

# 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

November 6, 2019

Chairman William Spellman called the November 6th regular meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees to order at 7:00 pm. A roll call was taken to establish a quorum: Trustee Robert Toman - present, Vice Chairman Fred Houston - present, Chairman William Spellman - present. Also present were Fiscal Officer James DeCenso, Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna, Road and Maintenance Supervisor Matt Stroney, and Fire Chief Ted Smith. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: Fiscal Officer DeCenso presented the minutes from the last regular meeting held October 8, 2019. No one in attendance requested that the minutes be read. 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 October's receipts were \$53,118.66 and expenditures were \$38,773.67. Receipts in October included a BWC 2017 Premium rebate of \$10,756.20, the Property Tax Credits from the state of Ohio of \$15,721.80, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Franchise Fee from Armstrong of \$6,692.95. Extraordinary expenses included the Emergency Reporting software of \$2,428.00 and painting the Town Hall by Joseph Painting for \$5,970.00. For the ten-month period ending 10/31/2019, receipts were \$452,125.49 and expenditures were \$451,256.95. Mr. DeCenso's report included a total fund balance increase of \$14,344.99 in October and an overall increase in funds of \$868.54 through 10/31/19. The total fund balance as of 10/31/19 was \$609,987.79 minus the encumbrances as of October 31st of \$76,107.08, for a net balance of \$533,880.71. The current unencumbered balance; less the SIB ODOT Loan balance of \$100,107.63 was \$433,773.08. Mr. DeCenso then presented information regarding the 2020 employee health insurance. The current insurer is Medical Mutual, who has quoted an 18% increase. At this time neither Aetna nor Anthem have submitted quotes. Since Mr. DeCenso and Mr. Toman will be Medicare eligible, the effective Medical Mutual increase will be mitigated to 9.4% for 2020. The Fiscal Officer added that even with the increase for 2020, the premiums would still be 25% below the 2018 expense. The reduction is due to actual health history pricing versus ACA community pricing, which merely prices by zip code. The Board agreed to wait until the next meeting to see if other quotes become available. Mr. DeCenso then introduced a new post office lease Agreement as presented by the USPS. The Board elected to review the lease prior to signing. Mr. DeCenso also presented an offer from OTARMA to utilize an insurance policy instead of bonding newly elected officials beginning in 2020. With limited cost information available, the Board took no action to change from the current Bonding policy. Mr. DeCenso ended by reminding anyone that is eligible to receive the Ohio Homestead credit on their property taxes, should submit their application by December 31, 2019.

At that time, Chairman Spellman introduced Uta Franks who described her plans for the 2019 Tree Lighting ceremony that is planned for Sunday, December 1, 2019. Ms. Franks thanked the Township for their participation with the event.

ROAD and MAINTENANCE: Mr. Matt Stroney reported that he assisted with one burial in Berlin township last month. He then continued to report on the restoration program at the Town Hall. The outside painting is complete and he is currently in the process of finishing the interior painting. He requested that the Board approve new carpeting for the Hall. He had obtained pricing of \$1,500.00 to place a border carpet around the walls in the Town Hall to replace the carpeting that he had ripped out. The cost to replace the entire carpet would be approximately \$3,250.00. The Board instructed Mr. Stroney to obtain pricing to do the entire building with carpeting and tile. He then reported on the Parking Lot Lighting project. The new lights on the maintenance building and fire hall have been installed and he is currently obtaining the necessary parts to complete the pole lights. He thanked Mr. Ward Campbell for his donation of two hay bales for the Trunk or Treat event. Mr. Stroney requested 40 bags of Ice Melt for the sidewalks at \$6.50 per bag. Trustee Houston made a motion to approve \$260.00 for the purchase of Ice Melt. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Mr. Stroney and the Board then discussed the work that needs to be done for the Tree Lighting ceremony.

