

## Walnut Township Trustees Meeting

February 2, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Trustees Doug Leith, William Yates and Terry Horn were present.

There was a discussion regarding the permanent appropriations for 2016. Fiscal Officer Kraner will email the Permanent Appropriations to the trustees to review prior to the next meeting. The only item that the Trustees ask to increase was the Legal Fees in the General funds. Any expenses that have increased since the budget approval will be adjusted; as well as any other line items that have been discussed since the budget was approved in July 2015.

Trustee Horn acknowledged the receipt of the Cash Summary by Fund, Payment Listing, and Appropriation Summary by the trustees.

Trustee Horn made a motion to approve checks 24993 through 25024 and EFT 2016-29 through 2016-90, after being certified that funds are available and appropriations have been made by Fiscal Officer Kraner. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Fiscal Officer Kraner asked whether there were any roads that needed weight restrictions as prompted by the email received from Cheryl Downour, Fairfield County Engineer's office. Tim Morris stated that there are not any roads in the township that need to have the weight reduction.

The CAUV (Current Agricultural Use Valuation) application was received. Trustee Leith will contact Mike Wolfe, who is currently farming the township property, for the information needed to complete the form.

### **Comments from the Floor –**

There were no comments from the floor.

### **Department Reports**

Lt. Pat Redd, Millersport Fire Department – Lt. Redd presented the specifications for the new Braun Medic that the Millersport Department is planning to purchase. The cost is approximately \$208,000 and would be delivered in July, 2016. This would replace the medic that was purchased in 2005.

They are also looking at purchasing a Power Cot/Power Loader for \$48,000. A Stair Chair is also on the list of potential purchases. All items are on the State Bid list.

The minutes for the January 5<sup>th</sup> Re-Organization Meeting were presented for approval. Trustee Yates made a motion to approve the minutes. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

The minutes for the January 5<sup>th</sup> Regular Trustee meeting were presented for approval. Trustee Yates made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted changes. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**Chief Hite – Thurston Walnut Township Fire Department** – Chief Hite stated that several of the firefighters had not received their W-2's in January and they mentioned that they were probably sent to an old address. Fiscal Officer Kraner stated that she can only send the forms to the address on file. If this is incorrect, the firefighters need to complete the required forms and have the addresses updated.

There was discussion regarding holiday pay and whether it is 1 ½ times their hourly amount or 2 times their hourly amount. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve holiday pay for New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving day and Christmas day at 1 ½ times their hourly rate unless approved by the Trustees ahead of time. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

The Volunteers will be receiving on-call pay; it will be paid out monthly by the Village of Thurston.

Chief Hite will be attending a Chief Conference on February 16 – 17, 2016.

There has been an issue with low natural gas pressure at the station, Columbia Gas is working on a solution.

The department is working on two grants – an Equipment Grant to purchase 5 sets of Fire Gear and a Training Grant.

Trustee Leith mentioned the work that Chief Hite has put into updating the department policies in the last 30 days and that the Trustees appreciate the work he has done.

**Kevin Clouse – Zoning Inspector** – Zoning Inspector Clouse stated that the BZA Re-Organization meeting and a Variance Hearing will take place on February 4<sup>th</sup>. The Zoning Commission Re-Organization meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Clouse has completed his re-organization of the files. All trustee files were moved from the files at the front desk, which allows sufficient room for several years of new applications. The old files are currently organized by year and they will be re-organized by address as time permits.

**Mike King – Recycling** – No problems at this time.

**Tim Morris – Roads and Parks** – Tim asked whether the Trustees intended to have Murphy's Mowing continue to mow the parks and cemeteries in 2016. Tim and Mike both felt that Murphy's Mowing did a good job and only mowed when it was needed. The cost is approximately \$350/week or approximately \$8400/6 months. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve Murphy's Mowing handling the mowing of the parks and cemeteries under the direction of Mike for 2016. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Tim and Mike will be attending the Safety Meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup> presented by the Fairfield County Engineer; Flagging and Signage in Construction Zones is the topic.

