

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

December 11, 2019

Chairman William Spellman called the December 11th regular meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees to order at 7:00 pm. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum: Trustee Robert Toman - present, Vice Chairman Fred Houston - present, Chairman William Spellman - present. Also present were Fiscal Officer James DeCenso, Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna, Road and Maintenance Supervisor Matt Stroney, Zoning Commission Chairman Sean Giblin, Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman Jim Tripp, and Fire Chief Ted Smith. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer DeCenso presented the minutes from the last regular meeting held November 6, 2019. No one in attendance requested that the minutes be read. Trustee Houston made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso reported that November's receipts were \$16,851.54 and expenditures were \$22,675.75. For the eleven-month period ending 11/30/19, receipts were \$468,977.03 and expenditures were \$473,932.70. Mr. DeCenso's report included a total fund balance decrease of \$5,824.21 in November and an overall decrease in funds of \$4,955.67 through 11/30/19. The total fund balance as of 11/30/19 was \$604,163.58 minus the encumbrances as of November 30th of \$55,490.11, for a net balance of \$548,673.47. The current unencumbered balance; less the SIB ODOT Loan balance of \$100,107.63 was \$448,565.84. Mr. DeCenso then presented information regarding the 2020 employee health insurance. The current insurer is Medical Mutual, who has quoted an 18% increase. At this time neither Aetna nor Anthem have submitted quotes. Since Mr. DeCenso and Mr. Toman will be Medicare eligible in 2020, the effective Medical Mutual increase will be mitigated to 9.4% for 2020. The Fiscal Officer added that even with the increase for 2020, the premiums would still be 25% below the 2018 expense. He also indicated that the Township would need to rejoin COSE to enjoy the group-rating discount included in the quote from Medical Mutual. Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the 2020 Health Insurance with Medical Mutual. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then presented a \$4,800.00 quote from Casual Carpet for new carpeting and vinyl tile in the Town Hall and a quote of \$1,100.00 from Casual Carpet to level the floor prior to applications. Trustee Houston made a motion to approve expenditures of \$5,900.00 to Casual Carpet to level the floor and for new carpeting/vinyl for the Town Hall. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then presented the proposed 5-year lease renewal from the USPS as discussed last month. Trustee Toman made a motion to accept the lease renewal from the USPS. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then described the 2020 budget process and that temporary appropriations would be necessary to approve prior to January 1, 2020. He presented a request for \$525,844 and handed out a spreadsheet with his proposal. Trustee Houston made a motion to accept the 2020 temporary appropriations of \$525,844. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then presented the 2020 BWC estimated premium contribution of \$4,164.00. The Township would enjoy a 2% refund if paid prior to December 31, 2019. Trustee Houston made a motion to expend \$4,164.00 prior to December 31, 2019 for the 2020 estimated BWC premium contributions. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Trustee Toman then made a motion to expend \$408.00 to rejoin COSE, which is required to enjoy the Medical Mutual rates for 2020. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then explained that he had gathered additional information regarding the proposal from OTARMA for Faithful Performance of Duty coverage for newly elected officials versus Bonding. He explained that the coverage is superior to the Bond limit and that OTARMA now indicated that coverage would only be around \$90.00 per year. Although Mr. Sarna is bonded, Mr. Stroney is not, and is eligible for insurance coverage. After discussion by the Board, Trustee Toman made a motion to add Trustee Spellman, Fiscal Officer DeCenso and Mr. Stroney to the OTARMA Faithful Performance of Duty coverage for 2020. The coverage premium will be added to the 2020 renewal. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso ended his report by summarizing the property tax delinquency list that was recently published in the Warren Tribune Mahoning County addition.

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Regular Trustee Meeting December 11, 2019 Continued

ROAD and MAINTENANCE: Mr. Matt Stroney reported that he assisted with one burial in Berlin township last month. He reported on the Wreaths for Veterans event that was held December 7th at the Ellsworth Cemetery. He then asked the Board to consider utilizing one approved foundation contractor in the cemetery instead of allowing any contractor access. It would be easier to control quality. The Board agreed to take up the matter at the upcoming Organization Meeting in January. Mr. Stroney then continued by reporting that the North Bay man door on the Fire/Admin building had been replaced. He advised the Board that he would soon need to add fuel to the generator. The expense should be under \$250.00. He also reported on the status of Town Hall repairs and the Parking Lot lighting project. The lighting project completion date will depend on the weather. He also reported that he could get a 10' balled evergreen tree for \$185.00 and have it planted for \$50.00. This would replace the existing tree, which is diseased and needs to be cut down. The Board discussed their options and agreed to review before spring. Mr. Stroney ended his report by reporting that the Sheriff's department again asked him about a transient vendor policy in the Township. The Board agreed that they would review a proposal in 2020.

