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MINUTES OF ELLSWORTH TWP BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S

REGULAR MEETING

July 14, 2021

Chairman Robert Toman called the July 14th regular meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees to order at 7:00 pm. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum: Chairman Robert Toman - present, Vice Chairman William Spellman - present, Trustee Fredrick Houston – present. Also, present were Fiscal Officer James DeCenso, Road and Maintenance Supervisor Matt Stroney, Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna, and Fire Chief Ted Smith. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso presented the minutes from the last regular meeting, which was held June 9, 2021, for approval. No one in attendance requested that the minutes be read. **Motion 2021-61:** Trustee Spellman made a motion to accept the minutes from the last regular meeting. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso reported that June's receipts were \$40,546 and expenditures were \$58,987. Receipts included two months of Gasoline tax revenue. Expenditures included \$10,399 for the new mower, approved last month and \$15,601 to OTARMA for the 2021-2022 Property and Liability Insurance policies. The total gross fund balance as of June 30, 2021, was \$623,726. The Fiscal Officer then presented invoices for approval of \$707.29 from D&T PM and Truck repairs for Fire Engine repairs, \$368.59 to Myers for ambulance A/C repairs. He also requested an additional \$3,212.94 be appropriated/encumbered in the Recycle Fund to cover costs exceeding the original \$4,000.00 encumbered for the recent recycle/trash program. The invoice from Allison Brothers for removing trash was \$5,850.00. The receipts from the recyclable scrap retrieved was \$1,832.14. Motion 2021-62: Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the \$4,288.82 in expenditures presented. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then presented a renewal Agreement with First National Bank to maintain a depositary relationship with the Bank for five more years through 2026. Motion 2021-63: Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the Depository Agreement with FNB as presented. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then presented a renewal rental Agreement with the Mahoning County Green Team to maintain a residential drop off recycle location on Township property. The 2021 rental fee will be \$2,250, which is the same as the last few years. Motion 2021-64: Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the rental Agreement with the Green Team as presented. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. The Fiscal Officer then discussed Ohio HB 168 and that Ohio townships will now be eligible to receive federal funding through the American Rescue Plan. More information on legal uses of the monies will be upcoming. Motion 2021-65: Trustee Houston made a motion for the Township to accept all grants available through funding from the American Rescue Plan. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. The Fiscal Officer then explained that because collected revenues are expected to exceed 2021 Budget levels, he was requesting that the Board approve a request to the Mahoning County Budget Commission to increase the 2021 Certificate of Resources from \$1,047,072 to \$1,238,885 and to increase 2021 Appropriations from \$1,061,055 to \$1,230,581. Motion 2021-66: Trustee Spellman made a motion to authorize the Fiscal Officer to request an amended Certificate of Resources for \$1,237,885 and to approve an increase in Appropriations to \$1,230,581. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

ROAD and MAINTENANCE: Mr. Matt Stroney advised the Board that there was one burial in Ellsworth in June and one in Berlin where he assisted. and that he had sold another Niche. He reported that the Township litter and recycle drive generated 29 ea. 8-yard containers and 8 ea. 15-yard containers of trash that was removed by Allison Brothers. There were also 3 semi-trailers of recyclable scrap that generated the \$1,832.14. Mr. Stroney reported on an emergency Road dept building roof leak that required him to call Roof-Rite, who repaired the leak. He reported that the crack sealing of the roads should begin mid-July. He also reported that the installation of the Fire Hall windows should also begin in July.

ZONING REPORT: Mr. Sarna reported that he wrote three permits since last meeting: for a garage addition on Diehl Lake Rd; a deck on Herbert Rd.; and a single-family dwelling to be built on W. Western Reserve Rd. He reported on a meeting he had with Atty Mathews to discuss the appeal of the site plan for the cement batch processing plant, that had been submitted and denied. Atty. Mathews is drafting a proposed compromise that will

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be delivered to the Lewis' attorney. Mr. Sarna reported on a complaint about the language on a flag attached to a shed on Palmyra Rd. He reviewed the complaint with an assistant Mahoning County prosecutor, who opinioned that the language is protected by the first amendment. He reported that he has not received any responses from the numerous clean up letters he had mailed out. Although an abandoned wrecked trailer has been removed from property near the Country Pantry. He also reviewed with the prosecutor's office a complaint regarding a dumpster placement in the Diehl Lake area. The matter has been turned over for resolution to the Diehl Lake property association. Mr. Sarna and the Board then discussed two properties in the Township that have been condemned as a safety hazard by the Fire Chief. Mr. Sarna recommended that the properties be considered for demolition. Motion 2021-67: Trustee Houston made a motion, pursuant to ORC 505.86 to pursue the required title searches, to pursue all other actions as required by ORC 505.86 and to recommend removal of the structures located at 7015 S. Salem Rd and 6336 Elk Rd, due to their being uninhabitable and a danger to the community as a public health risk. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Motion 2021-68: Trustee Houston then made a follow-up motion to authorize the Zoning Inspector to engage Atty Finnamore to oversee the processes required by ORC 505.86 and resolved by Motion 2021-67, and to authorize payment of all legal costs incurred. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. The Board and Mr. Sarna then discussed the need and process required to continue to review and respond to other properties in the Township that are in violation of the Zoning resolution.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Smith reported that there were 39 calls in June, including 30 EMS calls with 16 transports of which the Township transported 12. The Chief also reported on some advances at the 911 call center that may assist in lower fees in the future. He reposted that fire training has been moved from Monday evenings to Wednesday evenings to accommodate more members' schedules. The Chief will be reviewing the possibility of changing from the Emergency Reporting software to a software program that would be provided free from University Hospital. This would save approx. \$2,500.00 annually. Chief Smith then requested funds to order Class B uniform shirts for members in time for the Canfield Fair. He also requested that the Board approve funds now, for the Trunk or Treat event in October. The Chief also presented applications form Brook Morris and William Opsitnik to join the EFD and invited the Board to attend an EFD picnic meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm at the station on July 21st. Motion 2021-69: Trustee Houston made a motion to approve encumbering \$400.00 for the Trunk or Treat event; \$700.00 for uniform purchases and to cover the food and refreshment costs of the EFD picnic meeting scheduled for July 21st; and to approve the addition of Brook Morris and William Opsitnik as probationary members of the Ellsworth Fire and EMS squads. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Spellman thanked the Fire / EMS members for their continuous efforts on behalf of the residents. He then recommended that the Township consider sponsoring a community appreciation event, possibly in September.

Trustee Houston thanked the other Trustees and Matt Stroney for their efforts in maintaining the recent Community Clean-Up program. The event was a huge success in giving the residents an opportunity to "clean up" their properties.

Chairman Toman reported on a program he discussed with the Boy Scouts to continue the clean-up program by helping those residents move out some items that they can not do alone.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board discussed that the Fair is coming up and that the Township will participate with an exhibit and Fire / EMS participation.

NEW BUSINESS:

The next meeting will be held Monday August 16, 2021, at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

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