

# Violet Township Board of Trustees

March 04, 2015

Regular Meeting

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

**Mr. Sauer called the roll: Mr. Weltlich, Mr. Dunlap and Mr. Myers were present. Others present were: Township Engineer, Greg Butcher; Director of Operations, John Eisel; Fire Chief, Mike Little; Fiscal Officer, Brian Sauer; and Kelly Sarko, Zoning Inspector.**

On behalf of the Violet Township Board of Trustees Mr. Weltlich recognized students from Harmon Middle School Carrington Coates and Evelyn Vance who lead the Trustees in the Pledge of Allegiance and followed by a moment of silence honoring those who protect us around the world. The students were presented with 'Certificates of Recognition.'

**Mr. Dunlap moved to approve, without public reading as submitted by the Fiscal Officer, the minutes of the Regular Trustee meeting of Feb 18, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Motion carries 3-0.**

**Mr. Myers moved to approve, without public reading as submitted by the Fiscal Officer, the minutes of the Special Meeting/Planning Session of February 20, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Motion carries 3-0.**

## **Recognition of Guests:**

Alia Dietsch, Professor of Natural Resource Planning from OSU was present with her students to make a formal presentation. Ms. Dietsch explained they were approached about the 35 acre parcel of Busey Road Park. There is an interest in how they can help integrate more ideas for this property. She took 5 students to look at the park who basically had ideas and plans they shared for this site. Three of the five students were present. They presented a five year plan. The focus was on conversation, education and community.

They want to focus on family oriented space. They want to conserve the history of Violet Township as well as the natural resources of the area of Busey Road Park. Their first proposal is to re-create a native meadow in the western portion of the lot. The seeds that will be used for planting the meadow will hopefully be harvested from Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks instead of having to be purchased. The meadow will help stabilize the land and reduce erosion. They are hoping this will bring more wildlife into the area.

The second pillar of conversation is the idea of re-use. There are a lot of great materials and pre-existing natural uses in the land that they can use to construct a natural play area. There are several cut sandstones that could be utilized. The ash trees infected by the Emerald Ash Boar need to be removed as they are a safety hazard.

The township has a log cabin that was once located near the park site and is current in storage. Their hope is to be able to reconstruct the cabin and showcase it for the citizens of Violet Township.

They are also hoping to purchase some educational signs to educate the residents about the log cabin, other natural features and the history of Violet Township.

The third pillar is community and they hope to build a bulletin board to include information about the park such as rules and hours. The other idea was to build an amphitheater with some of the sandstone. They also proposed some items for the budget, a timeline and a proposed map and some grant options.

Peggy Portier was present representing the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society. Ms. Portier presented a certificate from their board who voted to recognize the Trustees for their ongoing support of their Historical Society as a permanent honorary business member.

Ms. Portier explained the Historical Society is having an issue with the upper level of the museum with the carpeting. The carpeting is about 30 years old and they are in need of new carpeting. They have received a quote from Solomon's carpet for \$6,869.00. They have received a grant for \$3,500.00. They are looking at seeking about \$2,600.00 to finish the project after the Historical Society commits to \$700. They would like to get the carpet in before they open for the season April 4<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Portier was there on behalf of the Historical Society to see if the Township would donate towards this project. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to donate \$3,000.00 to the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society. Seconded by Mr. Weltlich. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion 2015-0304-A carries 3-0.**

Glenn Dugger, attorney with Smith and Hale, 37 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio was present to give an update about Eastern Lakes Planned District. They thought they should re-evaluate where they are going with this plan as it was not reauthorized at the county level before the expiration date and must be amended before being resubmitted. There will be quite a bit of new engineering work to be done in order to resubmit the plan for consideration. MI Homes is in contract to purchase the site, but the farm house located on Refugee Road is not included in the contract. The new plan moves the entrance further to the west in order to avoid the farm house which at this time will remain. They have redesigned the layout of the homes and open space allowing for 49% open space. They would construct ponds and walking paths in the green space and connect the walking paths to the school located on the east side of the property. There would also be a street connection directly to the school property allowing access to the school without having to use Refugee Road. The name has also been changed to Herron Crossing.

