

Edinburg Township Trustees – Regular Trustee Meeting

At Edinburg Town Hall

September 8,

2016

John Hayes 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, present; Jeff Bixler, present; Diane Austin, present; Bill McCluskey, present; Kevin Biltz, present; Mike Pittinger, absent; Shannon Paulus, present; Sandy Templeton, present.

I. Guests:

Melissa Fitch, Resident	Casey Hartung, Resident
Jim Lutz, State Candidate	Steve Bryk, Campaign Volunteer for Jim Lutz
Jaime White Peddle, Resident	Ricky Strait, Resident
David Starcher, Resident/Farmer	

II. John Hayes called for a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion was made by Diane Austin; this was seconded by Jeff Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeff Bixler, yes

III. John Hayes called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the August 25, 2016 regular meeting; a motion was made by Jeff Bixler; this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeff Bixler, yes

IV. Guest Speaker: Jim Lutz [Republican] candidate for 75th District State House of Representatives -- He shared that he would like to bring changes to Ohio. He said that he is very concerned on the big drug problem here and he would like to try to get the users and their families some help. He believes in small government so he'd like to decrease the size of government. He is also a proponent of small businesses like the ones in Edinburg Township.

Jeff Bixler stopped Mr. Lutz to say that a Township meeting is not the place for this type of [candidate] introduction but he was welcome to talk to the attendees after the meeting. Mr. Lutz offered to help any Township resident who needs help dealing with the EPA and he offered to help the Trustees if there are any issues with which they need help at the state level.

Jeff restated that this is not the time for this and asked if the other Trustees agreed. All agreed. Jeff told him that he appreciated him coming and asked him to leave any literature he would like to leave.

Mr. Lutz said he'd like to remain for the rest of the meeting to see what issues the Township has. Diane said city water is a need.

Mr. Lutz asked: of the population, how much agriculture is here? Jeff said the area is primarily rural/residential which is technically agricultural with several small businesses.

V. CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no Correspondence to discuss at this time.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. The papers were signed for the Stroup Road chip and seal and it was completed on Tuesday.

B. John said Kevin gave him two estimates for the repair on Carlisle Way. Kevin said he should have the third estimate tomorrow. The Assistant Prosecutor agreed that the damage is directly in front of the driveway of the new construction and the next step is to compile the estimates and present them to him. He would then forward a letter to Rockland Homes. The Assistant Prosecutor also said that in the future, all contractors should post bonds before beginning construction.

Jeff pointed out that the higher bid [Perrin] is the way it should be done – taking the road down six or seven inches, etc. All agreed. Kevin said Sable would be faxing an estimate soon that would be doing the same work as Perrin.

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VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to discuss at this time.

VIII. TRUSTEE REPORTS

A. John Hayes

--Christina Litton from PVS Transportation called him recently and he referred her to Bill. She needed the Township's tax identification number. This was regarding the truck fire a couple of months ago.

--The soccer representative, Samantha McPeak, has asked for two port-a-johns at the soccer fields. Diane told them that Bill will send them an invoice. Bill said he would check into last year's billing also because they said they have a new treasurer now and believe they were not billed for the end of the season last year.

--A resident has reported hornets by the electrical box at the back door of the concession stand. John suggested to the resident that she bring some cans of hornet spray with her next time just in case. He went and sprayed them. He asked Kevin to look into this.

--John asked who is responsible for cleaning up the area around the concession stand. Diane said the residents who use it should take pride and clean up after their events. Kevin said he cleans up bottles and sticks when he mows. John suggested that the groups be told to clean up. Diane said Bill suggested a couple of months ago that a contract is needed for those using the Park and this should be looked into before the next season.

Jeff suggested putting together a report of how much time Township employees spend cleaning up after the ball teams, which they should not have to do, and then he would present it at one of their meetings to try to get their help in this matter.

Bill said the electricity bill at the concession stand jumps during the season too. John said the Park Committee needs to be readdressed and asked to handle this and other Park issues.

Steve Bryk offered to give the Trustees a copy of the contract he signs to use Wingfoot Lake Park. All agreed to consider this and make a contract for the Park. Casey Hartung suggested asking the ball players to take turns one day a week cleaning up trash at the park and then offer them food after practice as an incentive and then eventually they'll start doing it on their own. John said this was a good idea. Melissa Fitch said to contact Marlin Brown for the Boy Scouts to come and clean up; they would earn service hours for this.

B. Jeffery Bixler

--He had nothing further to present at this time.

C. Diane Austin

--She asked Bill if it would be possible for the road crew to work comp time. Bill said the UAN system allows for this but he would need to learn how to process it. She suggested that they start it by next year. She asked Bill to look into it and let the Trustees know his thoughts on it at the next meeting and then the Trustees could discuss it.

--She reported that Nate Worley is interested in serving as an assistant to Sandy [Templeton]. He is willing to volunteer his hours in order to learn about Zoning. She will check with Chris Meduri to see if this would be allowed.

IX. DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

--The chip and seal on Stroup Road is complete and looks really good.

