

Violet Township Board of Trustees

October 16, 2013

Regular Meeting

Mr. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Smith called the roll: Mr. Myers, Mr. Weltlich and Mr. Dunlap were present. Others present were: Director of Operations, Bill Yapple; Engineer, Greg Butcher; Fire Chief, John Eisel.

Mr. Myers asked everyone in attendance to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence honoring those who protect us around the world.

Mr. Weltlich moved to approve, without public reading, the minutes of the Regular meeting of October 2, 2013 as submitted by the Fiscal Officer. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll Call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion passes 3-0.

Mr. Dunlap asked to deviate from the agenda and introduce a motion. Mr. Dunlap made a motion to increase and extend the 2013 Paving Program to apply a hot asphalt smooth seal blacktop pavement on all streets in the New England Acres and Sturbridge Meadows subdivision as soon as weather and temperatures will permit and to fund this increase either from the General Fund or the 2014 Paving Program, or a combination thereof. Seconded by Mr. Weltlich. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion A2013-1016 passes 3-0.

Mr. Myers referred back to the regular agenda.

Recognition of Guests:

None

Public Comment:

John Thompson of 13797 Sudbury Drive in Sturbridge Meadows was present. Mr. Thompson stated he attended the last Trustee meeting and he thanked the Trustees for the last two weeks and for visiting the job site and he thanked them for the motion tonight.

Kim Weaver of 13662 Sturbridge Place was present. Mrs. Weaver also attended the last Trustee meeting. She thanked the Trustees for hearing their complaints. Mr. Weltlich asked if she received a letter from the Trustees. Mrs. Weaver said she did.

Denise Pennell of 13915 Cobblestone Lane was present. She thanked the Trustees for moving so quickly in trying to remedy the road situation. She hopes the communication will be better in the future with the citizens.

Grace Shullinger of 13987 Nantucket Ave. She is the last house in the Township. She missed the last meeting. She wanted to know if they would do anything where the mail truck comes. Where they pull off she ends up with ruts. Mr. Dunlap said we can look at this when they pave.

Fred Silverman of 13858 Wayside Drive was present. Mr. Silverman asked when the original decision was made to do what they did to the roads it was obviously done for financial reasons. Mr. Myers said this was correct. Mr. Silverman also asked if this was for maintenance purposes or repair purposes because we could have saved that money by thinking it through. He did appreciate their thoughts and fixing it the proper way. Mr. Myers said what they will end up with is what the State of Ohio is doing on a lot of the roads.

Emily Halsey of 13580 Sudbury Place was present. Ms. Halsey thanked the Trustees for what they did.

Jack Wittenmeier of 13753 Olde Post Road was present. He wanted to make absolutely sure that what they said they were going to provide in New England Acres was just like what they have over in Chevington North. Mr. Dunlap said that was correct.

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Terry Cooper of 13724 Nantucket Avenue was present. Mr. Cooper asked if the paving would be done this year or next. Mr. Myers said we would be getting a hold of the contractor tomorrow. He also asked if we would be putting any glass grid or anything fabric at the same time. Mr. Butcher said we would not be. The chip seal will substitute. Mr. Cooper begged to differ. He said the chip seal will not take care of the thick cracks and that it was a temporary fix.

John Grady of 13536 Nantucket Avenue was present. He asked if they have abandoned the idea of chip seal for the future. The Trustees said absolutely not. Mr. Dunlap said in residential as far as he is concerned. Mr. Weltlich said they will still evaluate it based on the results of Ault Road. On behalf of New England Acres he wanted to thank the Trustees for what they are doing.

John Thompson of 13797 Sudbury Drive was present. He said Issue 2 is going to be a renewal of the bridge and culvert levy and there are no new additional taxes. They want to make sure we understand that they have no control (Fairfield County) over maintaining what Violet Township's roads are. He feels Fairfield County wants to distance themselves as far as they can from this situation as far as possible and he stressed not to hold what they did to our roads against Issue 2. He talked about doing a small levy for the roads next spring.

