

FEBRUARY 13, 2013

The February 13, 2013 meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees was called to order at 7:02 pm. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum: Trustee Laura Lewis present, Trustee Curtis Morrison present, and Chairman William Spellman present. Also present were Fiscal Officer Karen Grittie, Zoning Inspector Rick Durkin, Fire Chief Bob Sternburg, 11 visitors, and Bob Russo for security. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Trustee Lewis made a motion to accept the 2013 Reorganization meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Morrison. All in favor. Trustee Lewis made a motion to accept the January 12, 2013 meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Morrison. All in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The bank balance was \$919,584.40. Trustee Morrison made a motion to accept resolution for the advances for 1st half taxes from 2012, seconded by Trustee Lewis. All in favor. Trustee Morrison made a motion to pay for deposit slips at a cost of \$53.45, seconded by Trustee Lewis. All in favor. The invoice for the checks has not been received. This is a two year supply. An application for an account at Modern Officer Supply was submitted by the Ellsworth EMS Department. We have an established account with Modern Office. The terms are payment due in 30 days and no finance charge. The Fiscal Officer asked to have the dates of service noted on the snowplowing invoices. Correspondence: Lowe's has a contract with the State of Ohio for a 5% savings. Ellsworth Township is automatically enrolled. No open record copies of the legal bills will be given out until more information from an article in Grassroots Clippings is obtained. The month of January 2013 is not closed. The Fiscal Officer will be looking into direct deposit for paychecks and information will be available later.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: Trustee Morrison reported he met on Tuesday with the boiler inspector with Travelers Insurance, which underwrites our insurance. The new boilers passed the inspection. Trustee Morrison reported last month a motion was passed for \$1000 in roof repairs. Trustee Morrison met with a gentleman to do the roof repairs and fix the flashing for \$700 for both the maintenance and fire department buildings. The roofs are 20 to 25 years old and will need more attention in the future. This summer we will be looking to do roof maintenance in house. The Fiscal Officer noted the motion to repair the roof last month failed for lack of a second. Trustee Morrison made a motion to approve \$700 for the 2 roofs at the maintenance and fire station buildings. Trustee Lewis asked the name of the company. Trustee Morrison said the company was Tim's Roofing. More roof coating will be needed in the future. The motion was seconded by Chairman Spellman. All in favor. Trustee Lewis said Kim Lewis from the Green Team said we have a different contract with the service provider that exchanges the recycling bins. That company sorts the recyclables at their facility. We may not always have a bin for paper and one for glass & plastic. Trustee Lewis said we need to make it know to people that they can just dump all in to any bin. Trustee Lewis will confirm the length of the contract and then consider putting direction signs up at the recycling area. Trustee Morrison reported a recycling bin was off the concrete pad, blocking the dry hydrant drive. Within two hours of calling the Green Team, the bin was repositioned. They are very responsive. Chairman Spellman reported there have been a lot of burials. Chairman Spellman spoke to Lordstown concerning our road salt. We are down to two scoopsfuls. The new salt is less at \$40 a ton. Lordstown will bill us for our usage after the season.

ZONING REPORT: Zoning Inspector Rick Durkin reported 24 phone calls were returned. A fracking group called to ask if well Mahoning #2 is in Ellsworth Township. Mr. Durkin state that well is under the state supervision and not the township. Any information pertaining to that site is available on line. Chairman Spellman reported the zoning commission has sent a price list and formula for new construction. Chairman Spellman felt this needed review and brought up at a later date. Trustee Lewis agreed. Trustee Morrison reported the construction cost is \$4 per thousand and is proposed to increase to \$5 per thousand is the biggest change. It is also proposed if you are maintaining your home and not changing the footprint of the home, a zoning permit will no longer be needed. Some other fees are proposed to increase. Trustee Morrison suggested an open hearing for public input. Chairman Spellman agreed we need public input and to look at how the zoning is funded. Trustee Morrison said the fees are not usually part of the zoning book because as the fees change, then the book has to be reprinted. The zoning fees discussion was tabled.

