

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 12, 2018

Chairman Robert Toman called the December 12, 2018 regular meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees to order at 7:00 pm. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum: Trustee Fredrick Houston - present, Vice Chairman William Spellman - present, Chairman Robert Toman – present. Also present were Fiscal Officer James DeCenso, Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna, Interim Fire Chief Tom Powell and Assistant Chiefs Ted Smith, Brian O'Neil and Robert Sternburg. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer DeCenso presented the minutes from the regular meeting held November 10, 2018. No one in attendance requested that the minutes be read. Trustee Houston made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting held November 10, 2018. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

Chairman Toman then called forward Fire Chief Robert Sternburg for a special presentation. The Board presented Chief Sternburg a proclamation in recognition of his 44 years of service including 16 years as Fire Chief. Chief Sternburg worked hard to reduce the Township's ISO rating which saves insurance premiums for all residents. He was also instrumental in obtaining over 1.3 million dollars in grants to the Department. Chief Sternburg indicated that he would remain on the Department. The Board designated Robert Sternburg as Ellsworth Fire Chief Emeritus and that his number 411 be retired upon his retirement from the Department. Chief Sternburg received a standing ovation from the Board and the audience.

Chairman Toman then introduced Troy Rhodes from First Energy. Mr. Rhoades described his role with First Energy and that he is the liaison between local government and First Energy. He spoke about emergency responses to power outages and communication avenues to the residents and Township officials. He also described programs available to qualified residents for payment assistance. Residents should search the First Energy website for more information.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso reported that November's receipts were \$39,125.30 and expenditures were \$32,286.27. Extraordinary revenue included the collection of \$15,734.14 for 2nd half 2018 payment from the State of Ohio for personal property credits. Receipts for the eleven months ended November 30, 2018 were \$431,640.97 and expenditures were \$565,275.21. Mr. DeCenso's report included a fund balance increase of \$6,839.03 in November and that the fund has decreased by \$133,634.24 during 2018. The fund balance as of November 30, 2018 was \$641,880.31 minus the encumbrances as of November 30, 2018 of \$79,976.22 for a net balance of \$561,904.09. The current unencumbered balance, less the SIB ODOT Loan of \$131,538.29 was \$430,365.80. Mr. DeCenso then presented to the Board his requests for expenditure approval of \$312.00 to cover \$200.00 from Lane Transport for use of a paramedic on 9/12/2018, and \$112.00 to the State of Ohio to renew the public water license and reimbursement to him of \$119.63 for stamps (\$50.00), Copier toner for Zoning copier (\$137.63) and Copy paper (\$12.00). Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the total \$511.63 of expenditures. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then described the 2019 temporary appropriation process and requested \$563,232.00 for temporary appropriations. He provided a hand out with his request calculations. Trustee Houston made a motion to approve 2019 temporary appropriations of \$563,232.00. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso finished his report with advising the Board that he had received the final vote tabulation of the gas aggregation issue placed on the November ballot. The vote was 650 yes and 360 no.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: Mr. Matt Stroney reported that there were two burials in Ellsworth. He was busy assisting the Fire Department with downed trees during the last storm and also assisted with traffic control at a recent MVA scene. He participated with the Wreaths for Veterans at the Ellsworth and Berlin cemeteries. He reported that he received a letter from the Ohio EPA identifying that the recent water violation has been resolved. He then reported that he found a rebuilt engine for the Hammerhead side-by-side for \$699. Since the original project approval included \$300.00 for engine and parts, additional funds will be needed. Trustee Houston made a motion to add \$500.00 to the prior approved \$800.00 for a new combined total of \$1,300.00. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

ZONING REPORT: Wayne Sarna reported that he had issued two permits since the last meeting. One permit was issued for a residential handicap ramp and one for a renewed permit of a 14' x 40' home addition. He reported that he attended the Zoning Commission meeting of November 13, 2018. The Board had recommended approval of the Zoning change on Croy Rd from Agricultural to Industrial. Mr. Sarna reported that he had received all necessary documents related to the general site plan for the proposed cement batch plant on S. Salem Warren Rd and has approved the general site plan. A final site plan must be submitted within one year of November 19, 2018. No permits or usages can be approved prior to an approved detail site plan. He then reported an address change on Gault Rd from 6360 to 6420 to accommodate delivery issues at the original address. He is also investigating a complaint as to debris on a S. Bailey Rd property. He also re-inspected property on N. Palmyra Rd, where a previous debris complaint had been filed. The property appeared to have been cleaned.

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Regular Trustee Meeting December 12, 2018 Continued

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Interim Chief Tom Powell reported that there were 36 calls since the last meeting, including 14 medical related which involved seven patient transports. The department provided mutual aid outside of the Township thirteen times, mostly from recent storm related damage in Berlin. He reported that on-call staffing in November was about 33%.

