

Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

March 26, 2012

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees met on Monday March 26, 2012 to transact business. Chairman Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Guy Bainum, Bari Henning and Gary Jordan answered the roll call. Also present were Fiscal Officer, Gregory W. Carson, Yvonne Malott, Ken Wylie, Richard Malott, Deputy John Schaeffer, Brian Tatman and Ed Boll.

Mr. Bainum motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Mr. Henning second. All yeas. Mr. Carson presented a financial report, including a comprehensive account of expenditures and receipts and the trustees accepted it.

Mr. Henning motioned to pay the attached bills. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas.

Sheriff Report

Deputy John Schaeffer said that a house at 4170 Dela Palma Road was robbed last night. He said that there had been a rash of burglaries in Clermont County and the people were caught. He said that everything else is fairly quiet in the township. Mr. Boll said that someone dumped a load of leaves in the middle of the road along Half Acre Road and State Route 276 and he had to call the Fire Department to blow the leaves off of the road.

Zoning Report

Mrs. Malott presented a zoning report. She said that the mortgage company for the foreclosed neighbor to the township hall told him that there are a lot of snakes at the deserted house. She asked our maintenance crew to watch out for them around the township hall. She said that John Smithers is renting a building from Robin Lynch and has several zoning violations and she has been sending him various letters since 2009. She said that Mrs. Lynch has hired an attorney to try to evict Mr. Smithers because she has several problems with him also. She said that Carol Pangallo asked what she can do about neighbor's pulling up survey sticks. Deputy Schaeffer said that he has had several calls from them and the neighbors complaining about each other. He said that there isn't much that the Sheriff's office can do either because it's just a civil dispute and unless the prosecutor tells them to arrest someone, then they can't.

Cemetery & Maintenance Report

Mr. Tatman said that they are replacing the pipes on Hageman's Crossing Road tomorrow since its Spring Break. He said that there are some bad spots on West Fork Ridge and Bass Road and he wants to get estimates to get them fixed. He said that he feels that if we can get these spots fixed, then we can get several more years out of these roads. He said that they started on grass last week and plan to hit it hard after they finish the pipes. Mr. Henning said that he got a couple of complaints on McKeever Schoolhouse Road and Mr. Tatman said that they fixed one of the problems and plans to fix the other problems this week after doing the pipes on Hageman's Crossing. Mr. Henning said that flash filling is a little more costly than just putting in gravel, but it's a lot smoother and we don't have to keep fixing it over and over like we have to do some of the one's that we have done in the past. Mr. Tatman said that we'd have to close the road to do flash filling and there are 3 pipes so we'd have to close the roads 3 times and that's probably not a good idea. Mr. Tatman thinks that we can do some extra packing on the fill without having to do the flash filling and it might hold longer. Mr. Henning said that the county engineer has offered to allow the townships to partner with them to get better pricing for paving since the county has such a high volume. Mr. Henning said that our roads are in pretty good shape this year and may not be paved and asked if the county would do this in the future and the county said yes. He said that he drove the oldest paved roads and they are in very good shape and doesn't feel like we need to pave this year. He thinks we can get by with doing some crack filling. The trustees agree with him and hope to take advantage of the county the next time we need to pave.

Emergency Services Report

Mr. Wylie said that the lighting project is complete and they work great. He said that he is getting 3 or 4 quotes for sealing their parking lot.

Mr. Jordan asked if Sterling Township had ever sent any money for the portion of their contract that we covered in 2012 before they officially cancelled their contract and Mr. Carson said that we have not received any money. Mr. Jordan reported that the County Township Association Banquet is on April 19 at Grant Career Center and the Mayor of Hillsboro is the speaker and he is a professional comedian. Mr. Bainum motioned to pass a resolution continuing with 3% franchise fee with Time Warner Cable as we have for many years. Mr. Henning second. All yeas.

Mr. Carson explained that expenses exceeded revenue by roughly \$41,000 in 2010 and \$26,000 in 2011 and budgeted expenses exceed revenue by roughly \$100,000 for 2012. He said that has depleted the carryover for the past couple of years and has actually been doing this for several years. Mr. Carson said that the biggest problem this year is the cuts that we have seen with the local government fund, the elimination of the estate tax, the complete phase out of the tangible personal property taxes and deregulation. These cuts have put the general fund in extreme jeopardy. Mr. Henning said that the major expenses that are spent from the general fund are the trustees and fiscal officer salaries which are set by the Ohio Revised Code, the zoning administrator's salary and the Sheriff's contract which is a contract set by the trustees and the Sheriff's contract can be cancelled at any time. He said that if the Sheriff's contract is cut, the Sheriff is still required to cover our township. Mr. Boll asked if we took back the raises that were given at year end if it would help. Mr. Henning pointed out that all of the other funds are in good shape financially and the other employees are paid out of the other funds such as fire, life squad, roads, cemetery, etc. Mr. Henning pointed out that having a dedicated Sheriff is a perk however the deputy that we have is only here 40 hours out of a week and the rest of the hours in a week are covered by the other deputies. Mr. Jordan said that we need to generate more revenue in our funds by increasing our tax base and this can be done through the 32 corridor, etc.

The trustees discussed pages 1-20 of the Standard Operating Guidelines for the Emergency Services Department page by page.

Mr. Jordan motioned to go into executive session at 9:35 p.m. per ORC122.22 for the purpose of to investigate complaints against one of our employees. Mr. Henning second. All yeas. Mr. Jordan motioned to come out of executive session at 9:50 p.m. Mr. Henning second. All yeas.

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Mr. Henning motioned to adjourn at approximately 9:50 p.m. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas.

Fiscal Officer

Chairman