

OHIO TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

February 10, 2020

The trustees met in regular session with all members present.

Also present were Asst. Chief Gary Auffart, PTFD, Dave O'Connor, Larry Bramlage, Cpl. Ryan Feilhauer, CCSO, Frank Renn, Cindy Cassell, Valerie Renn, Ken Kramig, Nathan Kinney, Jason Carmack, Genny Dennison, Lou Hogan, Kristin Bennett, Kathy Waldeck, Marty Waldeck, Chris Busse, Ryan Ridgely, Don Adams, Emily Supinger and Les Smith.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mr. Hinson.

Mr. Vogelsang made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2020 regular meeting, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”

Kristin Bennett of NRYSA asked permission to use the ballfields at the park for practice during the 2020 season; they will not be using the concession stand; they will paint the backstop fence as previously arranged. Proof of insurance will be provided to the township when the policy renews this spring.

Mr. Vogelsang made a motion to allow the NRYSA to use the ball fields for the 2020 season, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”

Ken Kramig of Libby Lane reported that parking is still an issue on Libby Lane and suggested banning parking on the side of the street where the fire hydrant is. Ms. Niehaus noted that the purpose for limiting the parking is for safety purposes. Mr. Vogelsang noted that some residents will like the change, others may not. Ken Kramig noted that the first house on the left is the main house that has many of cars in front of it.

Ms. Niehaus made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-25, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang. All members voted “yea”

Frank Renn spoke about the December meeting minutes in reference to a sunshine law violation and read aloud a document pertaining to a 2019 lawsuit; also stated that he feels more information about the lawsuit should have been included in the minutes.

Jason Carmack spoke to the trustees about a concept he has for developing a 30 to 40 acre parcel to include his residence, business and tree houses for rental purposes; would also be looking at an indoor pool for lessons and pet day care center. Jason Carmack asked the trustees to consider allowing such a project.
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Frank Renn asked if the township had a land use plan. Mr. Hinson noted that the township uses the county land use guidelines; also explained that any design would have to be approved by the county. The consensus of the board was it would be welcomed if possible.

Asst. Chief Auffart, PTFD, gave his report (on file). Reported that the department participated in active shooter training recently.

Cpl. Feilhauer, CCSO: Reported that there were no crimes or overdoses reported in January.

Les Smith gave his zoning report (on file). Mr. Meadows did not appear for his zoning mediation hearing; noted that he is having difficulty gaining access to some Lazy Days lots to handle zoning issues. Reported attending the Ohio Township Association winter conference last week taking 9 training classes while there. Mr. Hinson noted that Les Smith has recently been contacting a computer repair company directly when needing service and asked the board if they were ok with granting Les Smith authority to do so without first contacting a trustee. The consensus was to allow Les Smith to call directly for computer assistance up to a \$200 spending limit. Mr. Vogelsang asked about getting copies of the zoning book updated for grammar and accuracy; also asked if the sign section needs altering. Les Smith replied that the sign section is cumbersome and could be altered if the trustees choose to. There was discussion on reviewing the zoning code book for completeness. Emily Supinger noted that there are two issues, one is correcting grammar issues and the other is possibly making changes. Bill Gilpin noted that another goal is to have a digital version available on the township website. Les Smith will check with the county to see if they will assist with getting an accurate digital version produced and also ask if the county will provide guidance for altering the sign section.

Ms. Niehaus made a motion to authorize Les Smith to call Atomic Computers directly when needing assistance not to exceed \$200, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang. All members voted “yea”

Dave O'Connor maintenance report: Asked that the road paving bid package be changed to have the bid opening on April 13. Reported that we may be making some contractor changes at the cemetery. Mr. Hinson asked about road salt delivery; answer was waiting on drier weather for delivery. Ms. Niehaus asked Dave O'Connor to get quotes on repairing the tennis courts. Dave O'Connor reported that the speed studies are complete and that ODOT has lowered the speed limit on Chestnut Lane, Fagins Run and Grays Lane to 40mph.

Mr. Hinson made a motion to advertise for the 2020 Road Paving Program, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”

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Mr. Hinson reported that long time trustee John Gilfillen passed away last week.

OLD BUSINESS:

Employee Job Descriptions: Mr. Vogelsang asked why we need job descriptions. Emily Supinger noted that they are needed for legal purposes when necessary.

