BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 16, 2024 5:30PM

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with Chairperson Bob Kusmer leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Also, present were Trustee Rich Farmer and Trustee Mary Ann Reser.

Mrs. Reser made a motion to approve December 19 minutes with updated corrections. Seconded by Mr. Kusmer. Upon a vote, Mr. Farmer – Abstain Yes; Mrs. Reser – Yes Mr. Kusmer –Yes. The motion passed.

Mrs. Reser made a motion to approve January 2 minutes with updated corrections. Seconded by Mr. Farmer. Upon a vote, Mr. Farmer – Yes; Mrs. Reser – Yes Mr. Kusmer –Yes. The motion passed.

Mary Ann Reser asked Tom about minutes from Special Meeting from December 19 which was in regards to zoning amendment changes. Mary Ann mentioned that the changes need to be listed in the minutes. Tom Ackerman answered that he will add the changes into the minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Tom Ackerman

Tom Ackerman passed out year end reports which included Receipt Listing, Payment Listing, Fund Status for year 2022 and 2023.

Total Receipts - $1,701,105.56

Total Payments - $1,592,428.88

Total in all Ballville Accounts - $2,900,080.46

Tom Ackerman said direct deposit is ready to run for employees and plan to pay employees on the 10th and 25th of each month. If those days fall on weekend then it will be done the Friday before those dates. The monthly employees will be paid on the 25th. The Trustees asked Tom if it was possible to switch to bi-weekly payroll. Tom said it could be done but has a concern if he is gone or sick then who would run the payroll for that week. Tom mentioned the current system will give him time to get the payroll done with the time in between end of pay period and when direct deposits are being made.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Mary Ann asked Bill and Troy for contact list of their current board members for Zoning, Park and Cemetery.

CEMETERY BOARD –

Bill Lagrou mentioned at Cemetery board meeting that they would like to purchase two more Columbarium to complete that project.

Mr. Farmer made a motion to purchase two columbarium to be paid from the Oakwood fund at total price of $36,000. Seconded by Mrs. Reser. Upon a vote, Mr. Farmer – Yes; Mrs. Reser – Yes Mr. Kusmer –Yes. The motion passed.

Jack Ferguson will be informed to contact Balconi for the purchase of Columbarium

Bob Kusmer informed Trustees that the Capital Improvement grant for Oakwood Cemetery has been submitted to State Representative Gary Click and Bill Reinke. It will be six to eight months before we hear something. If it is approved it will not start until July 2025.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT – Troy Thatcher, Zoning Inspector

Troy passed out report ending January 16, 2024.

Troy Thatcher mentioned the next Zoning Commission meeting is set for January 24th at 5:30.

PARKS BOARD – Kerry Wood and Bill Lagrou

Kerri Wood mentioned the board has discussed the car show and are trying to get a flyer out earlier in the year so we can have a better attendance next year.

ROADS SUPERINTENDENT – Bill Lagrou

Bill Lagrou gave Trustees the mileage report from County Engineer Carlos Baez that needs signed by the Trustees.

Bill sent County Engineer Carlos Baez the 2024 road paving project which will include the roads of Westwood, Saner, Fennimore and Upton.

Bob Kusmer mentioned we are trying to co-op paving with other Townships so we can get better pricing. Currently we have Riley and Sandusky Township in with the project and waiting on reply on other townships.

Bill asked to hire Jason Ginnever for the open maintance position, and his background check has been submitted and waiting for results.

Mr. Farmer made a motion to hire Jason Ginnever based on background check coming back ok. Seconded by Mrs. Reser. Upon a vote, Mr. Farmer – Yes; Mrs. Reser – Yes Mr. Kusmer –Yes

TRUSTEES COMMENTS

Mary Ann Reser – Attending Sandusky County Regional Planning Meeting and they are updating their bylaws. Mary Ann mentioned we have two votes so we should have two people in that meeting. Discussion took place and it was decided that Mary Ann Reser and Rich Farmer will be the members and Bob Kusmer and Troy Thatcher be the alternates. Mary Ann mentioned that Jackson Township passed their zoning amendments. It was also brought up that they passed out a thumb drives for everyone from Erie County about exterior property maintance. Mary Ann left thumb drive if anyone wants to look at it. Bob Kusmer isn't in favor of something like this about

zoning exteriors of buildings. John Willey mentioned that when we do zoning amendments that they need to be sent to him and Beth Tischler.

Rich Farmer – Rich commented that he is still learning.

Bob Kusmer - House Bill 315 in still going through with is the Omnibus bill for Townships. The big thing in there will allow townships to fine people for zoning violations instead of having to go through the courts. Bob Kusmer asked our State Lobbyist Kyle Brooks to look at the noxious weed and grass issues. The current law is different for cities and townships and he would like the laws to be the same. The city can do it in a week and townships take about 6 weeks.

Mary Ann asked Bob if they are also looking into altering the township public notice requirements? Bob said he doesn't know about this but currently notices need to be in a newspaper. They are trying to change this to allow these notices on public website.

Bob mentioned a grant call H2Ohio. Its an EPA grant and Bill and I are working on getting one submitted by January 31st. This would give us up to $75,000 to eliminate the use of salt on the roads. This would be used for products like Brine. We would need a tank to hold brine and also get trucks updated to be able to use brine. Rich Farmer asked if the grant can go towards purchase of truck. Bob said he would look into that.

Mary Ann asked Bob about the Tax Incentive Board and what they do. Bob said we have a seat on the board because we gave a tax abatement to a business in the township. We will stay on the board until the abatement runs out to make sure the businesses keep up with what they promise to continue their tax abatement.

Old Business – No Old Business

New Business – Ballville Township Volunteer Fire Chief Bill Lagrou went over his annual Fire Department report with the Trustees.

There being no further business, Mr. Farmer made motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Reser. Upon a vote, Mr. Farmer – Yes; - Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mrs. Reser – Yes, the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas Ackerman, Fiscal Officer

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W Robert Kusmer, Chairperson