FIRE REPORT: Chief Sternburg reported 2 structure fires, 1 brush fire, 3 good intent call, 4 emergency medical calls, 4 vehicle crashes. Totaling 248 fire fighter calls. Mutual aid was given to Berlin Center and received mutual aid from Berlin Center, North Jackson, Greenford, and Damascus. The EMS had 4 transports. The ambulance was service at a cost of \$1753.25. The training contract, approved by the Mahoning County Prosecutor, is current. One key for the hall is needed for a new 4-H group. Trustee Morrison made a motion for \$1753.25 for squad repairs, seconded by Trustee Lewis. All in favor.

CRIME WATCH: Karen Grittie reported Crime Watch is in limbo. Numerous phone calls and voicemails have been made to Major Jeff Allen, in charge of Crime Watch, with no response. The civil deputy cards were turned into former Sheriff Wellington. At this point in time we are not patrolling because we are not under anyone guidance. Ellsworth and Berlin townships are the only two townships without a police force. Canfield Township pays the sheriff department to patrol their area. We have no answer for you because no one has returned our phone calls. Bob Russo said he would speak to Major Allen in the morning and ask him to call Crime Watch.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Morrison reported he had no committee report tonight. Chairman Spellman reported he attended the OTA Winter Conference., seeking information on cemetery cremation pods and cemetery software for plotting and identification of burial sites. The chairman spoke to the Department of Commerce, which set the minimal maintenance standards for cemeteries. Our cemetery has a good reputation and we should always want more. The chairman also completed the Ohio Public Records Act training. Chairman Spellman met a PUCO member, who agreed to speak at a Mahoning County Township Association meeting on February 21, 2013 at 7 pm on the electric aggregation. The Chair attended classes on Ohio shale, and how to deal with abandoned homes. The chair is currently working on a house the mortgage company relinquished to the Land Bank. It is a blighted home. The annual meeting with the county engineer was held, at which time our inventory was turned in. Chairman Spellman submitted pictures of our worst roads, Gault, Bailey, Gibson and Diehl. Knauf was also mentioned. Trustee Lewis mentioned the proposed signage for the recycling roll offs. Trustee Lewis reported the old Rt. 224 bridge test so well that it will not be torn down any time soon. Trustee Morrison reported some work on the guard rails and the columns on the bridge maybe done. TRUSTEE LEWIS spoke to Mary Petroni who will write the grant for the rubber mulch for the playground. Margaret Drummond reported to Trustee Lewis in the last two years \$17,500 had been received in grants for the Fire Department. Trustee Lewis drafted a thank you note to Margaret Drummond and asked the other trustees to sign it. The Fire Chief

reported Margaret Drummond just submitted a training reimbursement grant and a State Fire Marshall grant. Ken Hernan was the top responder for the fire department. His name will be added to the plaque. The zoning commission has started bringing in land use consultants. Trustee Lewis called the Ohio State Extension Development office and connected with John Conlous from Stark County. Mr. Conlous was very familiar with Ellsworth. His estimate of cost was very attractive and seems to fit Ellsworth. This information will be given to the Zoning Commission to make the meeting arrangements. At the meeting with the County Engineer, Ellsworth was asked to make a resolution for reflective signs to be purchased through the County Engineer's office at the state pricing. The resolution states:

Standards for sign reflectivity will change within the coming years and new signs will be need to be purchased for Ellsworth Township. Therefore be it resolved that Ellsworth Township chooses to no bid the project, opting to buy through the Mahoning County Engineer's Office at state contracted pricing.

