

Edinburg Township Trustees – Regular Trustee Meeting

At Edinburg Town Hall

January 12, 2017

Jeffrey Bixler called the regular meeting of the Edinburg Township Trustees to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call shows: John Hayes, absent; Jeffrey Bixler, present; Diane Austin, present; Bill McCluskey, present; Kevin Biltz, present; Mike Pittinger, present; Sandy Templeton, present.

- I. Jeffrey Bixler called for a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion was made by Diane Austin; this was seconded by Jeffrey Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, absent; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffrey Bixler, yes.
- II. Introduction from Jeffrey to guests attending:
There were no comments from guests at this time.
David Starcher, Resident/Farmer Rob Swauger, Fire Dept.
Robert Grudosky, Resident Ryan Grudosky, Boy Scout
- III. Jeffrey Bixler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2016 meeting. This was tabled due to a lack of quorum of Trustees who were in attendance at that meeting. Correction made to the minutes: Diane said that the name “Ronnie” (Pettigrew) needs to be changed to “Lonnie”.
- IV. Jeffrey Bixler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Reorganizational Meeting on January 3, 2017 as presented; motion was made by Diane Austin; this was seconded by Jeffrey Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, absent; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffrey Bixler, yes.
- V. CORRESPONDENCE:
 - A. Portage County Building Department – Review of the safety inspection of the fire damage at Boat House Marine at Tri Lakes. Jeffrey said he looked this over and it appears that the damage is not as serious as previously stated.
 - B. Resolution from Micky Marozzi, Portage County Engineer regarding reduced load limits by 35% on all county and township roads effective January 31, 2017 or as soon as signs are posted after that date.
 - C. DAS Statement regarding discarding the MARCS radios. Mike said the paperwork for this has been filed and he is just waiting for their response. Bill asked if this is tied in with Mitchell’s Communications. Mike said no it is not. Jeffrey asked what kind of communication Mike had with the MARCS radio company. Mike said he has emails to and from them.
Rob Swauger said he believes that when Chief Paulus was with the Township the contract was cancelled then. Diane and Sandy agreed. Mike will forward the emails he has to Jeffrey. Mike said there is no contract in place right now. Jeffrey told Mike if he cannot close this out with the company through emails, he is to forward everything to Chris Meduri and copy this correspondence to Jeffrey and Bill.
 - D. Dispatch Service – Contract from City of Ravenna for dispatch service for January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

RESOLUTION 2017-014 A motion was made by Diane Austin to accept the dispatching agreement with the City of Ravenna as presented; this was seconded by Jeffrey Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, absent; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffrey Bixler, yes.
 - E. Bill presented a pass inspection certification from Advantek
 - F. Bill presented a pricelist that he had received from D & K Materials.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Portage County Turnout Gear Replacement – State Route 76 Spill
Jeffrey presented an electronic version of a resolution written by Chris Meduri.

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OLD BUSINESS (cont.)

RESOLUTION 2017-015 A motion was made by Jeffrey Bixler to process the resolution written by Prosecutor Chris Meduri regarding the incident on State Route 76 to follow up for collection of \$4,711.40; this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: John Hayes, absent; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffrey Bixler, yes.

- B. Park Concession Stand Contract – Sandy presented a copy of Brimfield Township’s rental application/liability agreement as an example for the Trustees to consider. Sandy said she would make some recommended changes to this agreement and she needs to know what the Trustees would like to include.
- C. Jeffrey reported that he sent in the form to be included in the recognition of National School Choice Week: January 22-28, 2017.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to discuss at this time.

VIII. TRUSTEE REPORTS

A. Diane Austin

She had nothing to report at this time.

B. John Hayes

He was not present to give a report.

C. Jeffrey Bixler

--He reported that he had a conversation with Emergency Reporting for fire reporting. If response is not received from Firehouse quickly, he suggested that Mike contact them (Emergency reporting). Rob said he has been in contact with the company that the Fire Department had used before Firehouse that is free. They have revamped their software. He went to Ravenna City -- they use it and like it. He contacted a representative from UH [University Hospitals] to have them come to the station and go through the current program to see if it is correct. They are State compliant.

Rob also said he has emailed Forest Nance of Firehouse and he was unable to get anything from him.

Jeffrey said he talked to Bill [at Firehouse] and also Forest Nance and they did not have much of a conversation. Mike said he would like to try it. Jeffrey told Mike that this reporting to the State has to be started by the end of January and he wants documentation that it is happening. He said he wants to make sure the reports are getting to the State and he wants some type of documentation showing him it is happening. Rob stated they can print off the report from the State.

