BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 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 Philip F. Klausz, along with Rich Gillum of Kocher & Gillum sitting in for Solicitor Jim Barney who was not able to be present.

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Klausz, that the minutes of the September 17, 2019 meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Klausz –Yes; Mr. Kusmer – 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: .....$ 15,073.72
Total receipts: .....$ 75,581.29
Cash total in all funds: .....$ 1,323,049.17

Mrs. Ickes advised that there was a large increase in the gasoline taxes collected in September, from around $8,500.00 a month to over $12,000. This is the first increase the township has seen since the gas tax went up in July. Next month should be a good indicator of the regular monthly revenue.

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

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

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

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Martha Bowen, Director of Environmental Health for the Sandusky County Health Dept., was present to ask for support of the November 5 Health Department renewal levy so they can continue providing services. She encouraged residents to attend the regular Health Department meetings which are held on the third Friday of the month at 8:30 a.m. She said that a tour of the department would help understand what they do.

Ms. Bowen stated that they are working to make sure communication is better with the Health Department and the community, and asked if there were any questions of her.

She explained that Environmental Health has 20 different programs that include issuing licenses and permits for wells, sewage, restaurants, and contractors. She is audited every two years to make sure that there is no profit in their charges since they can only cover their costs.

The Health Department struggles with state-mandated work for which there is no money provided from the state. They are always applying for grants. They have applied for a grant for the water pollution control fund and hope to get $150,000 which will help people with sewage systems that need repair.

She continued by advising that they have gone from 49 to 28 employees to cut costs, and those duties were spread out among the remaining staff. She is not able to replace a retired employee because of their budget. There are two interns working with her, and one of them just passed the state exam. Employees use their own cell phones instead of county-issued phones. Brent Binkley asked Ms. Bowen about specific numbers. Discussion took place on their workload and work ethic. Programs offered include infectious waste facilities, and compost waste inspections. Ms. Bowen stated that all are welcome to come to their meetings. She asked for support of the November 5 Health Department renewal levy.

Jane Shaw, 1822 Buckland Ave., was present to inform the trustees that Dave Bain, Zoning Inspector, came to her residence after he received a complaint about nine chickens on her property. Mr. Bain advised her that Dave Mathia made the complaint, but she said that Mr. Mathia is denying it. Mr. Bain informed her she needed to get rid of the chickens, and she asked if she had to because this was a false complaint. Continued discussion confirmed that Dave Mathia made the complaint by leaving a voice mail message at the township house. Ms. Shaw wanted to know if everyone who had chickens had to get rid of them. Mr. Bain said he gave her a copy of the resolution and rules. Chairman Kusmer advised that chickens were not allowed in R-1 districts. Discussion took place on how the township finds out about chickens where they are not allowed. Mrs. Shaw said Mr. Bain did his job, and asked how long she has to get rid of the chickens. The young girl at the meeting with Mrs. Shaw raises chickens for the fair, and they also keep chickens for two of girl's friends.

Joe Walby has a construction project started 1310 Buckeye St. He had received a zoning permit for a certain size residential building. As the contractor was digging footers on Friday, Mr. Bain came by and told Mr. Walby that he cannot put the building there because of a setback issue. Upon discussion, it was learned that Mr. Bain forgot to tell Mr. Walby when the permit was issued that there is a road setback. Chairman Kusmer discussed the layout of the lot on this rental property owned by Mr. Walby.

Chairman Kusmer advised that the lot will hold the building if it is laid out a different way, working back from the road right-of-way based on the lot dimensions. Mr. Walby said he received a building permit from the township, and discussion took place. Mr. Kusmer suggested a boundary survey before construction continues, and Mr. Walby will look into it further.

Trustee Klausz asked about the building height being 25 ft. and stated that the zoning resolution states 18 ft. to the highest point. Mr. Walby wanted to know who will pay to put the dirt and everything back if he does not build here. Mr. Walby stated that they did not find pins for the property. Mr. Kusmer said they are using up every inch of this property for the building.
Mr. Walby said his permit was issued for a height of 25 ft. and he probably won't build there if he cannot get this height in order to store his camper. The yard is already torn up. Kusmer will look into it and advise as soon as possible, and will call Mr. Walby with an answer.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson
Jack Ferguson reported that the Cemetery Board had its semi-annual meeting today and they discussed things to discuss over the winter.

Deeds were signed for McGormley Cemetery:

Deed 19119	Martha Glover	Section 16, Lot 24, Grave 1
Deed 19120	Norbert C. Levans, Sr.	Section 16, Lot 23, Grave 3
Deed 19121	Daniel Warner	Section 15, Lot 14, Grave 4

In order to avoid the problem of getting the current trustees' names on deeds without overriding the past trustees' names, Mr. Lagrou advised that Pontem deeds will now say Ballville Township Trustees and each trustee can sign in the appropriate place.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector
Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from October 1, 2019, which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

It was discussed that all permits should have a sketch submitted by the owner. Mr. Kusmer and Mr. Bain discussed the reason to accept the drawing and inspect the property first, then issue the zoning permit. This allows the Zoning Inspector a chance to investigate without being rushed. Mr. Bain will make up a checklist for permits to include this step.

Trustee Klausz said Mr. Bain has to tell Mr. Pollard that he has to have 50% of his residence completed in the first year. This is the zoning violation the township is focusing on and will see it all the way through.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood
Kerry Wood said he has nothing new to discuss. He could not reach Tom Hoffman on the cost to convert the Conner Park lights to LED. Mr. Lagrou doesn't have a quote from Root Electric yet for surge protectors.

