BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, MARCH 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 was Trustee David P. Stotz. Trustee Richard A. Geyer was not present due to illness. James Barney of Kocher & Gillum, Solicitor, was in attendance with the trustees.

Moved by Mr. Stotz, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, that the minutes of the February 19, 2019 meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, 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: .....$ 18,227.67

Total receipts: .....$ 16,946.20

Cash total in all funds: .....$ 961,251.13

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

Mrs. Ickes advised that the first half property tax settlements, which is the first of the two disbursements that provide most of the township's revenue, will be received soon.

There were no credit card statements to be reviewed for the Chairman's attestation.

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

Mircea Handru of the Mental Health Recovery Services Board was present to explain that they cover three counties: Sandusky, Seneca, and Wyandot. The Sandusky County levy on the upcoming ballot will be called a new/additional levy, but he wanted to make it clear that it is actually a renewal with a decrease; there was a technicality with the ballot language in the past and it now has to be called an additional levy. There is no overlap with the current levy, which was passed five years ago and expires December 31, 2019. The new one would begin January 1, 2020 if passed. The revenue that is generated in each county stays in that county. The homeowner of a $100,000 home currently pays $2.11 a month (0.8 mill) and under the new levy would pay the lesser rate of $1.90 (0.65 mill).

Mr. Handru advised that they provide many services, including 24/7 crisis services, and that half of the 620 such calls last year resulted in hospitalizations. He had fliers and handout items.

If the Sandusky County mental health levy does not pass, the county will lose all services.

NAMI's role in the community was discussed, and it was mentioned that they have a walk in Conner Park that grows in attendance each year.

Mr. Handru said his cell phone number is on the cards he passed out and he stressed that he can be reached at any time when his services are needed. The trustees thanked him for his presentation.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson
The trustees signed a deed for Willie Lee Gentry, Jr., who was buried on Saturday, March 2. McGormley Cemetery, Section 15, Lot 14, Grave 2 & 3.

There are burials scheduled for March and April.

Mr. Lagrou said that the weekend burial rate is $400.00 for a full burial. The township crew is there longer than expected when the funeral procession does not arrive at the cemetery on time, and the families often linger at the gravesite. He suggests $500.00 for a full weekend burial, and $300.00 for a cremation on the weekend since only one employee is needed. Discussion took place on changing the rates and the best time to do so.

Oakwood Cemetery will have a meeting on May 13. Jack Ferguson advised that there will be a vote regarding the Oakwood Cemetery Association keeping the cemetery or turning it over to the township.

Any fees established by the township will automatically be applied to all township cemeteries. A brief discussion took place on funds that might come with Oakwood.

The township's annual May Cemetery Board meeting might be the first Tuesday of May, or possibly the third Tuesday in May.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector
Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from March 5, 2019, which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

ECI might be establishing a group home in the township, and FHA guidelines state that no special permit is needed to do so. Permits would still be needed for other zoning matters, although the fees might be waived, per Solicitor Barney.

Mr. Bain advised that the Gabel Construction zoning variance was granted.

He reported that Jim Banks, who owns the apartments at 550 Michaels Road, has discussed the possibility of adding more apartments. It was discussed that Mr. Banks should present a proposal to be reviewed.

Mr. Bain stated that he overlooked including an update in his Zoning minutes on the old Smith house on the Guthrie property on McGormley Road which is being torn down.

Solicitor Barney stated that he has not had return service on the certified mailings he recently sent out. The possibility of placing tax liens on properties when the township incurs costs to correct issues was discussed. He advised that the property owners should be included in these zoning violation notices. This may prompt resolution of zoning problems since the landlords may get the desired results.

Mrs. Ickes advised that the following zoning board members have accepted their appointments:
Zeke Villarreal accepted Board of Zoning Appeals member status – expiration 12/31/2023
Dale Hill accepted Board of Zoning Commission member status – expiration 12/31/2021
Brad Stearns accepted Board of Zoning Commission member status – expiration 12/31/2023

The three applicants that have applied for current zoning openings will be contacted by Trustee Kusmer before the township proceeds with appointments. A consideration regarding OPERS and retirees of public retirement systems was discussed. Mrs. Ickes stated that OPERS will make a determination of who the township must report on the Non-Contributing List based on the township's new handbook which should be submitted to them once it is completed.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou
Superintendent Lagrou will start the EPA paperwork to open the water wells in Conner Park. The weather will play a role in when they will open.

The well at Hydraulic Park is capped and has not been used in more than 20 years. There are also two restrooms in the building that have not been used. The building is in bad shape. There are holes in it and it is losing shingles and siding. There are safety concerns as it is ready to fall down and the bell tower could fall down through the building. There are critters going in and out.

