

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held

20

MINUTES OF ELLSWORTH TWP BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S REGULAR MEETING

June 8, 2022

Chairman William Spellman called the June 8, 2022, regular meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees to order at 7:00 pm. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum: Chairman William Spellman - present, Vice Chairman Fredrick Houston - present, Trustee Robert Toman – present. Also present were Fiscal Officer James DeCenso, Road and Maintenance Supervisor Tom Hoffman, Fire Chief Edward Smith, and Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer DeCenso presented the minutes from the last regular meeting which was held May 11, 2022. No one in attendance requested that the minutes be read. **Motion 2022-49:** Trustee Toman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso reported that May's receipts were \$75,876 and expenditures were \$67,484. Receipts included \$47,450 in final 2022 1st half property tax collections. Expenditure items included \$13,683 for six months County Health Dept fees and \$15,635 approved payment to OTARMA for annual Township property and liability insurance. The total gross fund balances as of May 31, 2022, was \$770,708. He reported that the unencumbered General Fund amount is currently \$1,578. The Fiscal Officer then presented invoices in detail for approval of \$4,625.98, including legal invoices of \$378.91 regarding zoning issues, \$335.07 for the Generator PM, \$150.00 for the annual Volunteer Firefighters Dependents Fund, \$762.00 to the Ohio Auditor for quarterly software fees and \$3,000 to Austintown Twp for Jan-Jun 2022 911 dispatch services. **Motion 2022-50:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the \$4,625.98 in expenditures presented. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then explained that last month's report provided that the fees from Callos (Nesco) Temporary Services and PeopleReady were the same at \$22.50 per hour. The correct fee from Callos is \$20.50 per hour for a temporary employee earning \$15.00 per hour. Mr. DeCenso reported that he participated in an instructional webinar for the Ohio First Responders Grant. It was determined that Volunteer Fire Departments are not eligible for the first responder grant per federal ARPA legislation. The Fiscal Officer then reviewed a proposal to allow the Township to accept credit card payments for EMS, Zoning, and any other Township fees. He explained that the process would be initiated from a link on the Township's website directly to Farmers' Bank's merchant processing partner, FiNet. Neither the Township, nor Quest Advantage would be handling any credit card information directly. He then discussed the multiple fees for the card services. **Motion 2022-51:** Trustee Toman made a motion for the Fiscal Officer to enter into an Agreement with FiNet/Paya for the Township to accept credit card payments for EMS services, Zoning and any other rentals or fees collected by the Township. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

ROAD and MAINTENANCE: Mr. Tom Hoffman reported that there was one burial in Berlin Township, in May, where he assisted. He reported on activities performed during the month including the trimming of the trees at the Ellsworth cemetery and that a tree was removed from the north end of the Fire Station. He indicated that there is a dead tree at the cemetery and a tree at the ballfield that need to be removed. The Board asked him to obtain a quote for both. He identified a list of materials needed to complete the fire station roof sealing. The Board indicated that funds were approved in April (2022-33) for crack sealing and roof sealing materials, and that the needed materials should be purchased before the price increases. Mr. Hoffman reported on a call he received from a resident regarding a cement culvert on Leffingwell Rd that appears to be interfering with a gas line. He contacted the county to review. He then reported that the dugouts were painted. The Board acknowledged the department for recently dressing some graves in the cemetery.

ZONING REPORT: Mr. Sarna reported that there were four permits issued since the last meeting and that he also received one variance application. Permits were issued for a portable coffee shop to be located at 11016 W. Akron on commercial property; an above ground swimming pool on S. Bailey Rd; a 22x20 garage replacement on S. Kiawatani and that four (4) temporary sign permits were issued to Whitehouse Fruit Farms. He reported on the variance application, to install a five (5) ft wire fence in front of property located on Duck Creek Rd. The Zoning resolution provides for a maximum of four (4) feet. The ZBA has scheduled a hearing for June

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Regular Trustee Meeting June 8, 2022, Continued