Mr. Myers explained for the people that attended the last meeting that the rationale for doing this was merely a matter of money. Mr. Myers said we are at the present time looking at putting on a road levy but he does not know when it will be and would really appreciate it if we could get the residents support. If we do not get this levy passed some of the services that we currently provide we will not have the money to do. Mr. Dunlap added that our short flow of money is a direct result of our state government taking away some of our local government funds and the state money. Mr. Weltlich also commented that not only did they cease sending us that money but they mistakenly have convinced people that it was a subsidy and he is well aware of how the local government was funded. The people voted for a 1 and ½% sales tax that was dedicated to the townships, the counties and the cities so they can maintain the services that the citizens expect. The second thing he wanted to say was he welcomes folks like them coming out and telling us what they really think. If we only had the 'grassroots' we have here in Washington DC maybe we could get something done.

Julie Teague of 13564 Sudbury Drive was present. Ms. Teague asked if all the new construction being done by the Marcus Cinema is part of Violet Township. Mr. Myers said it is part of Violet Township but it is in the City of Pickerington.

County Authorities:

None

Departmental Reports

Fire Department

Chief Eisel reported Open House was once again a great success. They gave out 500 of the plastic helmets to the kids as well as handouts.

Chief Eisel reported Operation Street Smart will be held Saturday, November 2nd from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The location has changed to the Marcus Cinema due to a scheduling conflict.

Chief Eisel reported on Monday they launched a customer feedback/satisfaction survey that will be handed out on runs and emailed out. They want to give it to the customers we serve.

Mr. Dunlap reported he attended the Open House and it went very well. He added that the guys did a wonderful job once again.

Mr. Weltlich commented he is constantly surprised that the 'injuries' are succeeding the 'illnesses' on their runs and he wondered if this was typical. Chief Eisel said he thought it was a 'summertime' thing.

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Mr. Weltlich asked where the cots were. Chief Eisel said he and Heather were still preparing the draft narrative. Heather still has to complete a section of the grant narrative and then it should be complete and submitted. We are not under a time deadline.

Mr. Myers asked if we were going with a Striker. Chief Eisel said were in the grant process and have reached out to Hovermat which is an inflatable air mattress. He explained it as it kind of makes the patient as an "air hockey" puck. They are letting us do a 30 day trial on this.

Mr. Weltlich asked Chief Eisel to explain his shirt. Chief explained that traditionally over the last several years they have worn pink for the month of October for the fight for breast cancer. This year they have one of their own members that were diagnosed with stage 2 bladder cancer. They decided they would 'bring the fight home' and stand ground with him. Between now and the day after Thanksgiving you will see his people in these t-shirts.

Township Engineer:

Mr. Butcher reported October 29th will be the Pickerington Local School District Safe Routes to Schools 'Walk to School Day.' Mr. Butcher has identified (4) schools: Harmon, Violet, Diley and Sycamore Creek have received the blessing of Superintendent Walker and received endorsement from him. Mr. Butcher will coordinate this himself this year in reaching out to the (4) principals of respective schools.

Mr. Butcher reported we will be installing new crosswalks and signage on Milnor Road and Village Way as part of the Violet Elementary Safe Routes to Schools Project. Mr. Butcher was able to persuade the County Engineers office that this is by far the safest place to cross.

Mr. Butcher had information to share regarding the Northeast Ohio Regional Water and Sewer District. This is a sewer district in northeast Ohio (Cuyahoga County) that enacted a stormwater utility pursuant to ORC Chapter 6119. Mr. Butcher said that in our feasibility study for a stormwater utility, one of our main emphases was to make sure there were previous court cases to support that and there were. On September 25th of 2013 Bath Township and eleven (11) other local governments appealed the trial court's decision and appealed the court's decision that the Northeast Ohio Regional Water and Sewer District could have a stormwater utility by a 2-1 vote the trial court's opinion was reversed. There is a course of action we would like to emulate using the Violet Township Water Sewer District to consider with a stormwater utility. Basically, the two judges ruled that the stormwater utility was unconstitutional and viewed this very broadly. The descending judge looked at it very literally. It appears the decision will be appealed to the Supreme Court of Ohio. Mr. Butcher is of the opinion that the Northeast Ohio Sewer District will win. Mr. Butcher recommended putting our initiative on hold until the Supreme Court makes a decision. The Trustees all agreed that this would be on hold for now.

Mr. Butcher submitted the Issue 1 application to the Ohio Public Works Commission for Mingo Estates Phase 2 on October 4th. Using the guidance we decided to go from a strategy standpoint with respect to funding we will see if that makes a difference. Mr. Butcher anticipates they will make a decision by end of year or first part of January.