It was discussed that the township might build a salt bin this year at the site across Tiffin Road from the current facility. If so, the township's salt supply could be moved to the new salt bin. The storage area where the salt is currently kept could be used to store all the pipes and things stored in the Hydraulic building. A power pole would need to be there for lighting at the recycling center.

Baseball and soccer will be starting up in Conner Park soon, weather permitting.

Parks Board member Joe Pemberton, who passed away last week, was remembered as a wonderful person. There will be future discussion about planting a tree in Conner Park in his memory.

Discussion turned to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life stage that the township gets from SCRAP for the annual event in Conner Park. SCRAP had asked the township for a Certificate of Insurance listing them as an additional insured, and Mrs. Ickes received a response from OTARMA that they wanted to see the contract requesting this.

Solicitor Barney briefly reviewed the American Cancer Society contract and advised it clearly states that the Cancer Society should provide all equipment, not utilize the township for logistics. He stated that SCRAP's request was likely for the transport of the stage by the township; once it is here, it is the responsibility of the Cancer Society. Mr. Lagrou will follow up with Brian Gibson (Relay for Life) to discuss this.

Joe Oakleaf arrived at the meeting and advised that his electric utility service was switched between First Energy and AEP without his knowledge, and both companies told him it was because of the township trustees. He received a letter that he had to object to the change, but he probably thought it was junk mail and didn't respond. Discussion took place that is was not the trustees' doing and that the township will be engaged in electric aggregation on its own in the near future.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou
Superintendent Lagrou stated that the credit from Republic Services has not caught up on the bill the township is paying tonight, but he spoke with them today and it should appear on the April billing.

The sirens at Buckland/Saner and Cole/Myrtle do not have battery backups. All four worked during the test on Saturday, March 2, including the Buckland/Saner siren, which was recently worked on by Sound Systems. Their bill came in under the estimated amount because the siren did not need a circuit board. Root Electric will replace four surge protectors in the sirens.

The trustees considered cost vs. cost savings in securing a contract with Sound Systems. They rejected a contract in 2016 and concluded that it would have cost $4,200 for a contract had they had one over the last seven years. Repair costs have been considerably less in that time period. The trustees agreed the township does not want a contract at this time.

Mr. Lagrou said that the sirens must always be working to provide safety alerts. He cited the recent devastation down south where people weren't warned about tornados. He would like to have a person who lives near each of the township's sirens let him know when they go off to make sure they are working.

The township may be looking at replacing the Buckland/Saner and Cole/Myrtle sirens some time since they were probably installed in the 1980s. EMA grants may cover the cost of new sirens, but it was surmised that they might not cover replacement units.

Mr. Lagrou advised that Sound Systems quoted $333.50 to check the battery backups on the Conner Park and CR 41 sirens, and that they last 7-10 years. He will look into this further and follow up at the March 19 meeting.

Mr. Lagrou then asked the trustees if we were going to get any more snow this winter! …. and the weather was discussed. The township crew will be taking down the Fox Run snow fence soon and it was noted that it is a muddy mess once the weather warms up.

The mother of an autistic child has asked to receive the "Autistic Child" sign that was posted near her Buchman Road home to hang in her garage now that the family has moved inside the city limits.

Mr. Lagrou told her he would let the trustees know that she asked for the sign. The trustees agreed that township will be keeping the hydro-reflective sign for the future use as needed.

Trustee Stotz asked about a sign at Buckland and either Third or Cleveland Ave. that was knocked down. It will be checked on, but it is believed that it has been replaced.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Ickes advised that she discussed the credit card policy and purchasing guidelines with employees when the new VISA account cards were passed out today.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, to rescind Resolution 2019-5 passed February 19, 2019 and replace it with a resolution that would remove the criminal aspects of erecting a mausoleum in a township cemetery. The proposed resolution removes the language for the need to publish the resolution and provide a copy to the City of Fremont Prosecutor. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; as Resolution 2019-6:

RESOLUTION 2019-6

A RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTUION NUMBER 2019-5 AND ESTABLISHING AN ADDITION TO THE BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP CEMETERY RULES PROHIBITING MAUSOLEUMS IN ANY TOWNSHIP CEMETERY

Additional discussion took place on Oakwood Cemetery.

The Employee Handbook draft will be distributed by Solicitor Barney for review and passage in the near future.

The February 28, 2019 Bank Reconciliation, purchase orders and checks for bills were signed by the trustees at this 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. Stotz, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ellen K. Ickes, Fiscal Officer

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W. Robert Kusmer, Chairman