Mr. Dunlap asked what type of material would be used on the walking paths and who would maintain them. Mr. Dugger said they would be asphalt and the homeowners association (HOA) would maintain them. Mr. Dunlap asked for clarification about the number of street connections to the east and Mr. Dugger confirmed that there were now two in the revised plan.

Mr. Dunlap asked about the radius on the sub-division's cul-de sac. Mr. Dugger said this would have to be worked out with staff and the county. Mr. Dunlap said he would like it to be 10 feet bigger or wider across the front so there is a place that we can make a turn with snowplows because as they are designed now with Fairfield County and us, if one vehicle parks there we cannot make a turn. If it is 10 feet bigger we can make the turn and have someplace to push the snow. Mr. Dugger said they have had a discussion with the technical review committee about the radius to accommodate emergency vehicles and snowplows and the overall right of way width. Mr. Duggers said that the cul-de-sac width could be addressed pretty easily. This overall right-of-way width is a discussion they will need to continue to have with the county. Mr. Dunlap reiterated his desire for the cul-de-sac to be 10 feet wider.

Mr. Weltlich asked what the relevant number of houses was for plan A versus plan B. Doug Tefler said the original plan had 145 and the new proposal had 187. They are increasing the density but providing more green space.

Mr. Dunlap asked if the individual landowners would be maintaining the green space adjoining their property or if the HOA would be responsible. Mr. Dugger said that part of the green space could be open meadow that would not be mowed and the HOA would mow the rest. The township would not be maintaining it. Mr. Dunlap expressed a concern about who would take care of overgrown brush. Mr. Dugger explained that more of the unmaintained area would be the wetlands that are on the back of the property. The center area and ponds would be maintained by the HOA.

Mr. Weltlich asked what the intentions with the landowner would be eventually in regard to the two acre parcel where his house is located. Doug Telfer said they have not approached him yet but they would be doing so soon to discuss options with easements and options with his property and right of way that will be needed.

Mr. Dunlap asked if they would put in a piece of sidewalk across the landowner's property along Refugee Road so that there is not a piece of sidewalk, a space and a piece of sidewalk. Mr. Dugger said they are willing to do the sidewalks if the property owner will concur.

**Public Comment:**  
None

**County Authorities:**

None

**Departmental Reports:**

**Fire Chief: Mike Little**

Chief Little reported he and Assistant Chief Paxton will be attending the Lancaster K of C Blue Coat dinner on March 9. Eric Taft will be the honoree for Violet Township.

Chief Little will be attending the Ohio Fire Chiefs Winter Symposium on March 17-18. This will be an opportunity to meet legislators and attend short presentations from various State agencies affecting the fire/EMS service.

Chief Little has begun work on the 5-year budget projections for the fire department. Help will be solicited from Brian, Melissa and Rockmill Financial Consulting for completion in the next couple of months.

Chief Little is supposed to be receiving documents for the MECC COG at Thursday's MECC meeting (barring cancellation due to weather).

Mr. Dunlap asked if Engine 3 was all complete. Chief Little said Engine 3 is up and running.

**Township Engineer: Greg Butcher**

Mr. Butcher said we should have sufficient salt supplies for the rest of the winter season.

Mr. Butcher and Mr. Eisel attended a meeting held at the Senior Center with the design firm, ADR and Associates, as well as Pickerington personnel. Potential parking layout concepts were discussed. Stormwater design, dumpster screening, parking space dimensions and setbacks (should the lot be expanded) were discussed. ADR will be preparing some preliminary layouts for future review.

Mr. Butcher reported he has spoken with Mr. Hackworth and informed him of where we are in the process.

Mr. Butcher reported Mingo Estates, Phase 2 will be advertised beginning March 11. Bids will be opened March 27 at the Administrative Office at 11:00 a.m.

Due to frozen ground and any additional precipitation we may receive, some standing water concerns are anticipated. We will address those areas of concerns (i.e. road ditches) proactively where they can.

Mr. Butcher and Mr. Eisel hope to wrap up interviews next week for the vacant road worker position.

