

Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

April 9, 2012

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees met on Monday April 9, 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, Ed Boll, Jason Pollitt, Ken Wylie, Brian Tatman, Yvonne Malott and Earl Whiteman.

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.

Cemetery & Maintenance Report

Mr. Whiteman said that all equipment is up and running. He said that the cemetery has been mowed and is caught up for now. Mr. Bainum asked why we spread gravel along Todds Run Foster Road and Mr. Whiteman explained that they berm it for safety of the road drop off and it also helps to save the blacktop by providing support on the edges. Mr. Whiteman asked what portion of Todds Run Foster Road is township and what portion is the village. Mr. Henning explained the portions that are village and township and he said that since it's a portion here and a portion there, we have just been maintaining the road since we can't plow a partial road, etc. Mr. Jordan said that there is a vine growing on Alexander Lane that is covering the stop sign at Cain Run Road and asked them to remove it from blocking the sign. Mr. Whiteman said that the culverts on Hageman's Crossing Road look great.

Zoning Report

Mrs. Malott presented a zoning report. Mr. Jordan said that he received a phone call complaining about horses walking along Cain Run Road and dropping manure. Mr. Henning said that he called the County Engineer's office and they explained that a horse has the same rights on a road as a car and same liability, etc. Mr. Jordan said that he drove back Cain Run Road several times over the course of several days and witnessed very little manure. He said that he spoke to the owners of the horse stables and said that she has worked hard to keep the road clean from her horses and customers, but she can't control everyone on the road that has horses and is quite frustrated over the continuous complaints, because she is trying to run a good clean business and tired of being harassed. Mrs. Malott said that the county said that they do not test the emergency sirens at the same time as the State of Ohio, because we test on the first Wednesday of each month at noon. She said that the county also explained that they do not test on cloudy days, because it would cause residents to panic and think it's an actual emergency instead of a test.

Mr. Jordan said that the Clermont County Township Association banquet is April 19 at Grant Career Center. He said that we received invitations for the Clermont Senior Services annual meeting on April 26.

Jason Pollitt thanked the trustees for sending him to the grant class and he has lots of ideas about grants that we can apply for this year. He said that we need to keep a watch on House Bill 487. He said that since the state is losing several funds that fund EMS grants and they are talking about trying to combine Private and Public ambulances and charge fees hence costing the public ambulances more money. He asked the trustees to investigate this bill and talk to our legislatures about it.

Mr. Boll said that when the mine opened, he thought they agreed to only be open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. He said that the other night, they were still running at 10:00 p.m. and he hopes that this doesn't continue. Mr. Henning said that the mine is in Jackson Township and he would need to talk to them about it, because we were not involved in any discussions about the mine when they opened since it's not in our township.

Mr. Jordan said that we have been discussing the Sheriff's contract over the past few meetings. He said that Mr. Henning had supplied a good analysis of the funds that we have been losing in the general fund. Mr. Henning explained that Estate Taxes, Personal Property taxes and deregulation has been totally cut and the local government fund has been sizably decreased. Mr. Jordan explained that we can't put a tax levy on the ballot for the general fund. Property tax revenue can only be generated through more businesses or residences. Mr. Henning said that our 10 year average on estate taxes has been about \$47,000 and this is gone. He said that our local government fund is down approximately \$20,000. He said that our personal property taxes are down about \$7,000 per year. He said that the Sheriff costs the township between \$55,000-\$60,000 per year and with the above losses, we can't afford to keep the contracted Sheriff Deputy any longer or we will run out of money in the general fund by the end of this year or middle of next year. He said that this contract gave us a dedicated Deputy for 40 hours per week, but the Sheriff is required by law to cover our township 24 hours a day/7days a week regardless of any contract. He said that we lose our "dedicated" 40 hour a week sheriff and the "personal" touch, but we will still have the coverage that is needed at all times. He said that a few of the neighboring townships have dedicated deputies and many do not. Mr. Jordan said that he received a call from the Sheriff's office asking us if we were unsatisfied with our deputy and he said that we were happy with his service. The Sheriff's office asked if we planned to terminate our contract and then contract with the Village of Williamsburg for services. Mr. Jordan explained that this decision was completely based on the stability of the money available in the general fund and it's not something that we want to do, but given the cuts coming from every direction, we can no longer afford this luxury. He said that the Sheriff said that Deputy Schaeffer's job is not in jeopardy if we cancel the contract. Mr. Henning said that he thinks we should contact Chief Deputy Rick Combs and set up a meeting to talk to him about what we are doing and give them a little heads up about the situation and vote at the next meeting after we've been able to talk to Chief Deputy.

Mr. Jordan said that Bob Oetzel asked someone from the township to speak at the Williamsburg Rotary on April 24 at noon.

Emergency Services Report

Mr. Jordan said that we received 2 quotes for sealing the parking lot at the emergency services building. He said that Hacker's Paving and Excavating quoted \$12,700 and Jim Nichol quoted \$3,875. Mr. Wylie said that we are waiting for another quote that he plans to receive. Mr. Wylie said that they were on the scene of a wreck at Dela Palma Road and State Route 32 with 2 fatalities for about 4 hours today. Mr. Wylie said that the older life squad is out of service because the Turbo went out on it. He said that it was picked up for repairs today. He said that he signed up for a couple of personal development classes in May. Mr. Henning motioned to pay for the personal development classes. Mr. Jordan second. All

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yeas. Mr. Bainum said that he's still getting some concerns from Sterling Township residents regarding the mutual aid services and they are concerned that their insurance is going to be affected. Mr. Wylie said that the ISO ratings are the same for Williamsburg Township and Mt. Orab, so he isn't sure what they would be concerned about. He said that the only difference is that Mt. Orab is called and we are the back up and before that we were called and Mt. Orab was the back up.

Mr. Bainum motioned to adjourn at approximately 8:15 p.m. Mr. Henning second. All yeas.

Fiscal Officer

Chairman