BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 – 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, Philip F. Klausz.

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Klausz, that the minutes of the March 2 2021 meeting minutes. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Klausz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Tom Ackerman gave trustees a couple of reports including year to date payments and receipts for the entire 2021.

Total Payments – 262,556.00
Total Receipts – 4,996.57

Total in all accounts - 2,028,968.50
Croghan account - 1,224,635.40
Star Ohio account - 804,333.10

Discussion took place about the current Republic Services trash service. The cost is going up and we are looking into other options. Bill and Jim Barney will look this over now.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Scott Miller stopped in as county commissioner like to stop in and see what is going on and as a resident to keep up with things.

Brent Brinkley brought that there is an opening on the zoning committee with the passing of Ron Shoemaker and would like to bring up Dan from alternate to permanent member.

Trustee Phil Klausz has officially brought that he submitted his resignation of trustee effective April 1. Phil feels it is best for himself and the township to do this at this time. Phil recommends that Kerri Wood take his seat for the rest of his term. Phil believes he qualified since he is involved with the township.

Bob Kusmer said when we lost Dave Stotz the recommendation was made that based upon your being a part of the township as zoning board for thirty years and zoning chairman for 12 years plus. Those criteria put Phil in the seat. I would say with the recommendation for Kerri fits the same description, which Mr. Geyer approved for putting Phil in the trustee seat. Kerri has been on parks for 24 years and chair for 14 years. Bob thinks Phil's recommendation for Kerri is a good one.

Bob Kusmer makes motion for Kerri Wood for intern trustee, which ends at the end of the year. Rick Geyer says no to this motion of Kerri Wood ever being in trustee position.

Phil Klausz asked if this is personal issue or this capability issue. Phil asked Rick Geyer if he not capable of being trustee. Rick answered Kerri Wood be last person he would choice. Phil said then it is a personal issue? Rick answered it is a very personal issue.

Therefore, the law says if they cannot agree it goes to the judge. Rick says let it go to judge if that what Bob wants and we open it up for everyone else. Bob makes motion that it goes to the judge. There is no second to going to the judge. If they cannot make decision within 30 days then the judge decides on a replacement.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT – There is a couple of discussions for upcoming meeting that will be discussed. Cemetery clean up starts April 1. The next meeting is set for the first Tuesday in in May.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Dave Bain gave trustees report as of March 16, 2021. Dave went over report and discussed what is going on with each.

Dave gave trustees a letter about the Mr. Kuhn's appeal for tomorrow night about outside people who have similar businesses in his area. Bob looked at the list and three of these are agriculture. Phil mentioned he brought up many things that do not pertain to his situation and the chairperson should shut this down when he brings it up.

PARKS REPORT – Kerri Wood Bill Lagrou

Bill Lagrou asked as a resident he said we have 30 days from now for a judge, day, or resignation. It was answered 30 day from resignation date of April 1. Bill said we would be going a month without three trustees. If something would happen to one or the other trustees, the township would be shut down. Rick said the only other thing is to open it up for anyone. Bill said you did not open it up and just put Phil in. Rick said people handed up resumes and they went over them. Bob said they didn't go over them cause Rick said why are we going over these cause Phil meets the criteria because of 30 years of zoning and coming to meeting. Rick said he asked Bob to give him his top three and then choose one of those. Bob said he never gave to three and Rick said not true. Rick said Bob gave him top three and he picked one of them. Bob said that is not what happened. Bill said all I am asking that if something happens the township will be down for a month. Rick said he needs to talk with Bob and Bill said I am talking to both of you and Rick said ask Bob to open this up to everyone who wants to apply. Bill asked if they could agree on anyone else. Rick says open it up to anyone who wants it submit an application. Phil Klausz said to Rick that this is about the township. Rick said we can argue all day and he will not pick Kerri Wood. Rick should we can continue all you want but will not pick Kerri Wood. Bill asked if we could get something done before the end of the month. Phil thinks at this point this should go to the judge because there are too many personal issues going on. It will be 30 days from his resignation that a judge will decide unless they can agree on someone.

Doug Crowell also asked a question since Phil is not resigning until April 1 he is still trustee why cannot he have a vote. Ohio Revised code does not allow Phil to be involved in the decision. Phil could have listed with Board of Elections up to five people to represent him but any candidates normally never fill this out. Brent Brinkley asked if the judge appointed Kerri were, does this board stand? Kerri would then be the third trustee was the answer.