23rd at 6:00 pm at the Fire Hall to review the request. Mr. Sarna reported on an update received on the Lewis' site plan requesting Saturday hours and for wetland issues for the project to be addressed with the County and the EPA. Atty. Mathews is preparing a response. He reported on the demolition of the nuisance property on Elk Rd. All of the documents have been signed and filed. The contractor will begin demolition this month. The nuisance property on Salem Warren Rd has been transferred to a new owner, who has indicated that demolition will begin soon. He is resending a letter to Plasz Realty regarding the removal of the structure at 10610 Akron Canfield Rd. He then reported on five (5) other existing zoning complaints and three (3) new complaints in the Township. He then asked the Board for approval of the proposed new zoning permit fees that were distributed earlier. The Board indicated that the fees appeared reasonable and thanked the committee for their work. **Motion 2022-52:** Trustee Houston made a motion to accept the new zoning fees effective July 1, 2022. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Smith reported that there were 35 calls in May including 19 EMS calls with 13 transports of which the Township transported 6. The other 7 transports were provided by mutual aid departments due to no Department crews available. Chief Smith's report then listed requests for payment including routine maintenance on the trucks of \$2064.78; repairs to a radio of \$85.00 and EMS supplies of \$200.70. He also requested approval to replace the handle light batteries on the ladder. The estimate is \$100.00. **Motion 2022-53:** Trustee Toman made a motion to approve the \$2,450.48 in expenditures presented. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Chief Smith then discussed continuing recruiting efforts by the department for EMS staff. He reviewed the current education process as MCCTC and also suggested offering twelve (12) hour shifts during the week instead of the current eight (8) hour shifts. He explained that crews are sometimes spending one to three hours at the hospital while the patient is being released to hospital personnel. The Board and the Chief also discussed options to increase the number of shifts available for EMS personnel including weekends. **Motion 2022-54:** Trustee Houston made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to fill EMS shifts as he deems necessary at the current rates, until the September Board meeting where the process will be reviewed. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Chief Smith discussed the Mahoning County Fire Chief Association's meeting with the County Commissioner's to look at using county ARPA monies to assist township departments. The Board felt that the little amount of monies offered (\$10 per resident) would not significantly help Ellsworth. A county wide district would be more efficient. Chief Smith then advised that some local businesses have donated a Blackstone grill for the fire station.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustees Toman discussed the crime watch and the lack of current information from the Sherrif's department.

Trustee Houston reported on the recent residents' meeting with the Department to discuss the need to provide more EMS coverage in the Township and suggested follow-up meetings. He and Chief Smith discussed the current training policy maintained by the Township that assists candidates in their education expenses.

Chairman Spellman also discussed the EMS staffing issues. He reported that Knauf Rd repaving is back on schedule. He then suggested that a newsletter be prepared by the Township for the residents on a semiannual basis.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

The next meeting will be held July 13, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

Motion 2022-55: At 8:45 pm, Trustee Toman made a motion, pursuant to ORC 122.22(g)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or

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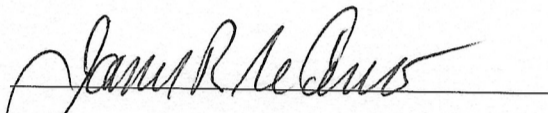
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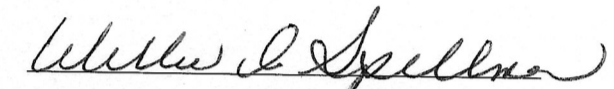
Regular Trustee Meeting June 8, 2022, Continued

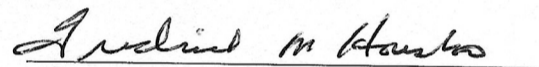
the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

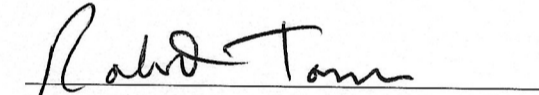
Motion 2022-56: At 9:15 pm, Trustee Toman made a motion to return to open session. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

With no further business, at 9:16 pm, Trustee Toman made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.


Fiscal Officer


Chairman


Trustee


Trustee