Jeffrey would also like the Department, under Mike’s supervision, to draft a letter to the Fire Marshal’s Office explaining to them what Edinburg Fire Department is doing and what the tentative completion dates are so they are well aware of how the Department is trying to move forward and get back in line.

--He talked with Life Force management and they informed him of some reports that were not completely filled out. Life Force has left messages with a person at the fire station but no one has returned their calls. Jeffrey told Mike to make sure this gets taken care of soon. Mike said he was not aware of any messages.

--Bill asked about billing for a call that is not a transport but received a bill. Jeffrey said there is a difference between when an individual comes to the department seeking (medical) attention. Jeffrey said if the Department responds to a call but then the resident ends up telling them that no help is needed after all—there’s no consent to treat so they are not billed. Bill asked what if the individual received treatment at the scene. Mike and Jeffrey both responded that they would then be billed.

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--Jeffrey discussed the payment of a bill sent to an individual who received treatment for a cut at the Fire Department. He reported John had an individual who was at the Auction yard who cut his finger and John took him to the fire department for a band aid and to take care of it. The individual got a bill for \$150.00 and John paid. Jeffrey said he did not feel he (John) should have to pay. Jeffrey asked Diane and Mike if there was something that said if you lived and/or worked in the township you didn't get billed. Diane said not to her knowledge. Sandy also said she did not remember doing that. Bill said they have excused charges for EMS for residents. Jeffrey said he just wanted to make sure that wasn't still in effect from his time at the fire department. Whereas he said he did not feel comfortable with the way the process is going and made a **motion/resolution** to waive this particular billing.

RESOLUTION 2017-016 A motion was made by Jeffrey Bixler to not receive payment for the billing of the band aid given to the walk-in resident at the Fire Department Not Seconded at this time.

Diane then asked if our policy is that anybody that walks into the department and gets treatment gets a bill and Jeffrey responded yes. He said there is supposed to be additional things that were discussed (relating to previous minutes stating we were putting a sign up on the door so everyone would be made aware of it (billing)) or when they entered the department. Diane stated that in the past anyone who went to the department got a bill without notification? Jeffrey said he imagined if they were treated and transported or treated they did. She asked how it different for this person than anyone else who would have walked in. Bill stated he (the patient) wasn't aware that he was going to get billed. Mike Pittinger said he had talked to Chris (Meduri-Prosecutor) about this and he said it is implicated, that if you dial 911 or walk in for care its implicated and he was looking into it further but Mike has not heard from him. Mike asked him if we absolutely have to put a sign up (per previous meeting) and he said Chris said he has never heard of such a thing and he was to get back with Mike. He said Chris said it was like if you walk into the emergency room to get a band aid you don't just walk out. Jeffrey agreed that the law does show implication or assumed. Jeffrey said the township has the ability to require payment or not. Jeffrey mentioned there is a high number of "Band-Aid" calls where people call 911, for stomach ache or cold. Jeffrey reviewed the situation of John taking the patient to the fire department for a band aid. Mike interjected that it was a lot more than just a band aid and that perhaps the treatment report should be reviewed. Diane asked if they did fill out a report and Mike said yes. He said it isn't an issue of payment it is just to set precedence. Bill said that is why the trustees asked there be a sign put up. Diane asked...so we billed the gentleman, and he doesn't want to pay it. And you're asking that we waive the bill? Jeffrey said yes because it wasn't paid by him. It was paid by John.

Diane stated here concern was that if John took him over and we waive the bill people are just going to think we waived it because he is a trustee and further discussed scenarios involving a Trustee position, giving example if she had one of her workers and took them to the fire department, and that she was unaware that they charge for a walk-in. and they got a bill she would pay for it because she is a trustee. Jeffrey mentioned the John did not ask for his money back. Bill interjected that for the record the gentleman was not a worker according to John. So Diane said so if I had a friend at my house and it was the same thing and I didn't want them to pay it or they couldn't pay it she would pay the bill. She also asked that she would want to know how John feels about waiving it, because if we do it for this guy we have to do it for everyone. Diane says she is very concerned about the perception. Mike stated that if we are not going to charge then they shouldn't treat because if something were to happen like an infection, it's all going to go down. Jeffrey and Diane agreed.