Scott Miller as a resident said the becomes an interested situation cause after the resignation they township has only two trustees to run the township legally. Phil said up until the end of the month he still could rescind his decision in case something with one of the trustees would get sick or something else happens.

Jack Ferguson asked if this could be sent to judge earlier to get decision started. Rick said he will not approve that and wants it opened up to anyone that wants to apply. Rick again said he would not pick Kerri Wood and wondering how long we are going on with this. Rick said talk with Bob Kusmer to open this up as we did before and he gave me the top three. Bob said he never gave Rick the top three and is willing to open it up. Doug Crowell said Bob do not give Rick the time of day and wait the 30 days and let the judge make the pick. If something happens in the meantime it, all fall on Rick. Rick said it does not fall on him. Doug it does cause he is holding it up. Rick said if you want to listen for a minute. Rick stating that Bob and him can decide in the 30 days to pick someone. Doug said he turned in application before and Rick did not look at it. Rick said what you want. Doug said you only want certain people on the board and it is not your choice. Rick said it is his choice and Bobs choice. Rick again stated he is not picking Kerri Wood. Phil asked if he has right to take this directly to the judge. Bob said it is in the Ohio revised code. Doug thinks we need to talk to the solicitor. Phil thinks we need to resolve this as soon as possible for the township. Phil said we are put in office for the township and not ourselves. Phil feels bad he has put the township in this position but it is the best decision for him.

Park board is still discussion the bi-centennial and trying to decide what events, they will be doing. Will work on getting people lined up for the parades such as bands and fire trucks and stuff. Discussion took place to try to get security set up for events.

Fireworks was discussed as there is a donor willing to pay for it but the timing of the event being done in the fall might not work out.

Scott Miller mentioned there bi-centennial committee for the county and there are a few Ballville residents who are on the committee who might want to help the township in planning some events.

Still looking into getting more LED lights for the park and upgrading what already have.

Also discussing when they cut the paths for the new park maybe they can grade out the area of the parking lot.

Roads Report – Bill Lagrou

Republic Services still say we are still under contract with them and to get out would be the cost. She did bring the prices down. The last contract we have was in February of 2019 and was a 24-month contract. They lowered the prices 237.92 under the new contract. This still had a variable fuel charge. We are still looking to get a copy of the contract that is currently in play.

Bill asked Tom about background checks being done on employees. Tom fill look into this and find out if this needs to be done.

Salt bid 2021-2022. Bill has to end of April to figure out what we might need. Bill will have a better idea by the next meeting and he think it will be 60-65 a ton. Currently we have about 425 ton. Bill is trying to get more this season at the same price we got last year. This new bid has to go in April 30.

Trustees Comments –

Rick Geyer – Made mention of a letter from Ron Shoemaker who passed away. Wondering if this letter is legit or a false statement.

Phil Klausz – Regional zoning meeting was cancelled.

Bob Kusmer – Advisory Health Department took place. Bethany gave her annual report and voted two new members to the board.

Thursday Bob gave a presentation about Chudzinski-Johannsson Park to Kiwanis. Bob had some people approach him about volunteering at the park.

Old Business – Scott Miller as commissioner also said county engineer Carlos Baez has storage if needed. Bi-Centennial has people working on the county project and there is a few people from Ballville Township on this committee that might help with our celebration. County is doing 20 miles of paving this year so will see many roads being done. Keep in mind for ditch maintained and if anything needs done please let them know. Scott also wants to talk with Dave Bain about zoning in the neighborhood. Scott wants to know the restrictions in each neighborhood. Bill mentioned about covenants in each neighborhood and wonder if this has been updated. If not then it goes by just regular zoning laws. We all need to think of our township. We all will have disagreements from time to time but we need to do best for township as we have a great one.

New Business – Phil brought up about the timbers about the Mull covered bridge and we should really look at it and obtain these materials. Bob said he has requested the trusses and use them in possible community centers. Phil thinks we should get the verticals, which have the carvings. Carlos said its fine where's it is at but he is watching it rut away. Discussion was made that we might be able to store it at the River Cliff barn and later use the barn for the community structure.

Bob commented to Phil that he appreciates all the service that Phil has given to the entire township over the years. Rick also told Phil thanks for his service.

There being no further business, Mr. Geyer made motion, seconded by Mr. ~~Geyer~~ Klausz, moved it to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Klausz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Ackerman, Fiscal Officer

W. Robert Kusmer, Chairman