MORPC has identified an intern candidate for us per the discussion at the planning session. He is from Kentucky but a student at Denison. Mr. Butcher hopes to meet with him in the next week or so after confirming his and Mr. Eisel's schedule.

An email relating to the annually required meeting with the Fairfield County Engineer with trustees and fiscal officers was distributed last week. The engineer has identified a period from March 23 to April 3 during normal business hours for the meeting to be scheduled.

**Director of Operations: John Eisel**

Mr. Eisel reported the Zoning Commission will be meeting March 31 at 7:30 p.m. to consider the proposed amendment to the Zoning Code in reference to Temporary Uses. There may be a need to schedule a special meeting of the Board of Trustees on April 22, 2015 for the Trustees to hold a public hearing, and then take action on the amendment at the May 6 Regular Trustee meeting.

We are still waiting to hear from BWC in regards to scheduling our premium audit.

We communicated with Representative Schaeffer in regards to the importance of HB 53, the Transportation Budget, and the benefits of the amendment that would allow local governments to increase the permissive motor vehicle license plate fee by \$5.00. The amendment was not added in the House, and the hope is that it will be added in the Senate. Mr. Dunlap asked Mr. Eisel to write a letter to Senator Troy Balderson in

support of this issue and be more specific about the \$5.00 fee and express how important this is to us.

Our required 2015 SERB Health Insurance Survey was completed and submitted.

Mr. Eisel has requested to meet with Scott Warwick in regards to facilitating our Strategic Planning for the Township.

Kelly Sarko, Terry Dunlap, Lt. Dave Belcher and Mr. Eisel attended a CEDA meeting on March 3 with Canal Winchester staff.

Greg Butcher did a nice job coordinating a meeting with City staff and ADR in regards to the needed work and scope of the Senior Center parking lot. There was some good dialog that happened.

Mr. Eisel has been invited by Mayor Ebert to participate in Canal Winchester's Annual CRA Building Tour to be held on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Eisel has been asked and will be presenting for the Chamber of Commerce LEADS class on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Chamber of Commerce luncheon on March 19<sup>th</sup> is the State of the Community Address. Mr. Weltlich will be speaking on behalf of the Township.

Mr. Eisel will try to get something scheduled so they can all meet with the County Engineers office for the annual meeting. The Trustees would like to meet as early in the morning as possible.

**Fiscal Officer:**

Mr. Sauer reported he had a resolution for consideration that was 'housekeeping' for the advance payment of the current tax collection for the County.

Mr. Sauer confirmed that early this morning we locked in our re-finance for our 2006 bond at 2.44%. We will realize an overall savings as a Township of just over \$230,000 on that bond. This will close a little later this month. **Mr. Myers made a motion to adopt Resolution 2015-0304-01 – Advance Payment Out of Current Tax Collection. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

**Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2015-0304-02 – To Adopt Revised Building and Zoning Fee Schedule. Seconded by Mr. Weltlich. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

Mr. Weltlich congratulated Ms. Sarko for doing a great job on the zoning for Temporary Uses.

**Trustee Reports:**

Mr. Dunlap explained he is part of the District 17 Integrating Committee and they will meet on March 19. He would like to nominate Greg Butcher to continue as our representative for the Township for District 17. The Trustees supported this.

Mr. Myers attended a District Advisory Council meeting. Our allocation that we will pay in 2016 to the Fairfield County Board of Health will be \$120,365.20. The amount we are paying for 2015 is \$116,269.20. Our allocation was increased by \$4,096.00. There had not been an increase in 3 years.

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

None

**Old Business**

None

**Tabled Business**

None

**New Business**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Violet Township Board of Trustees will be Wednesday, March 18, 2015 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 Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Motion carries 3-0.**

**Adjournment**

**Mr. Myers moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:41 p.m. Mr. Dunlap seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Motion carries 3-0. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Brian Sauer, Fiscal Officer

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Joniann Goldberg, Administrative  
Assistant

Approved by:

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Terry J. Dunlap, Sr., Trustee

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Harry W. Myers, Jr., Trustee

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Gary P. Weltlich, Trustee

Date: \_\_\_\_\_