

Violet Township Board of Trustees

December 21, 2016

Regular Meeting

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

Mr. Sauer called the role: Trustees Terry J. Dunlap, Sr.; Harry W. Myers, Jr., and Darrin Monhollen were present. Others present were: Director of Operations, John Eisel; Chief Mike Little; Assistant Chief Jim Paxton; and Township Engineer, Greg Butcher were present.

Mr. Dunlap asked students from Violet Elementary; Samavia Javed and Kohen Caminiti to lead the Trustees in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence honoring those who protect us here at home and abroad. Mr. Dunlap presented the students with Certificates of Appreciation and a Violet Township lapel pin.

Mr. Myers moved to approve, without public reading as submitted by the Fiscal Officer, the minutes of the Regular Trustee meeting of December 7, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mr. Myers yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion carries 3-0.

Public Comment:

None

County Authorities:

None

Departmental Reports:

Fire Chief: Chief Mike Little:

Chief Little gave some general updates.

1. Chief Little reported he and Mr. Myers will meet with the County Auditor on December 22 to discuss several TIFs that have been passed by the city recently. There is concern about the fire department not receiving tax dollars it would normally receive.
2. Chief Little gave an update on Station 591.
 - i. Twice monthly meetings have been scheduled beginning in January with the Building Committee, Robertson and KZF
 - ii. Setting up to heat the project so masonry work can continue. Expected to get most of the masonry work done in the next two weeks.
 - iii. Work continues on the walls; some plumbing and electrical underground work is also being done. Warm weather has allowed good progress.
3. Monthly report
 - i. Total runs are down 2.1% from last year at this time. However, we are already over 5000 runs this year counting the community medic runs. The 911 response runs are down, but runs are being diverted to the community medic as was expected.
 - ii. Patient transports are nearly identical to last year at this time.
 - iii. EMS receipts continue to lag behind this year, down 3.2%
4. Dodgeball at Harmon Road Middle School went well; our team of firefighters and the kids had fun.

Chief Little had 1 resolution for consideration. He explained James Blair has chosen to further his career in firefighting, and has accepted a position of full-time firefighter with the Columbus Division of Fire. James has requested a temporary leave of absence while he completes his training at the Columbus Fire Academy and his first several months of employment with the Columbus Division of Fire. **Mr. Myers made a motion to accept the requested temporary leave of absence of James Blair beginning**

January 9, 2017, through July 9, 2017. Resolution 2016-1221-04 – Firefighter Leave of Absence. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Discussion: Mr. Dunlap asked if he wanted to come back. Chief Little said he did. **Roll call vote: Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Dunlap asked how the soldier escort went Monday evening. Assistant Chief Paxton addressed the question and said they were notified about the event the previous Friday by Lt. Bowen. The FOP or PD had reached out to him and asked if the Fire Department could be a part of the procession as he (the returning soldier) got close to home. Initially Station 591 trucks were going to standby near the entrance to their neighborhood. Later Friday, they had asked for assistance from the Toy Drive folks. Jimmy Barber and Liz Smith got involved and made sure the children were well taken care of. By Monday afternoon this event began to take on a life of its own. Politicians and the media got involved and it just grew.

Chief Little added that, to date, we have spent \$1.54 million of the \$5 million bond fund for the new fire house. Mr. Dunlap asked if they were tracking this closely so we don't go over. Chief Little assured Mr. Dunlap they were, but they would still need money from the Capital Fund as planned. Mr. Dunlap asked if the money out of the Capital Fund had to be reported to the bond company if we overspent that. Chief did not believe so but Mr. Sauer said he would verify that with bond counsel. Mr. Dunlap said there was an issue in that regard when we built the Service Center.

Township Engineer: Greg Butcher

Mr. Butcher reported he was at the Senior Center this afternoon and it appears that looking at the ground that South Central Power has wired the exterior lights. He was not sure if they were working yet. Mr. Dunlap will check on his way home. Mr. Eisel added that the first pole light on the west side was on earlier in the week.

Mr. Butcher reported a draft of the 2017 paving program is being developed for presentation to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Butcher asked if the Board had any objection to consideration of merging our 2017 paving program with the City of Pickerington's to allow for a potential cost savings based on the size of the combined contract (2 million +/-). Mr. Dunlap said if we partnered with the City of Pickerington on the bid then whoever is letting the bid would have a bigger contract and we might get a lower price. Also, the scheduling of our paving and their paving would be coordinated. Mr. Butcher said agreed. Mr. Dunlap said if we went out to bid with a bigger package we might get more participation in the bid process. Mr. Monhollen agreed to do merging with the city. Mr. Myers said the only drawback he saw was that, since he has been with the Township, we have always used a certain contractor and if someone else would come in to bid we might have to use another. Mr. Butcher explained that we have used a different contractor in the past. Mr. Myers said he had no problem with it, but to be careful and make sure it is totally separated. Mr. Dunlap asked, if it goes through, do we have to accept our bid separately from the City's? Mr. Butcher said yes, they would word the contract accordingly. He will keep the trustee's informed. Mr. Dunlap asked if the city would be ready to go to bid by the time we are. Mr. Butcher said yes, the city is ahead of us and almost ready to go to bid now.

Mr. Butcher, Mr. Eisel, Chief Paxton and Mr. Dunlap met with ODOT personnel, various county agencies and Pickerington to discuss the US 33 corridor and transportation planning. ODOT continues to strive towards a limited access highway and is requesting our input. The next meeting is scheduled for February 23. Mr. Dunlap added it was a very productive meeting and ODOT was listening and participating. ODOT finally agreed to leave Lockville Road as a right in-right out access for the time being. If this creates a traffic issue with US 33, they will gate it and the county can unlock it to let their salt trucks in. After dumping, the salt trucks can leave by making a right turn onto US 33 and use the interchange at Carroll to head back north. This will save Fairfield County 2.3 to 2.5 million dollars.