ZONING REPORT: Mr. Wayne Sarna reported that he had no permits issued since the last meeting. He had reviewed a replat request of H.F. West Replat to include formerly unplatted land of M.W. Sternburg Plat. He submitted the request without objections, to the county planning commission. The complaint regarding tree stumps and debris dumped on property located on Leffingwell Rd is being resolved as the property has been sold and the new owner is committed to improving the property to the satisfaction of the neighbors and the County Health Dept. He advised the Board about a zoning appeal that will be heard by the ZBA on December 12, 2019, regarding a variance request to build a secondary structure without an existing primary structure on a parcel located on Salem Warren Rd. He also reported that he sent a letter to the owner of the mobile home located at 6336 Elk Rd to set a timetable to remove the mobile home from the property. He also reported that he has been reviewing the final site plan of the former coal tipple property on Route 45. He is still awaiting a response from a letter sent on October 31, 2019 to the property owners requesting additional information. He requested that the Board consider hiring outside counsel to review this matter as the site plan application is taking a significant amount of time. The Board indicated that they would review his request.

At that time Chairman Spellman requested from both Sean Giblin and Jim Tripp to provide any reappointment needs for their respective Boards. He then recognized Mr. Giblin who provided to the Board for signature, certificates of appreciation to a few local businesses for their continued efforts to support the Township zoning efforts. The businesses recognized were Baird Brothers, Myers Equipment, Ellsworth Auto Repairs and Youngstown Bridge.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Chief Ted Smith reported that there were 30 calls in November, including 13 EMS calls with ten transports of which the Township transported six. Nine calls were mutual aid to surrounding communities. He reported that the 911-dispatch changeover from Canfield to Austintown has occurred without incident. Chief Smith then reported that he has requested a quote from Western Star for service and brakes checked on M-400. He also requested an approval for an additional \$358.00 for lighting updates on E-41 that was completed when the LED lighting was done. The Chief requested approval to fund Jacob Pyatt for his EMT-B class. The cost would be split with Jackson Twp. The cost to EFD would be \$750.00. He also requested to have four members attend a two-day fire class at Springfield FD for a cost of \$100 per firefighter. He also advised the Board that the power cot has been installed and had been used on two transports. He then advised the Board that the back up LifeLine monitor does not meet current standards and should not be used. This currently eliminates the ability to utilize the second ambulance for a transport concurrently with the primary unit. He will need to review whether the cost to replace the old unit will be worth the cost to the department. Chief Smith updated the Board on his efforts to keep all members in good standing.

Chairman Spellman thanked the department volunteers and specifically Asst Chief Blosser for their efforts at the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 1st.

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Trustee Houston then made a motion to approve a total of \$1,508.00, which includes \$358.00 for the E-41 lights, the \$750.00 for Jacob Pyatt's EMT class and \$400.00 for attendance of the Springfield Twp fire class. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Toman reported on the current Knox Energy gas line project. The company has indicated that they may bring the line from the south if they do not obtain enough subscribers on Rt 45 from the center of Ellsworth. He also updated the Board on a plan to schedule a follow up meeting with other interested townships to review combined fire and EMS operations.

Trustee Houston described the Town Hall restoration process, and that the vinyl lettering has been re-applied to the front of the building. He also thanked the many people that helped at the Tree Lighting and Wreaths for Veterans.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board discussed the expected increase in gasoline tax revenue and the restrictions for its use.

Chief Smith requested the Board to approve for him to apply for a grant to the US Forestry Division for a matching grant up to \$10,000.00. He would like to pursue an off road vehicle for fire and rescue needs. Trustee Houston made a motion to approve Chief Smith to apply for a matching grant from the US Forestry Division for up to \$10,000.00. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

Chairman Spellman advised the Board that Western Reserve Landscape would continue to provide snow removal and salting for the 2019-2020 winter season.

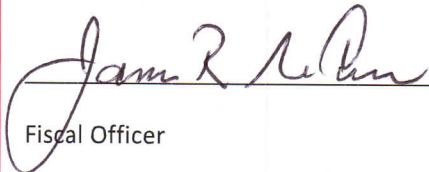
The Organizational meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on Saturday, January 4th at the Town Hall. The regular meeting will be held immediately following the Organizational meeting.

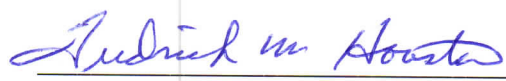
At 9:00 PM, Trustee Houston made a motion, pursuant to ORC 121.22(g)(2) for the purpose of purchasing of property for public use, to enter into executive session. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.


At 9:25 PM, Trustee Houston made a motion to return to regular session. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

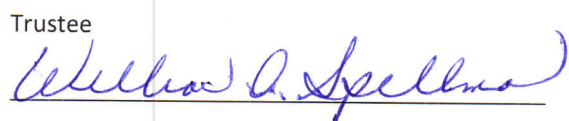
Trustee Toman made a motion to empower the Fiscal Officer to enter into negotiations for the purchase of property for public purpose, as instructed in executive session. All details will be disclosed when reasonably appropriate. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

At 9:30 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