--They have been patching roads and mowing at the Park.

--There are about 20 dead trees to cut at the Park. Someone [unknown to Kevin] has marked some of them with a red X.

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Kevin Biltz – Roads / Buildings / Cemetery / Park (cont.)

--They have been mowing at the Cemetery.

--They have been applying top soil and seeding the graves.

B. Mike Pittinger – Fire Department

Shannon gave Mike's report in his absence.

--There were 21 alarms since the last Trustee meeting. There have been 236 calls so far this year (there were 203 at this time last year). The total for all of last year was 298. So far there has been an average of 40 calls per month this year and they anticipate being at over 400 calls by the end of the year.

--Bill said he needs to review the dispatch bill to make adjustments to the budget as pricing is based on calls. It is about \$32.00 per call we pay to dispatch.

--Jeff asked if most of the calls are in-Township runs. Shannon said yes, there are some mutual aid but most of them are in-Township.

--The 1513 engine went through testing again but the pump has not been repacked yet. It is being used as a rescue vehicle but not as an engine yet. Jeff said the Township has received an invoice for the repacking. He asked Shannon to check into this and let him know what is happening.

--Bill asked Shannon to give him any packing slips from orders that are delivered to the station. He is missing one from a package that was delivered by UPS on August 30.

--She reported that the Fire Association is moving forward with establishing their Levy Committee. They have a president and treasurer picked and they are in the process of getting paperwork started to give to the Board of Elections and getting a separate checking account set up.

There is one event scheduled so far for October 30 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.: they are holding a fall family day and health fair with flu shots by the Portage County Health Department from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Diane said the Health Department is putting some educational packets together for this health fair regarding the drug overdoses.

They also would like to do a Halloween costume contest for children up to age 12 and then the community trick-or-treat would be from 3-5 p.m. that day.

--Bill received a bill for hose testing so he needs to get a purchase order approved to pay for it.

--Bill asked about a bill for a Fire Department purchase.

C. Sandy Templeton - Zoning

--She made/received eight phone calls.

--She issued one zoning permit and one agricultural permit.

--There were two complaints -- one resolved itself and she is in the process of attempting to resolve the other one.

D. Bill McCluskey – Fiscal Officer

--Bill told Sandra that she is welcome to take mail to be certified since they are usually time sensitive, rather than wait for him to do it. Diane said Sandra could pay for it and then turn in the receipts for reimbursement. All agreed.

--The Township audit is now complete and on the State website. He plans to make a link to it available on the Township website.

--He received a final bill from the auditing company in the amount of \$960.00. A purchase order was previously approved for this.

--Bill asked Shannon about the money needed to replace Mike's damaged uniform gear. She said he was just sized for it on August 22 and once he receives the quote he will forward it to Bill. Jeff asked her to tell Mike to make sure [the quote] is more descriptive.

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Bill McCluskey – Fiscal Officer (cont.)

--Bill asked Shannon how the Township would be reimbursed after the purchase. It is related to some incident on IS 76. Jeff asked Shannon to find out if Mike’s uniform was part of the billing on the semi [truck] roll over incident.

--Bill asked why the Township’s Road Department is taking care of the privately-owned property on the corner across from the gazebo - where the gas station used to be. Diane said because the Township had the [former] building condemned and because it is at the Town Center. At the time this took place, the Board decided [to take care of it] to keep the Township looking nice—otherwise nobody mowed it and it was a mess. The Township had to pay to tear the building down. The property owner owes money to a long list of people and to the State so those debts will probably never be paid. The prosecutor approved that the Township could assess the fee for mowing it 2 times a year to the property owner but these steps were never taken because the fee would never be paid—there is a long history to this property. No one is paying the taxes on this property currently.

Bill asked if this wasn’t a zoning issue and the township could assess a fee if proper notification is given to the owner. Is there anything in the books?

Sandra said she would look up the rule about how often the Township can enforce that a property be mowed.

Kevin said it takes them less than a half an hour to mow both pieces [of land] once a week.

Bill said he wants to find a way to address the issue of using Township employee time and equipment to take care of private property; also it needs to be documented so five years from now someone isn’t saying the same thing.

Diane said maybe the Township should go the route of having the mowing assessed onto the property owner’s taxes.

- X. A motion was made by Jeff Bixler to pay warrants 39737 to 39750; this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeff Bixler, yes
- XI. A motion was made by Diane Austin to enter into an executive session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss the purchase of property for public use; this was seconded by Jeff Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeff Bixler, yes.
- XII. A motion was made by Diane Austin to come out of executive session at 9:07 p.m.; this was seconded by Jeff Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeff Bixler, yes.
- XIII. A motion was made by Diane Austin that the meeting of 9/08/2016 be adjourned at 9:07:30 p.m.; this was seconded by Jeff Bixler. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeff Bixler, yes.

John Hayes, Chairman

Jeff Bixler, Vice Chairman

Diane Hargett Austin, Trustee

William McCluskey, Fiscal Officer