Mr. Vogelsang made a motion to approve the job descriptions as written, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”

Zoning Commission Appointment: Mr. Hinson reported that last month Frank Renn asked to be put on the zoning commission, and that while at the OTA conference he was told by 3 different people that a person should not serve on both the zoning commission and board of zoning appeals. Emily Supinger reported that she contacted the attorney general's office and was told that a person cannot serve on both committees as it is considered incompatible by state standards. Mr. Hinson noted that due to the ruling Frank Renn has to be removed from the zoning commission; also reported that two applications were received for the zoning commission opening, Larry Bramlage and Cindy Cassell. It was noted that Cindy Cassell was recently appointed as alternate on the board of zoning appeals and therefore cannot serve on the zoning commission. Kathy Waldeck expressed interest in serving as alternate on the zoning commission.

Ms. Niehaus made a motion to appoint Larry Bramlage to the zoning commission for a term expiring September 2022, and to appoint Kathy Waldeck as alternate for the zoning commission for a term expiring September 2024, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang. All members voted “yea”

Mr. Hinson made a motion to appoint Bill Honaker to a five year term on the board of zoning appeals expiring March 2025, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”

Salute to Leaders: Mr. Hinson reported that Charles Polster declined the invitation to be the township's honoree, and suggested former New Richmond Mayor Ramona Carr, scout leader Chris Leggett or the New Richmond area ministries as possible honorees. The consensus of the board was to choose Chris Leggett as this year's choice for the Salute to Leaders program.

Mr. Vogelsang made a motion to select Chris Leggett as the township's choice for the annual Salute to Leaders program, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”.

Website Maintenance: Ms. Niehaus reported that one proposal has been received and another proposal is expected with one or both coming to the March meeting to provide a presentation.

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COMMUNICATIONS: Speed study results: already covered earlier in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Road Mileage Certification: The trustees signed the paperwork certifying the township's road mileage from the county engineer.

2020 Road Paving Program: Already covered earlier in the meeting.

Libby Lane Parking Resolution; Already covered earlier in the meeting.

Stormwater Invoice: The 2020 invoice in the amount of \$848.04 was reviewed.

Ms. Niehaus made a motion to pay the annual storm water fee invoice in the amount of \$848.04, seconded by Mr. Hinson. All members voted "yea"

Ms. Niehaus reported that she has been talking to some New Richmond council members about working together and asked if the township could share equipment. Dave O'Connor noted that he would rather rent equipment than share with another entity. Mr. Hinson noted that our road mower is the only piece of equipment we own that they don't have. Mr. Hinson also noted that the township has in the past salted roads and mowed roadsides for the village from time to time; also reported that the trustees have frequented council meetings on many occasions while council members have rarely attended township meetings. Mr. Vogelsang reported that he has been to several council meetings and also talked to council members about working together. Mr. Hinson noted he feels that assistance with road mowing is what the village really wants and offered to help facilitate that if it is possible; also noted that the township contracted with the village many years ago for fire and ems protection and that there were some hard feelings when the township contracted with Pierce Township. Mr. Hinson also noted that the village created some hard feelings when they attempted to create a paper township and remove the village from the township. Mr. Vogelsang noted that with a new mayor it may be a good time to talk again.

Frank Renn noted that he was told by Mayor Carr that the village would like to trade some services with the township.

Mr. Vogelsang reported going to the park grant seminar and asked Dave O'Connor what needs we may have. Dave O'Connor noted that the tennis courts and walking trail both need repairs. Mr. Vogelsang also noted that the firehouse septic system needs to be replaced at some point. Ms. Niehaus asked Dave O'Connor to help with getting pricing together for park projects to assist with grant applications.

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Mr. Vogelsang noted receiving information from the boundary census; Les Smith has already taken care of it.

Mr. Hinson reported that he, Ms. Niehaus and Les Smith attended the OTA winter conference last week; referred to literature produced by Wendell Cox that related to the efficiencies of townships providing services compared to municipalities.

Mr. Hinson reported that Dynegy has notified us that our contract for discounted electric supplier service is about to expire. After reviewing the offers the consensus of the board was to contract for the 48 month rates for street lights and facilities electric.

Ms. Niehaus made a motion to contract with Dynegy for 48 months to supply discounted electric service to the township, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang. All members voted “yea”.

Mr. Hinson reported meeting with Michelle Snyder, records manager with Clermont County, who will be assisting the township with better handling of records disposal.

Fund balances were discussed.

The following were read and approved with warrants written for same: (payment summary on following page).

Ms. Niehaus made a motion to adjourn at 8:32pm, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang. All members voted “yea”