

Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

February 13, 2012

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees met on Monday February 13, 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, Earl Whiteman, Yvonne Malott, Brian Tatman, Dave Brown, Ken Wylie, Ed Boll and Deputy John Schaefer.

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 Schaefer gave a copy of the crime statistics report to the trustees. He said that there haven't been too many major crimes in our township. He said that he attended crisis intervention training teaching them how to deal with mental illness patients.

Dave Brown from All About Energy had given the Chief a proposal for replacing the lighting at the emergency services building and showed the credits available and savings. The Chief had given a copy to the trustees prior to the meeting. Mr. Brown said that lighting has improved significantly over the years and the newer light fixtures are much more efficient. He said that they estimated based on our usage that we are paying about \$7,061/year for lighting and if we switched out the lights, we would pay about \$1,418/year, hence an annual savings of about \$5,643/year. He said that the cost to install the new lights would be \$17,800 and Duke Energy would give us a rebate of \$5,254 for a total out of pocket of \$12,546. Based on the annual savings, we would recoup the out of pocket costs in roughly 1.94 years. He said that they have replaced the lights at Goshen Township and Stonelick Township in the past couple of years. He said that it would take 4-5 working days to complete the project. Mr. Henning said that he would like to see some savings #'s from Goshen Township. Mr. Jordan asked how close they are with their estimates. Mr. Brown said that he's never had a complaint. He said that they are conservative with their estimates and we will be very happy. Mr. Jordan asked what they would do if we didn't see the savings in the first few months. Mr. Brown said that he would have to talk to the other owner, but he doesn't think it will come to that, because everyone is always happy with the results. Mr. Brown said that the rebates from Duke will probably go away by June or July. He said that the new bulbs last about twice as long as the old bulbs and cost about half. Mr. Henning said that with the rebates going away soon and even if it took a little more than 2 years to get the pay back, it is probably a no brainer. Mr. Jordan motioned to hire All About Energy to do the work at the emergency services building at a total out of cost of \$12,546 after rebates. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. Mr. Jordan asked him to provide a cost savings percentage over the first few months and Mr. Brown said that we'd see it in our electric bills.

Cemetery & Maintenance Report

Mr. Whiteman said that he checked the tombstones at the cemetery and the ones that he can find say Hockstok. He said that all of the ODOT records going back as far as he could find show the name of the road as Elston Hockstock. Mr. Henning said that he wouldn't be in favor of changing the name of the road unless the majority of the residents asked for it to be changed. Mr. Whiteman said that we have 100 ton of salt on contract with Cargill and we haven't used much this year. He said that he thinks that we can blow the salt into the barn or use a conveyor belt or something to try to pack it in. He said that he is concerned that Farmtrac is out of business and will probably be hard to get parts for the one that we have. He said that we need to use it until it breaks and then maybe someday we'll have to evaluate what to do if we can't get parts. He said that he is going to Texas from March 24-28. He said that he wants to replace some pipes on Hageman's during spring break. He said that we are in pretty good shape on our roads and will need to look at paving in March or April, but might be able to get by without paving this year. He said that Cain Run Road is the oldest and it looks pretty good, except the end of the road, but we might be able to patch that part. Mr. Whiteman said that we need to replace the railroad signs on Hageman's Crossing to get them in compliance as the high reflective type and he thinks that they are about \$80/each. The trustees agree that we need to be in compliance, so we should purchase them. Mr. Henning said that the Williamsburg Village Administrator talked to him about an indigent burial that they are responsible to take care of. She reminded him that we had agreed prior to provide the grave spaces for free and to waive the costs for open/close. Mr. Henning said that we haven't had any recently, but the other townships have told him that they are getting to be more and more of them. He said that Maham Funeral Home gave him a price of \$995 in 2002; however he's agreed to do it for us for \$600. He said that the village got a quote of \$80 for a marker from Hiron's. Mr. Henning made a motion to adopt a policy to use Maham Funeral Home at a cost of \$600 for cremation of an indigent burial and to buy a marker from Hiron's at a cost of \$80 and to waive the open and closing costs and to provide the graves. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. Mr. Jordan asked Mr. Whiteman to look at dates for clean-up days and to bring them to the next meeting if possible.

Zoning Report

Mrs. Malott presented a zoning report. Mr. Bainum said that Dave Fisher said that there is a private drive next to his property off of State Route 276 and one of his neighbors wants to put a building and use that driveway as their access. Mr. Bainum said that he plans to look at the property to see what they want.