Mr. Butcher had a resolution to purchase a new snow plow. Mr. Butcher recommends we go back to the traditional Gledhill plow. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-1016-02 – Purchase a New Replacement Snow Plow for Truck #3 from ACE Body, Inc. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Discussion:** Mr. Dunlap was happy to see the other plow go. **Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Resolution 2013-1016-02 passes 3-0.**

Mr. Weltlich reported he had previously sent a message regarding the potential consultants. He now withdraws all of his comments because he understands now why they do it this way. Mr. Weltlich feels they are the right people and we should move on with this. Mr. Butcher added he wanted to check out another firm out of Cleveland. Mr. Weltlich asked that Mr. Butcher and Mr. Yapple interview the two firms, check references and move forward with one or the other.

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Mr. Dunlap requested when we mow again; from the County Water Plant on Tussing Road to the top of the hill those are our weeds that we need to mow as we missed it.

Mr. Butcher added the Fairfield County Engineer's Raodeo was today and Jim Smith was the winner. Mr. Weltlich said he would be happy to donate a special trophy with a truck on it for the Employee Appreciation Luncheon. Mr. Myers said he would give Mr. Smith the credit but he wants to give it to Bruce Miller, as Bruce has taught him everything Jim Smith knows.

Director of Operations:

Mr. Yaple reported the Trustees had before them a proposed zoning amendment to our Zoning Code to put in a planned commercial district overlay for the 33 corridor. There was a resolution to set a hearing date for November 6th.

Lockville Road property we will have asbestos and a hazardous demolition person in there doing tasks and we will start with the demolition contractor for that job. The one on Amanda Northern will probably go to the hazardous waste contractor in 2 weeks and then will do demo there.

Mr. Yaple spoke to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Those grant funds have been extended till the end of 2014. Mr. Yaple recommends moving this project back this year into next summer Busey Road Park.

There is a resolution (if the Trustees want to move forward) to post that with no ATV'S or dirt bikes. Mr. Yaple said counsel is suggesting the posting would be under Section 45 of the Ohio Revised Code. This would also include street motorcycles. Mr. Yaple mentioned possibly looking into 'gating' this park after dusk. Mr. Dunlap mentioned having a 'no loitering' sign made up at a later date. You could have to post both signs on the same post. Mr. Yaple explained we can move forward with the one resolution and then do another resolution for the other sign. It will go before Canal Winchester on the Mayors court as well. It depends upon which car is dispatched.

There was a request from the Pickerington Education Foundation for sponsorship.

We had 46 single family permits year to date. With a valuation of 14.6 million construction valuation. We had 21 other permits for the quarter and TYD was 67. We have a total of 15 commercial permits YTD with construction value of 1.2 million dollars. Mr. Weltlich noted that the new construction is worth an average of \$315,000 per home and we had a lot of activity as it was up to \$450,000 to \$465,000.

Mr. Yaple gave the Trustees information on MORPC's suggested improvements for the MORPC Transportation Plan.

Mr. Yaple has heard nothing on the Bed Tax Issue.

We are waiting on Time Warner to complete installation of PRIs in the cage distribution point. It should be about a week or so.

Mr. Yaple presented his resolutions.

Mr. Weltlich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-1016-01 – to Receive Proposed Amendments (Case No. 01-ZC-2013) to the Violet Township Zoning Resolution and to Establish Public Hearing Date. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Mr. Dunlap asked if we needed to name the date. Mr. Yaple said the date would be the first Trustee meeting in November (November 6th at 8:00 p.m.). Discussion: none. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution 2013-1016-01 passes 3-0.

Mr. Weltlich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-1016-03 – Ratifying Amended Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Articles of Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Discussion: Mr. Myers asked if there was anything in the document about any increased costs to the Township. Mr. Yaple said not in this document. That is done on a yearly basis. There was no increase in dues for us this year. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution 2013-1016-03 passes 3-0.

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Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-1016-04 – Authorize Posting of Sign at Busey Park. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Discussion: Mr. Myers asked if Mr. Yapple would send a copy of the actual sign to the Prosecuting Attorney. Mr. Yapple said he has been in contact with Gene Hollins and Jennifer Crogran and he referenced Chapter 4519 of the ORC and that will cover everything we need and the officers will understand. We can put the minimum and maximum fines as well. Mr. Dunlap said the \$500 is in the penalty section of the ORC. Mr. Myers wanted to put ‘fines up to \$500 and wondered if that fits in line with Canal Winchester. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Resolution 2013-1016-04 passes 3-0.

