

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

April 14, 2021

Chairman Robert Toman called the April 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, Fire Chief Ted Smith and ZBA Chairperson James Tripp. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer DeCenso presented the minutes from the last regular meeting, which was held March 10, 2021, for approval. No one in attendance requested that the minutes be read. **Motion 2021-27:** Trustee Houston made a motion to accept the minutes from the last regular meeting. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso reported that March's receipts were \$126,508 and expenditures were \$44,277. Receipts included \$102,000 in advances on 1st half property taxes. Expenditures included \$14,845 for new firefighter turn-out gear that was approved in 2020. The total gross fund balance as of March 31, 2021 was \$654,160. The Fiscal Officer then presented invoices for approval of \$660.00 for 2021 BWC MCO membership with Sedgwick, generator maintenance and PM of \$335.07 to Professional Engine Systems, and \$304.21 in SCBA repairs to Warren Fire. **Motion 2021-28:** Trustee Spellman made a motion to approve the \$1,299.28 in expenditures presented. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then presented to the Board an overview of the 2020-21 Ohio CRF (CARES Act) receipts and expenditures. Through 2020 and 2021, the Township had spent \$84,183 of available funds, primarily paying for EMS and firefighter stipends. The fund has a current balance of \$190.06. The Fiscal Officer then advised the Board that currently, there is no funding available from the 2021 American Rescue Plan for Ohio townships. Mr. DeCenso then distributed a review of Fire and EMS revenue/expenditures for the 1st qtr. of 2021 vs 2020. The combined fund balances have increased in 2021 by \$33,530 vs a \$13,162 increase in 2020. EMS collections are over \$12,000 ahead of the same period in 2020. Mr. DeCenso then reviewed current bank interest rates and that Farmers Bank will maintain its rate of 0.35% for the 2nd quarter. He also gave a brief overview of the Ohio Deferred Comp Program. He will gather any interest from eligible participants and report back.

ROAD and MAINTENANCE: Mr. Matt Stroney advised the Board that there were two burials in Ellsworth in March. He also reported that the first Niche has been sold. He reported that the LED project is almost complete. The Road building is complete, and the Fire Bays need only three more fixtures. Mr. Stroney thanked Western Reserve Landscaping for donating their time and equipment to fertilize the ball fields. He then reviewed a meeting he had with Seal Master to obtain quotes for crack sealing and to patch/seal necessary areas. The quote for all aspects of patching and sealing is \$8,906. He also requested that he needs 17 flags and six poles to be ready for the Memorial Day ceremony. Mr. Stroney reported that a small diesel fuel leak in the generator was corrected when Professional Engines came out to do the bi-annual preventative maintenance. **Motion 2021-29:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the purchase of twenty new flags and spend up to \$700 for the flags and poles. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. The Board then discussed with Mr. Stroney a timetable for the sealing and patching. **Motion 2021-30:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve spending up to \$9,000 for the proposed patching and sealing in 2021. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

The Board then recognized Mike Cook, who is the Western Reserve High School girls' softball coach. He reported on his plans for the program and thanked the Board for maintaining the fields. The Board reminded him of the responsibility to keep the field, dugouts and stands clean.

ZONING REPORT: Mr. Sarna reported that he wrote three permits since last meeting: for a privacy fence at a home on Berlin Station Rd; a storage shed on S. Duck Creek Rd.; and a single-family dwelling on Kiwatani Dr. He reported on a meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and all the involved attorneys to discuss any possible solution to the cement batch plan site plan that had been denied. A memo of understanding is being drafted, to be

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Regular Trustee Meeting April 14, 2021 Continued

reviewed by the Township. He reported that he continues to follow the probate case of Carole Miller and that an appraiser has recently been appointed. He reported that there has not been any follow up on the February 2021 request for a re-parceling of the James property on Western Reserve Rd. Mr. Sarna and Fire Chief Smith then reported on properties that they inspected. They discussed the available options to the Township to demolish abandoned and condemned properties in the Township.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Smith reported that there were 38 calls in March, including 25 EMS calls with five transports of which the Township transported four. The Chief then discussed his review of different vendor options for 2021 vehicle maintenance. He indicated that he would maintain a relationship with D&T PM & Truck Repair LLC. He then discussed switching the communication's vendor from Verizon to AT&T. He would like to purchase three tablets and two iPhones for the ambulances at a cost of \$531.97. The monthly data fee would be \$189 plus any applicable taxes. The Chief then described recent fire and EMS training activities of the department. He reported on the assistance from University Hospital for supplies. This has allowed him to reduce the need to purchase supplies. He also reported on a few recent emergency calls, including a shooting where the Department answered quickly and most likely saved the victim's life. Also, an industrial accident where the response time was four minutes. **Motion 2021-31:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve purchasing the requested communication equipment for \$531.97 and to encumber one year of the data contract at \$189 per month for a total of \$2,800.00. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Chief Smith then distributed 2021 EMS call data highlighting the calls made outside of Ellsworth Twp. The Board requested additional review of the revenues and costs associated with providing mutual aid to these outlying areas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Spellman presented additional information on a proposed one-quarter percent sales tax increase in Mahoning County that is to be split between the County Engineer and Townships for infrastructure. He reported that he had been successful in getting the County Association to consider other factors in the distribution formula besides township road miles. There is another meeting this week to formalize the resolution that will go to the County Commissioners for their approval to place on the November 2021 ballot.