EMS DEPARTMENT: EMS Director Brian O'Neil discussed the recent discussion of a new billing company. He prefers to stay with Quest diagnostics. His discussions with the owner had been very positive. The Board discussed his suggestion and will continue discussion at the next Fire/EMS workshop. Chief O'Neil discussed the collection process for EMS accounts and felt that there were a few to turn over. He will review existing accounts and submit to the Board for their authorization.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Trustee Houston reviewed the final niche proposal. The cost would be \$7,800 for a twelve niche, American made structure. The price includes installation. He reviewed that the plan would add a concrete pad that could eventually contain six niches.

Trustee Spellman discussed the Land Use Plan that the Township approved in 2016. He explained that the Board may change the plan at any time, but that it would be more prudent to continue on the current ten-year plan and begin to consider review in the seventh or eighth year. He discussed the up-coming budget meetings for 2019 and to begin setting those financial goals.

Chairman Toman discussed the Crime Watch program.

Chairman Toman then discussed the Township's health care renewal plans. Fiscal Officer DeCenso reported on quotes for the 2019 benefit year. He reported that for the first time in many years, the rates have been reduced. The Township had historically been subject to community rating. For 2019, all eligible participants provided health history for a bid based on medical rather than "zip code" and age. The 2018 rate of \$6,445 per month can be reduced to \$4,407 per month based on current health history of the participants. The quoted plan from Medical Mutual restores the deductibles of \$1000/\$2000 which were increased two years ago to \$2000/\$4000. The group insurance was also quoted from Medical Mutual at a cost of \$259.50 per month. After discussion regarding other quotes, the Board agreed that the Medical Mutual quote provided the most cost efficient plan. Trustee Spellman made a motion to accept the Medical Mutual PPO 25-1000 proposal for the 2019 calendar year health benefits and life insurance. Also included is the appropriation of \$5,500.00 for any prepayment needed in 2018. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

Chairman Toman then recognized Uta Franks who thanked the Board of Trustees and the Ellsworth Fire Department for their co-operation with the 2018 Tree Lighting ceremony, sponsored by the Ellsworth VFW. She presented both the Board and the Department with Certificates of Appreciation and also presented the Fire Department with a check in the amount of \$100.00 from the VFW.

The Board then discussed the road salt situation for the Township. The county's salt contains a grid, which is not compatible with the Township's snowplow vendor's equipment. The price for pure salt is approximately \$125.00 per ton. Trustee Houston made a motion to encumber \$4,000.00 for salt purchases and delivery. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

The Board then discussed the process and time taken to interview and select the next Fire Chief. Each Board member explained the difficulty to make this selection as each candidate exhibited excellent qualifications. Trustee Houston then made a motion to appoint Ted Smith Jr. as the new Ellsworth Fire Chief. The appointment includes a six-month probationary period with an evaluation after 90 days. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. The Board thanked all the candidates for their time and efforts in the selection process. The Chairman then recognized Chief Robert Sternburg who presented the Chief's badge to newly appointed Chief Smith. Chief Sternburg and the Board thanked Interim Chief Tom Powell for his leadership during the interim period. Chief Ted Smith then thanked the Board and all of the Department members for their co-operation and all the work they do for the community. Trustee Houston then made a motion to clear up any payroll issues by instructing the Fiscal Officer to pay Chief's wages to Chief Smith for one-half month of November and to pay Chief Powell the full Chief's wages for the month of November. Trustee Spellman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

The Board then discussed the date and time for the 2019 Organizational meeting. They agreed to set the Organizational meeting on Jan 4, 2019 at 7:00 pm. The regular monthly meeting will follow.

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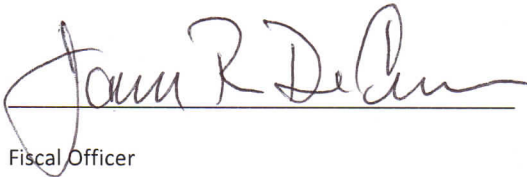
Meeting

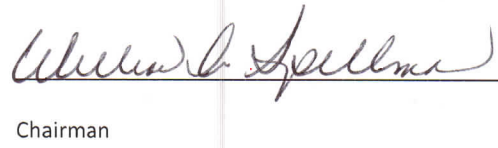
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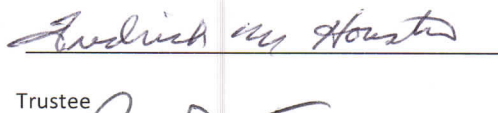
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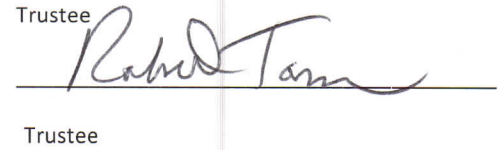
Regular Trustee Meeting December 12, 2018 Continued

At 8:28 pm, 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