

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

March 9, 2022

Chairman William Spellman called the March 9, 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 Matt Stroney, Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna, and Fire Chief Ted Smith. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Spellman reported on the Budget workshop that was held one hour prior to this meeting.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer DeCenso presented the minutes from the last regular meeting which was held February 9, 2022. No one in attendance requested that the minutes be read. **Motion 2022-22:** Trustee Toman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

At this time, Chairman Spellman recognized Fire Chief Ted Smith, who introduced the new Officers of the Ellsworth Fire and EMS squad. The Officers were sworn-in by Chairman Spellman and introduced to the those in attendance. The Board and Chief Smith thanked each member for their service.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Smith reported that there were 33 calls in February including 19 EMS calls with 10 transports of which the Township transported 3. The other 7 transports were provided by mutual aid departments. He reported that there was a price increase on the gear approved for \$20,000 in January 2022. He will need an estimated \$2,000 to complete the order. Chief Smith also requested \$278.82 for EMS medical supplies and would like to replace the CPR manikins and the AED trainer. The total cost would be \$933.08. He also thanked American Auto for donating a vehicle for the department for extrication training. The Chief then distributed new proposed rates for EMS services and a formal hardship policy. The department has not raised rates for a few years and the rates have been proposed by the billing agency. The hardship policy would provide discounted fees based on 100% of the US Federal Poverty Guidelines. He and Assistant Chief Jillian Smith then reviewed the resident outreach program. Information packets can be distributed, and residents can also come into the station for blood pressure checks, etc. After discussion, **Motion 2022-23:** Trustee Houston made a motion to accept the EMS rate proposals and Hardship policy, based on Federal Guidelines as presented. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. **Motion 2022-24:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the \$3,211.90 in expenditures presented, including the \$2,000 increased to the already approved expenditure. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso reported that February's receipts were \$41,208 and expenditures were \$34,304. Receipts included \$13,000 in 2022 property tax collection advances. Expenditures included \$6,193 for snow plowing and road salt. The total gross fund balance as of February 28, 2022, was \$711,296. He had no figures for the General Fund contingency balance. Mr. DeCenso indicated that all figures are preliminary as he has not closed 2021 and cannot perform a final bank reconciliation for January or February until the 2021 close is completed and 2022 final appropriations are adopted. The Fiscal Officer then presented invoices for approval of \$9,479.63 including \$838.04 for a load of road salt; \$5,335 to Western Reserve Landscape for snow removal from 11/27/21 thru 2/14/2022. **Motion 2022-25:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the \$9,479.63 in expenditures presented. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then reviewed the Motion #2022.16 that was passed at the February meeting authorizing the purchase of new windows for the Road Dept. building. The approval included a contingency based on a NOPEC grant of \$3,337. The Board discussed removing the "contingency" so that the windows can be order before there is any price increase. **Motion 2022-26:** Trustee Houston made a motion to amend prior motion #2022-16 to remove the grant "contingency" prior to ordering the windows. The Fiscal Officer and the Board discussed the 2022 budget. Mr. DeCenso requested the approval of a permanent appropriation budget. After discussion, **Motion 2022-27:** Trustee Toman made a motion to approve \$1,157,699.25 as the 2022 permanent appropriation budget. It is noted that the amount approved consists of all the financial resources available and best estimates for 2022 revenue. The actual 2022 township operating expenditures would be approximately \$450,000. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. The Fiscal Officer then announced that

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Regular Trustee Meeting March 9, 2022, Continued

the \$1,000 requested from the NOPEC Community Sponsorship has been approved. The Wreathes for Veterans will receive \$250 and the Fire Department will receive \$750 for Trick-or-Trunk.

ROAD and MAINTENANCE: Mr. Matt Stroney reported that there was one burial in the Township last month and two in Berlin Township where he assisted. He advised the Board that another cemetery niche was sold. He discussed the A/C repairs completed in the Fire station. He also reported that he has scheduled the carpet in the Fire Hall to be cleaned on April 21st. Mr. Stroney then discussed the 2022 fertilizer needs. He has been advised that the price has increased by \$10 per bag. He uses 13 bags, four times a year. The Board discussed purchasing the entire year supply before the prices increase again. **Motion 2022-28:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve expending up to \$2,000 for fertilizer for 2022. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. Stroney and the Board then discussed the verbal termination of the snow removal contract by Western Reserve Landscape. The Board requested that any termination be in writing.

ZONING REPORT: Mr. Sarna reported that there were two permits since the last meeting. He issued permits for a home addition on Gault Rd and a storage building on Duck Creek Rd. He then discussed obtaining quotes for demolition of the property at 6336 Elk Rd as there is no pending appeal. An appeal has been requested by the homeowner's attorney of 7015 S. Salem Warren Rd. The Board agreed to schedule the hearing at 6:00 pm on April 13, 2022 in the Town Hall. Mr. Sarna then discussed zoning violations that he identified and reported to the property homeowner at 8740 Palmyra Rd. There is also a tax delinquency on this property that is being processed by the Mahoning County Auditor. Mr. Sarna then reported on some permit fee increases that have been discussed by the Zoning Commission. He hopes to have a report available for the Board at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Toman discussed the crime report.

Trustee Houston discussed the Township website. The website will be updated to include all the Mahoning County Township officials.

Chairman Spellman discussed the new health department septic tank compliance laws. He will be speaking at an upcoming meeting to discuss financial hardships due to these new requirements. He also reported on recent proposed talks with other townships to review ideas to share fire and EMS resources.

OLD BUSINESS:

No Old Business to discuss

NEW BUSINESS:

The next meeting will be held April 13, 2022, at 7:00 pm with a Zoning demolition appeal at 6:00 pm.

The Board discussed the need for additional personnel in the Township. **Motion 2022-29:** Trustee Toman made a motion to authorize the Board Chairman to hire any additional road or maintenance personnel as needed. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

With no further business, at 8:26 Trustee Toman made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

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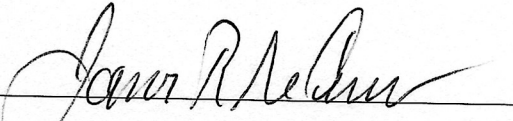
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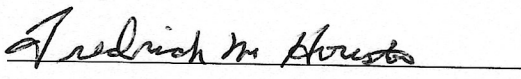
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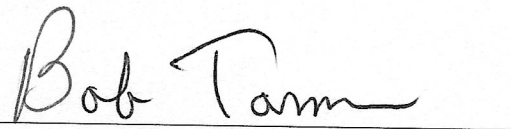
Regular Trustee Meeting March 9, 2022, Continued

At 11:11 am, 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