

## Walnut Township Trustees Regular Meeting

November 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Trustee Horn, Trustee Leith, Trustee Yates & Fiscal Officer Kraner were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance were: Chief Jim Hite (TWFD), Mike Berry (Zoning), Mike King (Recycling), Tim Morris (Parks) and twelve (12) guests.

### Approval of Minutes

**October 3:** Trustee Yates moved to accept the minutes with discussed corrections and additions, Trustee Horn seconded. Motion approved with three (3) yes votes.

**October 19:** Trustee Leith moved to accept the minutes with corrections, Trustee Yates seconded the motion. Motion approved with three (3) yes votes.

### Financial Report & Bills for Payment

Fiscal Officer Kraner asked for approval of the check #'s 25278 thru 25331 and EFT #'s 883 thru 1030.

Trustee Yates moved to approve Shannon's time sheet, Trustee Horn seconded. Motion approved with three (3) yes votes.

Trustee Yates moved to acknowledge the financial reports and approve the checks and EFT's. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. Motion approved with two yes votes (Yates=yes, Leith=yes, Horn=abstain).

### Township Department Reports

**Millersport FD:** Chief Bob Price stated that they are applying for a grant to replace their communications system, eight phones and 22 walkie-talkies through MARCS. As part of that, they spent today walking around town testing the amount of service they currently get based on the single radio tower in Fairfield County and currently have several spots in and around town where they have trouble communicating with one another due to the location of the tower. They are looking into adding a second radio tower in the area of Fairfield Beach. Trustee Yates suggested putting a tower on an empty plot of Township land.

Chief Price stated that the construction for Station 2 is well under way. The plan is for the department to be able to move in, in June of 2018. Chief Price also clarified that the fire station located in Fairfield Beach is owned by the Millersport Firefighter's Association, while the trucks and employees are paid for by the Village of Millersport and is contracted by the Walnut Township Trustees to provide service. This is the reason that the fire department is not called the "Fairfield Beach Fire Department". He stated he has been hearing comments and complaints about this fact and wanted to clarify.

**TWFD:** Chief Hite would like to promote Jason Smith to Captain over Fire, and Evan Martin to Lieutenant over Fire, training new-hires and testing the volunteers. The repairs to the building are complete. Medic 2 just got out of the shop after getting its rear suspension repaired but is now stalling and flashing safety codes. Chief Hite stated that if it continues to experience issues, he will be asking the Trustees for help in getting rid of it so that it does not become a money pit.

Trustee Yates stated he is willing to meet with Chiefs Hite, Price and a rep from the EMS billing company to finalize the contract. Trustee Yates approved the motion to approve Chief Hite's recommendation to pay the subscription service fees for **MEEC RCOG-EMS**. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. Motion approved with three (3) yes votes.

**Zoning:** For the month of October, two new home permits, two accessory building permits, one addition, one deck and one ag-exempt were approved. Mike stated that there is a big change from Regional Planning for new homes and/or additions; if a lot touches Buckeye Lake, homeowner is required to have a flood plain permit, even if the plot is not technically in a flood zone. Mike stated he talked to Mr. David Lyle who owns the house at 13058 Elm Rd. In 2014, Mr. Lyle agreed to install permanent foundations, add a sloped roof, install new windows and new siding on his industrialized unit being used as a house during a re-zone hearing. At this time, only the foundation and sloped roof had been completed. According to Mike, Mr. Lyle will be installing new windows this year and installing new siding this spring. Mike also stated that the Auditor's office has requested copies of all permits be sent to the Auditor's office monthly, as opposed to annually.

**Roads:** Tim stated that the Cherry Lane project is moving along. AEP is getting ready to move poles and needs several trees to be removed beforehand. Tim requested approval by the Trustees for \$5700 to pay Mid-Ohio for the tree removal. Trustee Horn moved to approve the motion, Trustee Yates seconded the motion.

Tim stated all major road projects for 2017 are complete.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) will allow for three culverts on Lakeshore Dr. to be replaced and Tim is planning for these to be completed by next week.

Tim also asked for the Trustee's to approve for him and Mike to have two personal days each in 2018, as has been the custom.

Dariah Arbogast (5580 Cypress Dr.) stated she is having issues with flooding in the area around her house, specifically in the area on Narcissus Dr. Tim will look at it.

### Old Business

**IRS Update:** Fiscal Officer Kraner stated the Township received a few additional checks back from the IRS that they realized we had overpaid.

**RUMA Road Update:** Tim stated that an agreement has not yet been reached between ODNR and the Township.

**Storm Sewer Update:** Kreig Babbert (West Bank Homeowner's Association) stated that ODNR is planning to re-route their pipes starting December 1. His concern with the current plan is that those pipes need to be able to drain during the winter, so with the current route ODNR is proposing, water will end up sitting in the pipe, freezing and causing the pipes to break. The Trustees asked Mr. Babbert to continue to keep them informed and if their help is needed, let them know.