There will be a demonstration of Under Carriage Washing Machine on February 6<sup>th</sup> at the township garage. The cost is \$2,400 for the unit and the cleansing agent costs \$60 per 5-gallon bottle. In addition, the township would need to purchase a power washer that sprays 4 gallons per minute; at an approximate cost of \$4,800. The cleansing agent will neutralize the salt residue on the trucks.

Trustee Horn asked when the last inventory was done of the Playground Equipment. Tim stated that the last check was last fall.

Trustee Yates provided information regarding the creation of a Park District in the township and asked that it be a discussion topic at the next Trustee Meeting. Centerburg has created a Park District and could be used as a model. Trustee Horn asked whether it could become part of the Historical Park District in Fairfield County.

### **Old Business**

The trustees and employees attended the Winter OTA last week.

The IRS has requested Schedule B's for the 941 forms previously submitted as part of the IRS's request for information.

Trustee Leith has not received a response from Joshua Horacek regarding whether the Trustees can be reimbursed for the medical insurance premiums.

Michelle, Burnham and Flower representative, has requested the Life Amendment be sent to her; Fiscal Officer Kraner will take care of this.

An email was received with updated information regarding the BWC premium due on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

As an update to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Dam Project –

- Lieb's Island Road is in poor condition
- The service road work is progressing
- There will be 4 dredges working in the lake
- The soil dryer is expected to arrive soon; Jeremiah Upp, Fairfield County Engineer has been notified to watch for overweight conditions
- Dam Construction Manager, At Risk, has been responsive so far during the project

### **New Business**

The Inventory for 2016 was submitted to the County Engineer by Tim.

A letter was received from Jack Cheney with suggestions on a new Feeder Creek/Lieb's Island Renovation ideas for changes to the entrance from Millersport Road. The letter was also sent to ODNR, The US Corp of Army Engineers, Fairfield County Commissioners, Lieb's Island Civic Association, the West Bank Civic Association, Gill Goodheil and the Buckeye Lake Beacon. Trustee Horn will scan and send to the Buckeye Area Civic Association.

Tim is working on a Neighborhood Revitalization Grant with James Macco and Holly Mattei, Regional Planning; the amount could be up to \$500,000. The grant application can be submitted prior to the engineering of the project being completed. The funds in the grant can be used to cover the cost of the engineering plan if the County Engineer is unable to complete.

The grant is for low income areas and possibly could be used for parks and storm sewers.

The EPA was out to inspect King, Elfin, Fawn and Dahlia for the Allocation grant work. The grant is for \$107,821.81.

A new contract was received from Fairfield Medical Center for Drug Testing. Trustee Leith made a motion to continue the contract and to name Trustee Yates as the designee and Trustee Horn as the alternate to receive the Testing Letters. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

There was a Public Interest meeting at Lakewood High School to discuss the future of Buckeye Lake. There was some discussion regarding the possibility of a lake wide bike path. There was discussion regarding creating a brand with a logo.

There was a brief discussion regarding marking equipment with township information for loss prevention purposes. Tim will purchase a paint pen and work on marking the equipment.

Trustee Yates mentioned that a new hub will be available for the IRIS Security System.

**Comments from the Floor –**

There were no comments from the floor.

At 8:30 PM, Trustee Leith made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discussion a complaint against a public employee as allowed in ORC 121.22. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

At 9:30 PM, The Trustees came out of Executive Session.

Larry Neeley, RPC – Mr. Neeley stated that the RPC is looking to create two committees – one on Development Strategies and the other on Land Use. Bike Paths and Development areas; including Open Spaces and Protected Farm Land with be discussed. Mr. Neeley would like to be the township representative for these committees.

Trustee Horn made a motion to name Larry Neeley as Walnut Township’s RPC Representative for the County Land Use Plan. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

There was a discussion regarding placing an ad in the Millersport Minstrel bulletin. The Trustees and Fiscal Officer agreed to place a \$40 ad, with each trustee and the fiscal officer contributing \$10 each.

At 9:43 PM Trustee Horn made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

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Lynn Kraner, Fiscal Officer

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William Yates, Chairman

Terry Horn

Doug Leith