

MINUTES OF ELLSWORTH TWP BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 9, 2015

Chairman Bob Toman called the September 9, 2015 regular meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees to order at 7:01 p.m. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum: Trustee Fred Houston – present, Vice Chairman William Spellman – present, and Chairman Robert Toman – present. Also present were Fiscal Officer James DeCenso, Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna, Maintenance Supervisor Matt Stroney, Fire Chief Robert Sternburg, EMS Director Brian O'Neil and guest Jason Young, PE. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso presented the minutes of the August 11, 2015 regular Trustee meeting. No one in attendance requested that they be read. Trustee Spellman made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 11th meeting. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso reported that August expenditures totaled \$33,466.73 and revenue collected was \$82,318.64. He reported that August revenue included \$50,000 of 2014 2nd half real estate tax advances from the county. Also that the township's monthend cash balance was \$876,947.98. Mr. DeCenso then requested a motion from the trustees to create a resolution accepting the Mahoning County Budget Commission's 2016 estimated real estate collections. The estimates for 2016 are \$124,411 for the general fund, \$69,517 for the fire district and \$34,638 from the fire apparatus 1 mill special levy. Trustee Houston made the motion to accept the Mahoning County Budget Committee's estimate of 2016 receipts. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso also reported that the county's data indicates that the total tax value is \$56,550,340. He reported that the United States Post Office has informed the Township that they are exercising their option to renew their lease for an additional five (5) years at \$4,320 per annum, beginning 11/1/2016. Also that Armstrong Cable has notified Ellsworth Twp of their plans to renew their State licensing, which covers the township. Mr. DeCenso reported that Coventry Health Insurance has advised the Township that their proposed rate increase for the 12/1/15 – 11/30/16 coverage year for Township employees will be 13.5%. The trustees agreed that additional quotes should be gathered.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: Mr. Matt Stroney started by thanking Baird Brothers Sawmill for donating time and materials to enhance the Townships' display at the Canfield Fair. He reported that the well pump at the Cemetery is still being reviewed for repairs or replacement. He indicated that he and Armstrong Cable Company have completed tying the Maintenance Bldg and Fire Station together so that the Township would now only have one bill to pay. Mr. Stroney also reported that his research of surrounding townships found that they all utilize the county's road weight limits of seventeen (17) tons.

ZONING REPORT: Mr. Wayne Sarna gave his Zoning report. Three (3) building permits were granted in the township since his last report. He reported that he met with members of the Ellsworth Sportsman Club and discussed with them their plans for a clubhouse and shooting range. They discussed temporary backstops, which have been constructed at the club. Mr. Sarna reported that he had sent a letter on behalf of the new property owners of 10808 Akron-Canfield Rd to the Mahoning County Prosecutor's office indicating that the Township was in agreement to change the property from ambulance use to a thrift shop. Mr. Fred Shrock, Zoning Commission Chairman reported to the trustees that the Zoning Commission has turned over to the county the Township's Land Use Plan. Also that there will be a combined Trustee and Zoning Commission meeting on 10/6/2015 to review the initial draft of the proposed Zoning Resolution. This meeting is open to the public and is established to discuss the draft prior to an official public hearing.

FIRE and EMS DEPARTMENT: Chief Sternburg gave the Fire Department report. The chief reported thirty (30) fire calls and nineteen (19) EMS calls since his last report. The chief reported that the cost of home smoke detectors is \$5.00 and \$20.00 for a Carbon Monoxide detector. The trustees discussed the renewal of last year's plan to distribute detectors to Township residents in need. The grant received last year was \$300 and the Trustees had matched that amount, giving the Fire Department \$600 to purchase needed detectors. The trustees discussed notifying residents through the local "Round Up" newspaper of the program's availability and the Fire Dept will respond with delivering the detectors as requested. Mr. O'Neil reported that there was four (4) EMS transports since the last report. He reported that he purchased a new computer for the department at \$746.18. There was discussion regarding purchasing Microsoft Office software. Mr. O'Neil indicated that his research found that he

could purchase needed Microsoft software at \$130.00. The Fiscal Officer indicated that it seems prudent to purchase Microsoft Office for each computer as opposed to purchasing a Township site license. He also reported that he found AEDs at \$2,000 each. Discussion involved purchasing two (2) new AEDs for the Fire/EMS use and installing the older AEDs at the Fire Hall and the Town Hall. Trustee Spellman made the motion to allocate up to Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) from the General Fund to purchase two (2) new AEDs for the Fire Department and re-installing the existing units at the Fire Hall and Town Hall. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Trustee Houston reported that the 2015 Chip and Seal Project has been completed and that all new signage have been posted around the lake. Trustees Toman and Spellman thanked Trustee Houston for donating his time and equipment to dig the holes for the signposts around the lake.

