

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

July 13, 2022

Chairman William Spellman called the July 13, 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 Tom Hoffman, Fire Chief Edward Smith, and Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer DeCenso presented the minutes from the last regular meeting which was held June 8, 2022. No one in attendance requested that the minutes be read. **Motion 2022-59:** Trustee Toman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer James DeCenso reported that June's receipts were \$20,531 and expenditures were \$52,223. The total gross fund balances as of June 30, 2022, was \$739,017. He reported that the unencumbered General Fund amount is currently \$1,578. The Fiscal Officer then presented invoices in detail for approval of \$1,487.75, including \$80.00 due to the Ohio BWC as findings from the 2021 Premium Audit performed in June. **Motion 2022-60:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the \$1,487.75 in expenditures presented. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. DeCenso then explained the Ohio Opioid Settlement. The Townships' portion would have been approx. \$300, however any entity that is scheduled to receive under \$500 will have their settlement go to the county. He explained that Mahoning County would have better programs for drug addiction than the Township could initiate. He reported that the ARPA 2nd deposit of \$111,006 was received on July 12, 2022. Mr. DeCenso then distributed a first half 2022 property tax collection analysis. The collections for the Township were \$170,335, which is approx. 64% of total budgeted annual collections. It is normal that the first half collections exceed 60% of the total year's collections. The amount collected is \$7,376 greater than the 1st half last year. After subtracting the County Health Dept and other fees, the Township netted \$157,545. He then distributed for review, the first half 2022 Fire and EMS financial analysis. The EMS Fund has a deficit of \$23,542 for the first 6 months of 2022. That is \$7,957 more than the same period in 2021. The Fire Fund has a deficit of \$10,907 which is \$1,298 better than the same period in 2021. The Fiscal Officer reminded the Board that there was also a \$13,628 supplement from the 2020 CARES ACT monies, so the actual difference is that the combined funds have a deficit that is \$12,330 more than the same period in 2021. The Fiscal Officer then went on to report that due to a recent merger by Farmers National Bank, the Township's checking account number is a duplicate with an account from the merged bank and so a new account will need to be opened. Farmers will reimburse the Township for new checks and deposit slips, but all on-line vendor accounts, Federal tax, State tax and Ohio treasury accounts will need to be changed. The Fiscal Officer then reported on the 2020-2021 audit and that he thought that it should be concluded by month end. No issues have been identified at this time.

ROAD and MAINTENANCE: Mr. Tom Hoffman reported that Lane brought three more cremations to the Mausoleum. He has been working on the parking area at Geeburg Cemetery by removing some stumps and cutting back some trees. He reported that he had to replace the bladder in the well tank that supplies water between the Road Bldg. and the Fire Station, as a leak had been discovered. Mr. Hoffman reported that he arranged for Berlin township to come up with their ditch mower to mow the locust trees on Elk Rd. He surmised that Ellsworth and Berlin townships may begin crack sealing roads and parking lots around the second week of September. Mr. Hoffman then presented a quote from Braun Tree Service to remove a tree at the ballfield and one at the cemetery. The Board discussed the costs and decided to have the ballfield tree and stump removed at the \$1,300.00 quoted. **Motion 2022-61:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the \$1,300.00 quote to have the dead tree removed at the ballfield. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

ZONING REPORT: Mr. Sarna reported that there were three permits issued since the last meeting and that he also received one variance determination from the BZA. Permits were issued for a garage on Herbert Rd.; an above ground pool and deck on Duck Creed Rd.; and an addition to a garage on Lower Lake Rd. at Diehl Lake. He Reported that the BZA approved a zoning variance to a property on Duck Creek Rd. allowing the installation

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Held ~~Regular Trustee Meeting~~ July 13, 2022, Continued

