

# Edinburg Township Trustees – Regular Trustee Meeting

At Edinburg Town Hall

October 27, 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; Jeffery Bixler, present; Diane Austin, present; Bill McCluskey, present; Kevin Biltz, present; Mike Pittinger, present; Sandy Templeton, absent.

- I. John Hayes called for a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion was made by Jeffery Bixler; this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffery Bixler, yes.
- II. John Hayes called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the September 29, 2016 regular meeting; a motion was made by Diane Austin; this was seconded by John Hayes. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffery Bixler, abstain.

John Hayes called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the October 20, 2016 regular meeting; a motion was made by Jeffery Bixler; this was seconded by John Hayes. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, abstain; Jeffery Bixler, yes.

- III. Guests: John asked those in attendance if they had something they would like to present.  
Samantha McPeak, Southeast Youth Soccer      Brent Blair, Southeast Youth Soccer  
Mike Kerrigan, Candidate for Commissioner      David Starcher, Resident/Farmer

Samantha asked if their soccer goals could be stored outside the garage on the right hand side as you first pull in. The person who normally stores them has resigned from their board. They would like to chain them and store them along the outside back wall. The nets have been pulled off so the only space they would take up is an 8' x 22' spot because they nest together. Kevin said he could make room for them and there are cameras if they're concerned about theft. John and Diane agreed to this.

Samantha also presented markers for the field that would lay flat in the ground so they could be safely mowed over; these would remain year round. Kevin said they will sink over time.

Diane commended them for the way they are courteous and take care to clean up the park after their games.

Brent Blair mentioned they would like to do a fundraiser to purchase the field behind the current soccer field to use as an additional field. Diane suggested checking into a NatureWorks grant for this. John and Kevin agreed this is a good idea.

John asked Bill if the port-a-john issue has been resolved. He said he believes it has been. The issue was differing charge amounts of units and delivery of units that were not authorized correctly. Samantha asked what they owe the Township for this and Bill said he would send her an invoice. She said from the end of July through the end of October they would need the two port-a-johns that are always there plus two extra ones at least.

Mike Kerrigan introduced himself as the Democratic nominee for Portage County Commissioner. He shared his background and that he appreciates the work that the Trustees do and the importance of townships in the community. He had his start in politics working for Ted Strickland when he was a member of Congress. He has also worked for Congresswoman Betty Sutton. He is now handling the community relations and economic development at NEOMED.

He said he would be a commissioner who would work with townships to grow them but maintain a balance so that the rural charm is not lost.

He would also work to allocate the 3 to 4 million dollars left over from the sales tax increase after the jail expansion (that must go to help eliminate the drug crisis) to do more prevention and treatment in the county by bringing back a detox facility at University Hospitals Portage Medical Center and also to get into the schools more to educate the children.

If elected, he would resign from NEOMED and work full time as Commissioner.

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## IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no Correspondence presented at this time.

## V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Bill completed the cemetery deed template and any outstanding deeds and forwarded to Kevin for double check. Kevin said everything looks correct on them. (trustees signed off on them at the meeting)
- B. John asked Kevin about checks that are received for foundations. Kevin explained that he needs to know as soon as possible that the check has been received so he can finish his paperwork and pour the footers.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to discuss at this time.

## VII. TRUSTEE REPORTS

- A. John Hayes  
--He had nothing to report at this time.
- B. Jeffery Bixler  
--He asked Mike about the items from Portage County Haz-Mat regarding a yearly fee. Mike said he would check into this.
- C. Diane Austin  
--She reported the details of Trunk-or-Treat on which she and Sandy have been working.

**Diane Austin:** I wanted to say a few words about our upcoming fire levy. Our Fire Department has worked very diligently with minimal funds to staff our station twenty-four hours and provide the residents of Edinburg with the best service that they possibly can and I've had many, many, many great comments; our calls are way above where we were before and Mrs. Collins just lost her husband and she called me to comment on – they were there in less than five minutes. The levy we are seeking will allow the Edinburg Fire Department to meet the rising costs of supplies and operations to continue to provide Edinburg residents the best coverage possible. Our increase in calls are one of the things that supports the need for this levy. What is disturbing to me is this past week I have had several concerned residents that have come to me and relayed comments to me made by Mrs. Linda Pettigrew in her place of business. Mrs. Pettigrew has stated that she will not support the fire levy due to the mismanagements of funds by myself. At no time have I been solely responsible for spending the money of any department of Edinburg Township. At all times there is a three member board and a fiscal officer overseeing the Township funds. For Mrs. Pettigrew to single me out as a reason to not support the Fire Department levy denigrates the Fire Department hard work all over what I would call a personal vendetta. My hope is that people will not listen to the unfounded comments and realize what benefits this levy will provide our tax paying citizens. I invite anybody that doubts my voting record over the past eleven years to request copies of minutes and review them. They will show that we are a board of three, not one. Perhaps it is time for Mrs. Pettigrew and her daughter-in-law to stand up and run for this office and serve the residents of Edinburg as I have done for nearly 20 years. I personally want to thank every member of our Fire Department, all of you for your hard work and sacrifices and I hope our residents can see and appreciate your work and support Issue 10 as I do and my family does; most of us here has been touched by the Fire Department; me recently; I know all of us have and it's very important and I would like to apologize to the Fire Department—even though I have nothing to do with the comments that are made—but the nasty comments were made before the general levy; they're being made now and she can come here at any time and confront me but I apologize to all of you for the comments that are being made and I have been out supporting the levy; when people

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have asked questions I've tried to do my very best to let them know what that money will be spent for. I just wanted that part of the record so, that's all I have.

## VIII. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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

- They have been working on the trucks to get them ready.
- They are planning to crack seal next Tuesday. Mike said he'd help them again.
- They have been picking up leaves at the Park.
- They have been mowing and picking up leaves at the Cemetery.

### B. Mike Pittinger– Fire Department

- He reported that there have been 11 calls since last week's Trustee meeting.

### C. Sandy Templeton - Zoning

- She was not present to give her report.

### D. Bill McCluskey – Fiscal Officer

- He handed out the financial reports.
- He asked for approval to pay for limestone that Kevin needed for footers at the cemetery.

**RESOLUTION 2016-0091 A motion was made by Jeffery Bixler to approve payment to Stamm Contracting for limestone used at the Cemetery in the amount of \$536.49;**

**this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffery Bixler, yes.**

IX. A motion was made by Jeffery Bixler to pay warrants 39816 to 39837; this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffery Bixler, yes.

X. A motion was made by John Hayes that the meeting of 10/27/2016 be adjourned at 8:05 p.m.; this was seconded by Diane Austin. Roll call shows: John Hayes, yes; Diane Austin, yes; Jeffery Bixler, yes.

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John Hayes, Chairman

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Jeffery Bixler, Vice Chairman

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Diane Hargett Austin, Trustee

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William McCluskey, Fiscal Officer