Diane again spoke of treatment and liability on our township. Jeffrey said he is not saying not to do that and anytime an employee of the township does something there

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is liability. Diane asked if they have to complete any paper for the people to sign. Jeffrey said no for transport, only a refusal form. Mike agreed. Only if there is permission to treat. Bill asked if they ask for insurance information when they walk in and Mike said yes, if it is available, but they don't need it. They will bill to the address and it is the person's responsibility to send it to their insurance company. Bill asked if they ask for it if they are a walk-in and Mike said he did not know. Diane stated whatever is decided for the walk-ins it has to be the same across the board for everybody. Mike said we don't ask for insurance information on any of the calls either. Jeffrey agreed. It is their job to treat and transport. Bill said if they ask for insurance then they would know they (walk-ins) are going to be charged. Jeffrey said all that is asked is authorization for them to make contact with you and treat you. At that point if they are functioning, and the township, fire department or city has set pricing than that is what you will be billed. Rob said first, they do have the resident sign at the time of a transport if they are able; secondly what if someone came in for chest pain and we do a 12 lead EKG, or blood pressure checks. Jeffrey said they already have free blood pressure checks but if someone comes into the station saying they are having a heart attack, they are coming to you and implying they need your service. Trustees said they do not know how to answer Rob about this o (implying other than has been stated). Sandy said she thought John said they guy was going to be treated somewhere else and John said no get on my golf cart I will take you to the fire department. He shouldn't have thought that was going to be done for free. Jeffrey said he has heard a lot of good points and he should have been charged. Diane stated if she goes to the med center or Doctor or hospital she expects to pay for a service. Whether to get a squad or go there (fire department) and the squad transports me or I go in for treatment I still expect a charge. Like I'm going to the Doctors. Bill asked Mike if the Fire department is a licensed Medicare provider. All agreed yes. Bill said he was asking, knowing the answer. Jeffrey said they don't get involved in the billing. Bill said from his past experience in managing rehabilitation centers and in medical billing, Medicare requires that a patient be told that they are going to be billed and what the service will cost. If they did not tell that person what the service would cost then the person is not responsible for payment. Diane disagreed with this stating they don't do that at a hospital. Bill said that is what preauthorization is for. Discussion was closed by Jeffrey and motion was placed back on the table.

RESOLUTION 2017-016 A motion was made by Jeffrey Bixler to not receive payment for the billing of the bandaid given to the walk-in resident at the Fire Department; this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: Jeffrey Bixler, no; Diane Austin, no; John Hayes, absent. MOTION DID NOT PASS.

IX. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Kevin Biltz – Roads / Buildings / Cemetery / Park

- He reported they are trying to stay ahead of the weather. There have been issues with flooding on Stroup, Giddings and State Route 183.
 - They did some ditching on Porter Road.
 - They had to repair the dry hydrant on Giddings Road.
 - The 2000 International is down with a broken cable to the plow blade. He ordered new cables for this.
 - He received quotes from Mitchell Communications in the amount of \$1,820.00 for three two-way radios. Two to be installed in the dump trucks and one handheld. Mike suggested running this off of the station's repeater. Trustees asked for more quotes. He will get more quotes with the specifications of each radio.
- Rob asked if they will use the frequency for Edinburg or switch over to Randolph and Rootstown frequency. He asked because the radios can be programmed in, next Wednesday. Mike said they will piggyback off of the fire route frequency.
- A tree was down at the Park. They cleaned this and two other trees out of the Park. There are about eight more that could be cut down and the wood sold for the Township.

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- They started servicing the equipment from the Park.
- All is good at the Cemetery.
- The septic tank is full again at the fire station and had to be pumped again. This happened in November also. He will try to find out what is causing this.

B. Mike Pittinger – Fire Department

- He reported that they ran 18 calls since the last meeting.

C. Sandy Templeton – Zoning

- She made/received 17 phone calls.
- She contacted the BZA and Zoning Committee members to try to set up their Reorganizational meeting for [January] 19th.

D. Bill McCluskey – Fiscal Officer

- He asked if there are other billing prices for the Fire Department. Jeffrey said Life Force should have standard pricing available. He will contact Life Force and present this at a future meeting.
- He presented a list of staff receipts from Certified Gas and Pettigrew’s that are missing. He stated that the auditor requires a copy of the actual receipts.
- He presented Blanket Certificates and Purchase Orders for approval.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Bixler to approve Blanket Certificates 1-2017 through 24-2017; this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: John Hayes, absent; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffrey Bixler, yes.

- X. A motion was made by Diane Austin to pay payroll and warrants 39927 to 39956; this was seconded by Jeffrey Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, absent; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffrey Bixler, yes.
- XI. A motion was made by Diane Austin that the 1/12/17 meeting be adjourned at 8:50 p.m.; this was seconded by Jeffrey Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, absent; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffrey Bixler, yes.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 24, 2017

John Hayes, Chairman

Jeffrey Bixler, Vice Chairman

Diane Hargett Austin, Trustee

William McCluskey, Fiscal Officer