Mr. Yapple reported he received a request from the Pickerington Take Down Club requesting funding. Mr. Weltlich suggested it was time to start curtailing funding given our financial condition. Mr. Myers added that we support the athletic programs every year and once we start doing individual sports it could be an endless situation. Mr. Dunlap agreed with Mr. Weltlich and noted the loss of state funding and so forth. **Mr. Weltlich made a motion to that we respectfully Decline due to financial restraints the Proposed Take Down Club Donation. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion B2013-1016 passes 3-0.**

Mr. Weltlich asked if Mr. Yapple and Mr. Butcher had done the coring at the Senior Center. Mr. Yapple said he had not yet but would work on getting this done. Mr. Myers asked where we were with the roof at the Senior Center. Mr. Yapple said they gave them prices at the last meeting. They (as we did) thought the metal was too high. They pushed this back to next Spring. Mr. Yapple sent out letters to the (3) three contractors asking them to let us know if they would hold their prices to next spring or what.

Mr. Myers reported he received a letter in his box from a resident on Stemen Road. Mr. Yapple said we had received a call from someone at the School District this week asking what school the Woodland Ranch Subdivision would attend. Mr. Yapple called them back and the woman said they were looking at re-districting that area. That was the extent of Mr. Yapple’s conversation. The letter came from resident Peter Bickell who owns one of the properties in the Woodland Ranch subdivision. This is a public records request and so we need to send him a letter. Mr. Smith will get a copy of the letter and coordinate with Mr. Yapple and Ms. Sarko.

Fiscal Officer:

Mr. Smith reported he went through the implementation for the new credit cards and we should have in our hands before the next meeting.

Mr. Smith reported the Huntington Bank actually ‘opened the door.’ Mr. Smith will keep the Trustees posted on the implementation of what we need from those folks.

Mr. Smith reported he received notification from the State of Ohio Auditors Office that since our audits have been so good they are putting us out to bid; so the State will no longer be doing our audit, they will send it out to IPA. Mr. Weltlich asked if this will save us money. Mr. Smith said they claim it should but he is ‘skeptical.’ Mr. Smith was told we don’t have an option in the matter.

Mr. Weltlich recommended we should ‘lobby’ the OTA to ‘lobby’ the legislature to ‘lobby’ the State to have reviews instead of audits. Mr. Smith agreed this was a great idea. Mr. Yapple recommended we start with CLOUT to see if they would agree. Mr. Weltlich asked Mr. Yapple to draft a letter asking if they would agree with reviews instead of audits.

Mr. Smith reported that Jody Lombardo is no longer with Frank Harmon at Ohio Insurance Services.

Mr. Dunlap asked where we stood with the bank accounts being reconciled. Mr. Smith reported he had June done for signature tonight and almost done with July and will have July, August and probably September at first meeting in November. Mr. Smith said he will have July and August and probably will have September.

Mr. Smith is working with the department heads with regards to the budget requests and he has been working to get the information to comply with the 10/31 deadline.

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Mr. Weltlich needed to know what the process was regarding the fact that in June or July the Senior Center decided to donate \$5,000 to the Pickerington Food Pantry. As of last week the check had not been written. Mr. Smith said Nancy could prepare the check request and Mr. Samborski should sign it.

Mr. Myers said he had a piece of paper saying we owed the Prosecuting Attorney \$1250.00 for a period of September 1 through September 30th. Mr. Smith they used to bill us yearly and now they bill us monthly.

Trustee Reports:

October 17, 2013 there could be more than one Trustee at the Pickerington Chamber luncheon at 11:30 am.

Trustees out of Office Meetings Where More than one (1) Trustee present

Old Business

None

Tabled Business

None

New Business

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Violet Township Board of Trustees will be held Wednesday, November 6, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. at the Violet Township Administrative offices.

Pay Bills

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Discussion: Mr. Myers asked if the check for Ports Petroleum was current and up to date. Mr. Smith said it was. **Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

Mr. Myers made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues per the ORC Section 121.22(G)(4) include the (3) Trustees and the Fiscal Officer. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Motion passes. 3-0. The board recessed for 10 minutes and went into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

Mr. Weltlich made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 10:04 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Motion passes. 3-0.

Adjournment

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:05 p.m. Mr. Weltlich seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion passes 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher H. Smith, Fiscal Officer

Joniann Goldberg, Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

Terry J. Dunlap, Sr., Trustee

Harry W. Myers, Jr., Trustee

Gary P. Weltlich, Trustee

Date: _____