Trustee Spellman discussed the ability for the township to purchase salt from the county at \$58.85 per ton plus transportation. The Township will need to find a storage location. Mr. Stroney will research the ability to store salt at Lordstown. He also explained the County Engineer's desire to develop a plan for ongoing county road maintenance. Those plans will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting with the trustees. Trustee Spellman also reported that the Mahoning County Sanitary District has indicated their willingness to extend the sewer lines along rte. 45 and that he will be contacting affected residents to determine any interest to connect.

Trustee Toman reported that he again discussed with a representative of First Energy, the empty house on Duck Creek Rd property that they own and that it needs to be secured and maintained. He also indicated that the West Hill property went to Sheriff's auction, but received no bids. He again reminded the audience about the crime watch program on Facebook at Western Reserve Crime Watch Reporter.

Mr. Jason Young, PE gave his final report on the 2015 Chip and Seal Project. All has been completed and he has approved all aspects of the job as contracted. The Trustees thanked Mr. Young for his supervision of the project.

NEW BUSINESS: The trustees discussed the Canfield Fair display and that much favorable feedback was received from Township residents.

Discussion was held regarding the need to review the snow and ice removal from Township property and roads for the upcoming winter season. Mr. Stroney advised the Trustees that Berlin Twp has indicated their interest to provide spreading salt on Ellsworth Twp roads. He will update the board once he receives more information from Berlin Twp.

The Trustees discussed the opening on the Zoning Commission Board. Two residents, including Sean Giblen the current board alternate, have applied for the position. Trustee Houston made a motion to move Mr. Giblen from alternate to fill the remaining term, which will expire 2/2020. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor. Trustee Houston then made a motion to appoint the other applicant, Mr. Dan Stout to the Zoning Commission alternate position made available by moving Mr. Giblet to the Zoning Board. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor. Mr. Stout was in the audience and was recognized.

Chairman Toman then introduced Mr. Alex Hillis, a representative of St. Pauli Textiles Company. Mr. Hillis explained his company's offer to place a clothing donation shed, at their expense, near the Township's recycling bins. Mr. Hillis explained that his company would maintain the donation shed and that the Township would be paid \$0.04 per pound of clothing collected at the shed. He further indicated that the clothing is then sold to other agencies that distribute to the needy. Mr. Hillis discussed the possible need for his shed to be the only donation application at the Township site. The Trustees requested that Mr. Stroney contact the Green Team to see what, if any, compensation is received by the Township from their "Special Olympics" bin located near the recycle bins. The Trustees agreed to review and decide at a later meeting.

Trustee Houston reported his research to extend the Fire Hall parking lot to the east by 20 feet. This is necessary to provide adequate parking near the Fire Station without obstructing the Station doors. This extension can be done by recycling the road grindings from the recent Chip and Seal Project. Discussion was held regarding the use of outside contracting or Township personnel to excavate the site and to haul the grindings to the site. Trustee Houston made the motion to appropriate up to \$6,500 to excavate, haul away the dirt, purchase slag, haul the grindings to the site, raise the existing catch basin, and rent a roller to extend the parking lot by 20 feet. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor.

Trustee Toman advised that the Centofanti Foundation had contacted him and that they wish to make some donation to the Township in terms of a memorial or some other useful project. They have requested some input from the Township. The trustees and the audience discussed some ideas. The Trustees agreed to further pursue some ideas to provide to the Foundation.

Chairman Toman announced that next regularly scheduled board meeting would be held Wednesday October 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

At 8:55 p.m. Trustee Spellman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor.

Fiscal Officer

Chairman

Trustee

Trustee