Trustee Houston discussed the need to create a common face plate for a Niche. He then distributed some CAD drawings that he created with samples. He suggested that a plate be signed off by the Niche purchaser for correct names, dates etc. With a recent sale, it will be necessary to get the first plate ordered soon. The Board discussed any additional veteran plating to add to the Niche and how it would be attached. Trustee Houston reminded the Board that the plate costs are already included in the Niche pricing. Increases in plate costs to the Township would need to be reviewed each year.

Chairman Toman discussed updates on Crimewatch activity.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board recognized Fred Schrock, from VFW #9571, who advised that there will be a public Memorial Day service, but that no formal plans have yet to be determined. The date will be Sunday, May 28th. **Motion 2021-32:** Trustee Houston made a motion, pursuant to ORC 307.66 to approve a contribution of \$300.00 to VFW #9571 for Memorial Day activities. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

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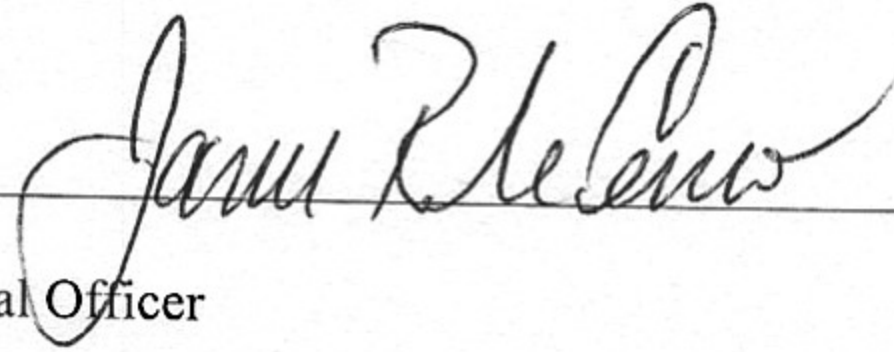
Regular Trustee Meeting April 14, 2021 Continued

Motion 2021-34: At 9:22 pm, Trustee Spellman made a motion pursuant to 122.22(g)(2) to adjourn to Executive Session for purposes of discussing personnel issues. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

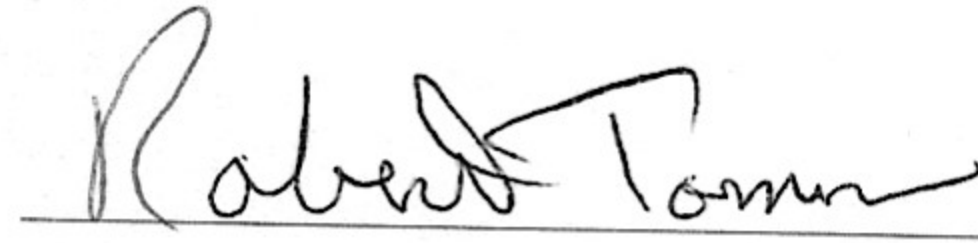
Motion 2021-35: At 9:47 pm, Trustee Spellman made a motion to return to Regular Session. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

The next meeting will be held May 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Fire Hall.

At 9:44pm, with no further business to discuss, Trustee Houston made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.



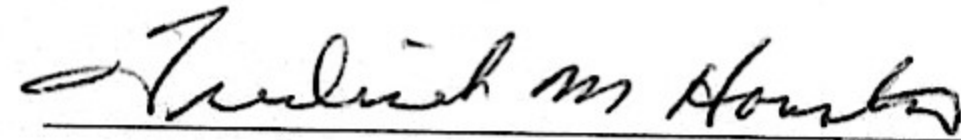
Fiscal Officer



Chairman



Trustee



Trustee