Mr. Wood said the Chudzinski-Johannsen Park looks really nice. Weather permitting, work will continue. Rock has been encountered, and they have had to work around it. The stream will be between 2-1/2 to 3 feet deep. The road/ditch near the entrance and grasses were discussed.

Jacob Reardon talked to Mr. Kusmer about an event at Conner Park for his recently-deceased brother, Christopher, a seventh grader. The request is for a night walk on Saturday, October 26. Mr. Lagrou told him it would have to be done before 10:00 p.m. and a shelter would have to be rented. The park is not completely lit at night, and the trustees will have to OK this. Mr. Lagrou will get more information and report back to the trustees. Discussion followed.

ROAD AND BRIDGE – Superintendent Bill Lagrou
Jim Messina was present and advised he has lived on Timpe Road for 1-1/2 years. Water pools in the back yard. Mr. Lagrou and the trustees have been down Timpe Road to look at the neighborhood. There is a French drain that goes in/near his yard. Mr. Messina wants to know about installing drainage tile there and taking it down to State St. Mr. Messina would like something done and he wanted to check if the trustees were going to do something about it before he did.

Chairman Kusmer advised that this neighborhood has been petitioned a few times over the years and it has always been turned down. The main sewer runs through/behind Kim Wright's property and the township is re-routing it around her house to the catch basin instead of having it run under her house. Mr. Kusmer said that the work at Ms. Wright's house is a band-aid. It will cost $600,000 to correct all of Timpe Road's drainage problems, including a 42" pipe from under State St. through the neighborhood. Mr. Messina asked if the French drain can be changed, and discussion took place on tile and drainage. There doesn't appear to be any tile in front of Mr. Messina's property. Mr. Kusmer advised that the Timpe Road residents have caused these problems themselves by making their own additions to the sewer system over the years. The Timpe Road residents just got hit for sanitary sewer work and costs. Trustee Kusmer said they have met with residents over the years.

The Eduardo Delaraso easement has not been done yet for Ms. Wright's drainage work. Mr. Kusmer is waiting to hear back from him. Dave Zimmerman said he might be able to work on this during a slow time.

Superintendent Lagrou advised that the Darr Rd. & CR 73 erosion work was completed by Unilliance last week. This repair should last for 10 years, which is pretty good. It has been shored up really well, and Unilliance did a good job.

The township crew was mowing ditches on CR 193 in August and found a tile that they didn't know about before. The township plans to drop a catch basin in where there was a French drain. There is a fiber optic cable running next to it. The township also expects to find old clay tile and will replace it with new tile.

Last week Mr. Lagrou showed Trustees Geyer and Klausz around the township and various points of interest.

On September 16 Bill had his notary renewal process started.

George Dorsey dropped off a flyer for a Sandusky County canine units benefit coming up at Jimmy G's.

Discussion took place on hiring Chuck Steinbauer, who used to work for the township, to help with mowing, leaves, and plowing as needed. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klausz, to hire Mr. Steinbauer. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Klausz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

Chad Myers will attempt his CDL test again soon. He used the township's Kenworth truck for his test.

Mrs. Ickes advised that the road renewal levy for the township is on the November 5, 2019 ballot, and it has a projected revenue of $189,971 annually. She and Mr. Kusmer spoke about the relevance of renewing a levy that was passed before 2012 and rollbacks. The township's 2019 Road and Bridge receipts are approximately: Revenue of $425,100 made up of $237,800 (Inside Millage) + $187,300 (Road Levy), along with $55,800 (Rollbacks) for a total of $480,900 total revenue.

Discussion took place on promotion of the road levy. The most recent OTA Grassroots clippings article about townships and levy promotion will be distributed to the trustees.

Mrs. Ickes also advised that the Kenworth truck has been paid off.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Ickes asked the trustees to consider passing a Faithful Performance Insurance Resolution which will eventually replace all bonds for elected officials and required employees. Insurance will replace bonds as they begin their term/time with the township, or as their current bonds expire. The biggest benefit to this is that the insurance eliminates the personal responsibility factor for the person/employee/elected official.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klausz for passage of the Faithful Performance Insurance coverage. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Klausz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; as Resolution 2019-26:

RESOLUTION 2019-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO PURCHASE AND USE "EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY AND FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE OF DUTY POLICY" THROUGH OTARMA INSTEAD OF INDIVIDUAL SURETY BONDS FOR OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AND APPOINTEES

Mrs. Ickes advised that on Saturday, October 5, she will be receiving a new fiscal officer printer. UAN (State Auditor) replaces them every four years and gives the old equipment to the entity to do with as it wants. She will bring the old one out to the township house.

Quite a lengthy discussion took place on OPERS and volunteer board members. Mrs. Ickes had recently sent letters out asking the volunteers to check on any complications regarding continuing to serve on a board as OPERS has advised her that the volunteers should be listed as members of OPERS. There are many unhappy volunteer board members in the township because this letter was received. Jack Ferguson asked what he should do with his letter, and said that he called OPERS three times and was laughed at. He also noted that the township has lost quite a few board members in the recent past as it is, and now there was this letter. Jim Barney has recently suggested that the trustees send a letter to OPERS for an official, written determination. Mrs. Ickes provided an explanation regarding the OPERS Non-Contributing List reporting, which requires information, including Social Security number, about individuals paid directly (not payroll) and the volunteer board members. Mrs. Ickes had sent a draft of a letter to trustees and the trustees indicated they wanted it made available for them to sign and make the township's official request to OPERS.

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 7:05 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Klausz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - 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