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO 10148

Held \_\_\_\_\_

20 \_\_\_\_\_

## Regular Trustee Meeting November 6, 2019 Continued

**ZONING REPORT:** Mr. Wayne Sarna reported that he had issued one permit since the last meeting. That permit was issued for a single-family residence on Herbert Road. He reported that this is the fifth residence in the Township in 2019. He reported that he continues to work with the owner of the mobile home on Elk Rd to make the home livable by year-end. He also continues to monitor the property on Leffingwell Rd that is being used to dump tree stumps and other debris. Mr. Sarna has been working with the Health Department on that issue. He also reported that he has been reviewing the final site plan of the former coal tipple property on Route 45. He had submitted a letter, dated October 31, 2019 to the property owners requesting additional information. Once received, he will make his recommendation to the Zoning Commission. Mr. Sarna then reported on a request by a property owner on Rt. 45 to build a storage building on a parcel with no principle structure. He advised the owner that he could not approve a permit and that he could appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Fire Chief Ted Smith reported that there were 27 calls in October, including 12 EMS calls with seven transports of which the Township transported two. 11 calls were mutual aid to surrounding communities and also that 6 calls were cancelled enroute and there were three false alarms. He reported that the 911-dispatch changeover from Canfield to Austintown is scheduled for midnight November 15<sup>th</sup>. Chief Smith then reported that he had to have a portable radio repaired at a cost of \$93.00. He also requested an additional \$75.00 for a pair of boots that were originally approved in June, as well as \$1,500.00 in tuition for Abigail Schors to enter the EMT-B program at MCCTC. He also reported that the SCBA compressor is schedule for annual maintenance at a cost of \$900.00. Chief Smith updated the Board on other continuing education opportunities that will now be provided through University Hospitals as no charge to the Township. He reported that the Power Cot has now been ordered and that the installation will most likely require the squad to be out of commission for an entire day. He will have the old ambulance prepared for duty for that time period. Chief Smith then presented to the Board his proposed changes to the Fire Department's Standard Operating Procedures regarding the Participation Requirement Policy. After some discussion, Trustee Houston made a motion to accept the proposed changes and to add a provision for feedback to firefighters by listing their participation summaries on a timely basis. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Chief Smith then introduced Isabel Schors, who would like to be a junior firefighter. Trustee Houston made a motion to accept Isabel Schors as a junior firefighter. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. The Board welcomed Isabel and thanked her for her volunteerism. Chief Smith then introduced Michael Emery, who had previously been a member of the Ellsworth Fire Department and is now requesting reinstatement. Mr. Emery has completed his FF1 class and is and EMT-B. Trustee Houston made a motion to reinstate Michael Emery to the Ellsworth Fire Department. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor. Chief Smith officiated the oath to Firefighter Emery. At that time, Trustee Houston made a motion to approve \$2,568.00 in expenditures for the radio repair, the addition needed for boots, the EMT-B class for Abigail Schors and the compressor maintenance. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call vote was all in favor.

Chairman Spellman then recognized a few members from the audience who voiced concern regarding the operations of the Fire and EMS departments. The Board and Chief Smith described the procedures taken to increase and train personnel. As a member of the audience, Firefighter Joe Milano expressed his resignation from the department. Some members of the audience expressed concern about the recent Township resolution distancing the Township from the Ellsworth Fire Association. The Board and Fiscal Officer explained that they recently learned that the Association had had its tax exempt status revoked by the IRS. That revocation could cause some liability issues for the Township.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Toman described the current Knox Energy gas line project. The company has planned to take the service line south, down rte. 45 to the Diehl Lake area. They continue to need to add customers along the proposed route.

Trustee Houston described the Town Hall restoration process and recognized members of the Ellsworth Historical Society in attendance. Mr. Paul Hendrix informed the Board that application had been made to the

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

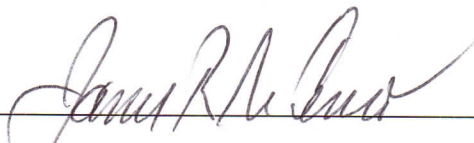
Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

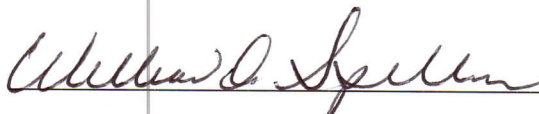
## Regular Trustee Meeting November 6, 2019 Continued

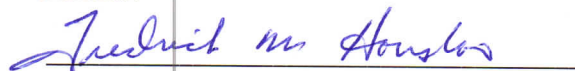
Ohio Historical Society to have the Town Hall placed on the Ohio Historical Buildings Registry. This should assist in obtaining grants for future Town Hall renovations. The Board continued by scheduling the annual Township Organizational meeting for Saturday, January 4, 2020 at 9:00 AM at the Township Hall. The meeting will celebrate with the Historical Society, the recent renovations done at the Town Hall.

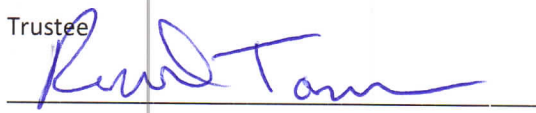
The next meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at the Fire Hall.

At 9:04 PM, 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