2017	12/31/2021	Dale Hill (2/5/19)	1/1/2017	12/31/2021
Bill Guhn	1/1/2018	12/31/2022	Richard Hoffman	1/1/2018	12/31/2022
Brad Stearns (2/5/19)	1/1/2019	12/31/2023	Zeke Villarreal (2/5/19)	1/1/2019	12/31/2023
Alternate:			Alternate:		
Alternate:			Alternate:		

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood

There is a meeting next week and Mr. Wood invited the trustees to attend to discuss development of Chudzinski-Johannsen Park. The township hopes to start taking bids in March for work in the park when the weather is good.

Superintendent Lagrou advised that the following organizations will have events at Conner Park and will be charged accordingly:

Date	Organization	Reservation/Corresponding Charge
Saturday, April 27	NAMI Walk	One shelterhouse
Saturday, May 4	Heartbeat	One shelterhouse
Saturday, May 11	Cystic Fibrosis	One shelterhouse
Saturday, May 18	Steps of Change	One shelterhouse
Saturday, June 8	American Cancer Society Relay	One shelterhouse
Saturday, August 24	Soccer Fiesta	Three shelterhouses and stripe fields (\$150)
Saturday, September 7	Ovarian Cancer Walk	One shelterhouse

Mr. Lagrou advised that people like coming to Conner Park, and are booking for events that include graduations and reunions.

There are six teams signed up for baseball. Three teams will use the front ballfields, and three will use the back ballfields. The township is now charging \$250.00 instead of \$150.00 for striping the ballfields.

There will be no concessions at Conner Park this year, which means none for the only event that had them, the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. There will be minimal staffing by township employees. Mr. Lagrou stated that the event is likely going to a six-hour event in the future.

Trustee Kusmer shared the design of the Chudzinski-Johannsen Park signs that will be made from a corian-like material. They can be washed with water and lightly sanded, if needed, to keep them looking like new.

Mr. Wood stated that each Parks Board member is supposed to bring ideas for the bicentennial to the next meeting.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

The township crew has been working on snow removal, salting, maintenance on trucks and tractors, and trimming trees.

One of the three church pews the township obtained last year has been moved to warm storage at the Ballville Fire Department, and the other to the township house meeting room. Eventually they could be used at the Chudzinski-Johannsen Park.

The trustees responded affirmatively to Mr. Lagrou's request to borrow the township's popcorn machine for the Ballville Fire Department's event tomorrow night, and also on February 23 for the Firehouse Challenge.

Mr. Lagrou advised Don Englund of Fox Run Drive that four-wheelers and snowmobiles coming through Fox Run and Sun Valley was not a township matter, and he provided several suggestions, including planting shrubs there to deter the traffic.

Mr. Lagrou also recently spoke again to Republic Services and learned that they will allow the township to go to a two-year contract. They will match Cyclone's \$150.00 a month rate with weekly pickup. From October-March, every-other-week pickup would be \$90.00. The most increase for 2020 would be 7%, and it is possible there will be no increase. The township could save up to \$2,500.00 a year. If we go to these rates, it would start immediately, and Republic will credit us for January and February this year. Chairman Kusmer would like Republic to put this in writing for the trustees to review before voting on it.

The trustees signed the ODOT mileage certification for 55.142 township road miles and the form will be signed by Carlos Baez of the Sandusky County Engineer's office and submitted to the state.

Superintendent Lagrou is working on the catch basin information the county engineer's office has requested.

Road re-paving for 2019 was discussed. Buchman Road is in great need of repair. Michaels Road and Ponds Side Drive re-paving also needs to be considered.

Jon Leemaster, a part-time employee, has taken other employment, per Mr. Lagrou

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Ickes asked those township employees and elected officials with township credit cards to please return the Exhibit B, Acknowledgement of Ballville Township Credit Card and Policy form that they have read the new credit card policy passed on January 15, 2019. Itemized receipts are always needed and expenditures must be appropriate.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Kusmer read the caption of a proposed resolution, followed by a motion from Mr. Stotz, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, to place an additional 1.25 mill operating expense levy on the May 7, 2019 for the General Fund. The motion passed 2-1 following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer - No; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; as Resolution 2019-3:

RESOLUTION 2019-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP DECLARING THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE RAISED BY LEVY AT THE MAXIMUM RATES AUTHORIZED BY LAW WITHOUT THE VOTE OF THE ELECTORS TO BE INSUFFICIENT AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF A 1.25 MILL ADDITIONAL LEVY IN EXCESS OF SUCH RATES

Mrs. Ickes advised that permanent appropriations will be passed at the February 19 meeting.

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. Stotz, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 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