**Response from Letters re: Land Bank properties:** Trustee Horn stated we received two responses to the letters issued. Both property owners stated they were in the process of fixing up their properties and were not interested in the project.

**Indigent Burial Funds:** Fiscal Officer Kraner stated she has conducted research and confirmed that the Township is responsible for the cost associated with indigent burials but only after the person has been confirmed as a Township resident. The Township also has the discretion to develop our own policy for a process around a situation like this, such as having the person cremated. The Trustees expressed interest in adopting the model laid out in the paperwork provided as an example, but to be safe decided to send the information to the Prosecuting Attorney for their review.

**Eichorn Annexation Request:** Attorney Matt Johnson was present on behalf of Mr. Eichorn. Dollar General is looking to purchase 1.7 acres of land from Mr. Eichorn to build a new store. Mr. Johnson stated they are hoping to process the annexation into Millersport on an expedited basis. The hope is for the store to be open by spring of 2018. Trustee Leith made a motion to approve the annexation, Trustee Yates seconded. Motion approved with three (3) yes votes.

**Ag Security Properties Resolution:** Trustee Yates moved to approve **Resolution #** to approve the Ag-Security property area, Trustee Horn seconded. Motion approved with three (3) yes votes.

## New Business

**2018 Health Insurance:** Michelle Crockett presented the Trustee's with details around the health insurance plan options for 2018. Aetna's rates are not available yet; United Healthcare information is not shown as they don't provide commission on plans with less than five associates. Anthem is the plan they have been using and for 2018, if the Township continues with Anthem, the annual rate would increase by \$56.71. If the Township switched to Medical Mutual, the annual rate would increase by \$38.77.

Due to the fact that two of the Trustees are up for re-election (results unknown at the time of meeting), Trustee Horn informed Michelle that the 'effective date' of the health insurance plan for 2018 would need to be a date after the month of January as there would only be one eligible associate prior to that. Michelle said in that case, the effective date would have to be March 1.

Trustee Horn asked Tim to look into how much he would be impacted if the Township elected to switch to Medical Mutual.

**Hanna Annexation Request:** Attorney Suzann Van Horn was present, representing John & Pamela Hanna, and explained that the Hanna's are looking to annex 13.34 acres into the Village of Millersport, with plans for his children to build their own homes in Millersport on the land. Building into the Township would be cost-prohibitive, this is why they would like to subdivide into the Village. Mr. Hanna stated that there would be a total of four new homes on the annexed property, in addition to the three homes already standing. Trustee Yates moved to approve the motion, Trustee Horn seconded the motion. Motion approved with three (3) yes votes.

**Fairfield Beach Community Watch:** Trustee Horn stated he has been in contact with the Sheriff's Department and they are encouraged by the interest in starting a Community Watch in the Fairfield Beach area. Trustee Horn stated that the group should consist of about 25 people and use a golf cart for patrol. If the residents purchase the vehicle, the Sheriff will 'own' it. The golf cart model proposed runs at about \$6,000 and Trustee Horn suggested asking for donations. Sheriff Phalen controls the program and gives the Watch members the authority to 'watch and record'. If used, the golf cart will be painted black and have a "Community Watch" decal, and also be outfitted with a weather-proof roof and heater.

Rick Cochran stated that the FBPOA currently meets at the Methodist Church monthly and feels that would be the easiest way to reach everybody at once. Trustee Horn stated the Sheriff's Representative is available on November 27 so thinks it would make the most sense to do a Special Meeting for this conversation. He would suggest inviting all who would be interested from Fairfield Beach. Chief Price suggested also including Millersport resident in the invite.

Trustee Horn would like to tentatively schedule a Special Meeting on Monday, November 27 at 6:30 pm. Trustee Yates suggested the flyer include a written survey for those who cannot attend.

**Distressed Property on Maple St.:** The house at 3061 Maple St. is a distressed property that has been an issue for awhile. Trustee Horn stated he has confirmed with Mr. Kaper, of The Land Bank, that if we are able to get the property condemned by the Fire Department, the Township would be responsible for 5% of the cost to demolish the building. However, we won't know the total cost of demo until the building is assessed. Average cost is typically between \$8,000-10,000, but could be more if asbestos is present.

Additional Comments

No comments.

Trustee Leith moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Yates seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Minutes recorded by Shannon Franz, Recording Secretary

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Lynn Kraner, Fiscal Officer

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William Yates

Terry Horn

Doug Leith, Chairman