Emergency Services Report

Mr. Wylie gave a copy of run statistics to the trustees for mutual aid for 2009-2011 showing that we gave mutual aid 225 times and received mutual aid 80 times during this time period. One special item to note is that we have received mutual aid 7 times from Mt. Orab and given it 71 times during this time frame. Mr. Wylie explained that this ratio might change quite a bit if the call cards were changed at the county dispatch and he explained the difficulty in communications with Mt. Orab due to different communication systems. Mr. Jordan said that we sent a rebuttal to Sterling Township at the last meeting to offer a contract for \$20,000 or no deal. He said that we received a letter back from Sterling Township saying that they were going to contract with Mt. Orab for \$10,000, however we are concerned with how big our mutual aid #'s will go now and the costs associated with doing with and now we won't be receiving any compensation for it. Mr. Bainum said that he doesn't think that there is anything we can do about it now. Mr. Henning said that he doesn't blame Sterling Township for doing what they are doing and glad that they are looking forward to the future. He said that he is frustrated with their method of doing it after all of the years of mutual agreements and then giving us an ultimatum without any negotiations. Mr. Jordan said that he is concerned that Mt. Orab fire department may not be keeping pace with their growth. Mr. Wylie said that the SAFER grant is

Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

February 13, 2012

due February 24, which is a grant to hire additional fire fighters full time paid by the federal government. He said that he has mixed feelings about applying for the grant, because it's only for 3 years and then we have to keep them for 2 years and pay for it. He said that we've applied for it for several years and never received it. Mr. Wylie said that he is personally struggling for it. Mr. Bainum said to go for it. Mr. Henning said that grants are great things, but it could cost a lot more money in the long run based on sustaining costs. Mr. Wylie said that Jenny Wallace wants to attend an advanced EMT class at a cost of about \$800. Mr. Henning motioned to send Jenny Wallace to the advanced EMT class at a cost of about \$800. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. Mr. Wylie said that he wants to send Jason Pollitt to a grant writing class at a cost of \$425 in Columbus. Mr. Jordan motioned to send 2 people to the grant writing class plus travel expenses. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. Mr. Wylie said that Judy Morgan wants to attend a conference this weekend at a cost of \$459, which includes lodging. Mr. Henning motioned to send Judy Morgan to this conference. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas. Mr. Wylie said that Chris Mullins wants to attend the FDIC conference in April for the full week at a cost of about \$500 plus lodging and other travel expenses. He said that we send several people every year for the trade show, but never for the full week of conference. Mr. Henning is concerned that if we allow this, then others may want to attend and the expenses may add up fast and doesn't think we should do it this time. Mr. Wylie thinks that the conference is pretty expensive. The trustees agree. Mr. Wylie said that he has 2 applications and they are Nick Rembus and Scott Arthur and the department is recommending them. Mr. Henning motioned to accept Nick Rembus and Scott Arthur to the department with standard probationary periods. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. Mr. Wylie said that Chief Malott is going to be honored at Shriner's Hospital for his years of service on March 7. Mr. Henning said that the trustees would like to congratulate him on the award.

Mr. Henning gave a copy of a breakdown of revenue for the general fund since 2001 by different sources. He said that Mr. Carson has been telling them that the general fund needs to be watched closely because the expenses are exceeding revenue. He said that property taxes have decreased slightly over the past years. He said that personal property tax is going completely away. He said that estate taxes are going away, but had a 10 year average of \$47,000/year while it existed. He said that local government fund will be decreased by approximately half. He said all of these added together result in about a \$75,000/year loss. He said that there is no way to generate revenue for the general fund other than new business and new residential developments that pay real estate taxes. He said that the one thing that we need to evaluate is the Sheriff contract, because that is our biggest expense in the general fund. He asked the trustees to review his worksheet and discuss it further at a future meeting.

Mr. Jordan said that we received an invitation from the Williamsburg School District for an appreciation dinner for the leaders of the community and businesses on February 22 at 6:30 p.m. He said that we received a thank you letter from the Williamsburg/Batavia Hike/bike trail committee thanking the trustees and fiscal officer for their personal contributions to the event. He said that we received an invitation from Republic Services to an informational meeting regarding the Cecos post closure plan from 6-8 p.m. on February 23 at the Jackson Township Hall. He said that we have nominated the Williamsburg Emergency Mission as our Salute to Leaders award recipient and the dinner is on March 13. He said that the township association banquet is on April 19 at Grant Career Center. He said that the trustees and fiscal officer attended the winter conference in Columbus and picked up some information about aggregate electric and gas suppliers. He said that Batavia Township contracted with Integrys Energy to use the Batavia Township name as recommending their energy and offering a lower rate. He said that some of the Williamsburg Township residents received this if they had a Batavia mailing address. He said that he got a quote from Integrys on their rates, but also received a rate quote from Duke Energy Retail Sales in the mail on the same day and the proposed contracted rate from Integrys was actually higher than what DERS offered, so the trustees agreed to let the residents make their own decisions rather than using our name as a recommender.

Mr. Bainum motioned to adjourn at approximately 9:15 p.m. Mr. Henning second. All yeas.

Fiscal Officer

Chairman