Chairman Spellman reported the County Engineer's theme is shared services. Trustee Lewis asked if we have a list of signs that will need purchases. The Chair said there was a list in maintenance that may need updated. This is also the time to check the condition of the sign posts. Trustee Morrison reported the state keeps changing the reflectivity standard. We are to be notified of any meetings concerning this. Chairman Spellman commented if we buy through the county, we are at the state standards and uniformity. Trustee Lewis also reported the County Engineer is tentatively planning to pave Bailey Rd. between Rt. 224 and Ellsworth Rd. THE EPA has been testing different streams since we are the Meander watershed. The Meander Creek at 224 and Leffingwell Rd. did not meet the bacteria criteria and there is an investigation going on. Trustee Morrison did ask at the county meeting what improvement there had been over the 10 years since the sewer treatment plant at Diehl Lake has been in operation. That data will have to be looked up.. Mr. Morrison reported at the county meeting sharing the snow plowing was discussed. Also lining of our township roads can be done at the county's cost. There is a new cooperative effort. Chairman Spellman reported our support for the Board of Health's funding for our two landfills and the streams mentioned before. Also the Green Team funding was being cut. Trustee Lewis reported on the universal gasoline card for the Fire Department. Lane's ambulance uses a BP MasterCard. The application is filled out. EMTs and fire fighters using the card will use their Knox box code and the vehicle mileage. Trustee Lewis will check on monthly fees. Trustee Morrison stated if there is no monthly fee and Trustee Lewis feels secure in using the Knox box codes, he goes along with it. Chairman Spellman read a thank you card from Mary Ann Stack for all the gifts upon her retirement from the Zoning Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Chairman Spellman stated the ad was in the paper for the Zoning Board appointment. Trustee Morrison is comfortable with making the appointments tonight. Trustee Lewis stated she is out voted, so go ahead. At 7:58 pm Trustee Morrison made a motion to go into executive session for information purposes only for the appointments to the zoning boards, seconded by Trustee Lewis. Roll call vote: Trustee Lewis yes, Trustee Morrison yes and Trustee Spellman yes. At 8:10 pm Trustee Morrison made the motion to come out of executive session, seconded by Trustee Lewis. The roll call vote was: Trustee Morrison yes, Trustee Lewis yes and Trustee Spellman yes. Chairman Spellman reported all the candidate's resumes were looked at and he thanked all who responded. Trustee Morrison nominated Jim Tripp for the alternate on the Zoning Board, seconded by Chairman Spellman. The vote was Trustee Lewis no, Trustees Morrison and Spellman yes. Chairman Spellman nominated Fred Houston to the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Trustee Morrison. The vote was Trustee Lewis no, Trustees Morrison and Spellman yes. Trustee Lewis said Mr. Houston was involved in a lawsuit that sued the township in a specific case that he may see in the judicial board of this township. Trustee Lewis felt it was in very poor nature to take a position on a case that very well may come before the board he sits on. As far as the Zoning board appointment, Trustee Lewis would like to see more farmers or a farmer that does agricultural production on the zoning board. Currently the Zoning Board members are residential and Trustee Lewis would like to see the agricultural aspect of this township represented. Chairman Spellman commented Fred Houston was a farmer. The Chair went on to say we are sensitive to 4-H and there should be farmers involved in the land use planning. Trustee Morrison reported the County prosecutor's office was contacted concerning legalities of the school resource officer for Western Reserve School. The prosecutor's office compiled an agreement for all parties involved to sign. Ellsworth has already passed the resolution for the resource officer. Chairman Spellman explained the township was asked to make a contribution of almost \$8000 as well as Berlin Township. The school is contributing \$22,000 and the sheriff's department is covering half the cost as well as working on a grant. The resource office will be at the school during the school year and will patrol the townships during the summer months. Trustee Morrison reported Ellsworth will pay \$7625 before April 1, 2013 and the same amount before March 1st the following years.

NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Spellman wants the maintenance to do an evaluation of the signs, catch basins, roads after the freeze and thaw, and the park.

The next meeting will be March 13, 2013 at the Town Hall. At 8:42 pm Trustee Morrison made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Lewis. All in favor.