20

of a five-foot wire fence in the front of their property. He also reported that the condemned property on Elk Rd has been demolished and removed and that the condemned property on S Salem Warren Rd has been removed by the new owner. He then reported that the realtor representing the property at 10610 Akron Canfield Rd has arranged for bids to have the structure removed. Mr. Sarna then reported on seven other properties where he had sent violation letters. Included is a collapsed wall on the property at Country Pantry. He has been advised that the wall came down due to a loose utility pole and that Oho Edison was to repair the wall.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Smith reported that there were 33 calls in June including 16 EMS calls with 11 transports of which the Township transported 6. The other 5 transports were provided by mutual aid departments due to no Department crews available. Chief Smith advised the Board that he has advised Craig Beach that they need to contact departments closer to them before contacting Ellsworth. The Department will continue to respond to life threatening calls but will be further down the list for routine calls. Chief Smith advised the Board that most of Mahoning County, including Ellsworth had switched to 800 MHz radios. However, some communities, such as Berlin are switching to Merx style radios with are not compatible with the 800 MHz radios. He and Chief Powell have arranged to have one radio on each truck reprogrammed to the Merx system. Chief Smith is waiting for a quote to repair the ladder on the ladder truck. He also reported that the Medic 400 ambulance needs a full injection solenoid replaced. The quote from Fairway Ford was \$1,210.00. The Fiscal Officer presented a VISA bill for \$510.53 for emergency repairs on the air conditioner at the Fire Station. The Chief and the Board discussed the current staffing at the station. He has been offering 12 hours as well as the 8 hour shifts. He discussed situations where members have transported patients to the hospital but do not return until well after their shift ends. The Board directed that the staff is paid the extra transport fee whenever department members are required to work over their shift time. **Motion 2022-62:** Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the \$1,720.53 in expenditures presented. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustees Toman discussed the crime watch and his attendance at the County wide EMS meeting with the County Commissioners. He reported that very few township trustees attended and that the larger townships seemed to be in charge. He also reported that Mill Creek Metro Parks is spending 1.5 million on the Vickers Preserve located in the Township. They will be demolishing the house there and upgrading the facilities, including the building of a playground. He thanked the Fire Department for their participation in the Canfield 4th of July parade.

Chairman Spellman also discussed the EMS staffing and financial issues. He gave a summary of the work over the past few years to get the surrounding townships and the County to consider a fire or EMS district. The Board discussed the needs of Ellsworth Fire and EMS and the need to consider the Department going alone to provide full time coverage to its residents. He suggested a flyer to the residents to communicate ongoing Township matters to the public. **Motion 2022-63:** Trustee Toman made a motion to encumber \$1,500 for a Township mailing and/or any other community wide event. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to discuss.

Chairman Spellman recognized Dee Tripp from the Zoning Commission, who requested that the Board consider postponing the new zoning fees that went into effect July 1st, as it was discovered that there was an error in one of the formulas. **Motion 2022-64:** Trustee Houston made a motion to rescind the new zoning fee schedule that was approved during the June 8th regular meeting (Motion 2022-52) and retroactively return to the previous fee schedule while the Commission reviews their proposal. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

The next meeting will be held August 10, at 7:00 pm.

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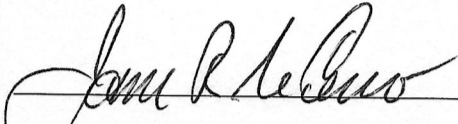
Regular Trustee Meeting July 13, 2022, Continued

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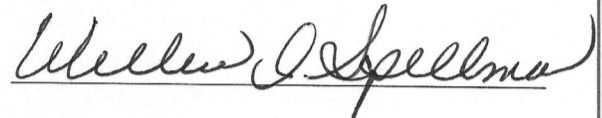
Held _____ 20 _____

Chairman Spellman reminded the audience of the Primary elections to be held Tuesday, August 2nd.

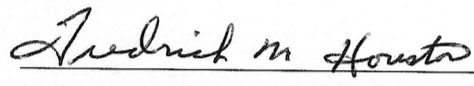
With no further business, at 9:16 pm, **Motion 2022-65:** Trustee Toman made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.



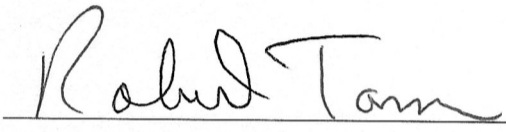
Fiscal Officer



Chairman



Trustee



Trustee