This past weekend was very active with snow and ice removal, a downed tree and isolated flooding of streets.

Mr. Butcher had one resolution regarding the Ault Road corridor from Pickerington Road to SR 204 internally with respect to existing volume of traffic as well as projected volume of traffic. Mr. Butcher felt it was time to do a preliminary study to look at some concepts of what it could look like in the future. We have a firm that did work on this about 15 years ago and they have a lot of the data from that study. **Mr. Monhollen made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-1221-03 – Authorize Violet Township Engineer to Contract for Engineering Design Services with ADR and Associates. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Myers asked how we were doing on road salt. Mr. Butcher said there is about 500 tons in the barn right now which is certainly enough to last through several events. We have gotten 250 tons of the 1100 ton contract. We have used more than expected to this point, but he thinks we will be fine unless the weather is unusually bad. The cost this year is \$47.23 per ton which is much less than last year.

Mr. Dunlap asked Mr. Butcher to look at Amanda Northern Rd and Benadum Rd. He has had two phone calls from residents that live on Benadum. They are saying that when they have been making a turn from Benadum Road they have almost gotten hit by cars on Amanda Northern Rd. There is no traffic control sign on Benadum nor is there anything on Amanda Northern Road south of Benadum. Mr. Dunlap said we need to look at that and put the appropriate signage some place at that intersection to alleviate the situation before there is an accident. Mr. Butcher clarified for the board that the section of Amanda Northern Rd south of Benadum Rd is gravel, serves one house, and is basically a driveway. He will look into it and take care of the situation.

Mr. Dunlap also told Mr. Butcher to thank the road crew for this past weekend and the great job they did handling the snow events.

Director of Operations: John Eisel

Mr. Eisel reported he attended the annual meeting for the Fairfield 33 Corridor on December 16th. Updates included a presentation on the economy by Dr. Joel Elvery from the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. Some key points were – the Columbus area is well positioned as a key logistics hub with a day drive to 45% of the US population; Columbus's population growth is 10 times Ohio's growth rate and 50% higher than the nation; the employment rate in Central Ohio is 7.5% higher than prior to the recession; and the Columbus MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) remains strong and steady in employment, housing and GDP.

After discussion with several residents, we are working with WOW and AT&T to increase the number of cable providers in our area. We have provided both companies with maps and population data for our area. Mr. Eisel explained this came about after a resident from Haaf Farm complained about limited service options. Both companies were receptive.

We have received many calls and emails that Alpha Waste has sent their Violet Township customers a letter notifying them that effective January 1, 2017 they will no longer provide service.

The Fairfield County Prosecutor's office has agreed to continue as our Legal Counsel. Mr. Eisel had the 2017 contract and there is a resolution for consideration.

Mr. Eisel is working with Chief Deputy Perrigo to get the 2017 deputy contract from the Sheriffs Office. It is currently at the Prosecutor's office for review.

Terms for one member of the Zoning Commission and one member of the Board of Zoning Appeals will expire 12-31-2016. Both have served in the past and have requested to continue their service.

The Senior Center Board discussed when they will go on the ballot to renew their 0.2 mill, 5 year levy. They are currently considering the fall of 2017.

A meeting was held on 12-14 for MECC RCOG. Several updates of the By-Laws have been proposed to be acted upon at the first meeting of 2017. Primarily the changes are all terminology so everyone is on the same page.

We have received our annual MORPC dues statement for 2017 at a cost of \$6,713.69 which is based on our population. Mr. Eisel has also provided a copy of their return on investment. There was a resolution for consideration.

We received our 2018 quote for our BWP group rating through the Ohio Township Association which is projected to save us \$26,733. Our estimated premium for 2018 is \$73,236. The cost to participate is \$5,987.00. There was a resolution for consideration.

As a reminder, the 2017 OTA Winter Conference is January 25-28, 2017 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

On December 28th the Trustees will have their special meeting for end of year business at 10:00 a.m. at the Administrative Offices.

The first resolution was to reappoint Mr. Mark Decker to a term on the Violet Township Zoning Commission beginning 1/1/2017 through 12/31/2021. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-1221-01 – To Reappoint Mark Decker to Term on the Violet Township Zoning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

The second resolution was to hire the prosecuting attorney's office to serve as law director for 2017. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-1221-02 – Hire Prosecuting Attorney's Office to Serve as Law Director for 2017. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

The third resolution was to authorize membership and payment of the 2017 MORPC dues at a cost of \$6,713.69. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-1221-06 – To Authorize 2017 Membership and Dues for Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

The fourth resolution was to authorize CareWorksComp as our BWC Group rating program for 2018. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-1221-07 – Authorize CareWorksComp as our BWC Group Rating Program for 2018. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Dunlap asked if we had put anything on the township website about the issue with Alpha Waste cancelling trash service December 31st. Mr. Eisel explained that it was considered, but not done, because the letter Alpha Waste sent to residents instructed them to call the township office and gave our phone number. We don't expect residents to be going to the website about it. There is information on the website already about the new Local Waste contract.

Brian Sauer, Fiscal Officer

Mr. Sauer asked that the resolution for the 2017 permanent appropriations listed on the agenda be removed. All trustees agreed. A new resolution will be presented at the special trustee meeting on December 28, 2016. He asked that if the trustees have any questions about the 2017 appropriations, that they contact him or the fiscal assistant before the special meeting. He will bring any last minute changes to their attention.

Trustee Reports

Mr. Monhollen reported that the Food Pantry provided over 300 Christmas food baskets. Help with the distribution was provided by the Pickerington High School Central Basketball team and a motorcycle club. The pantry served 601 people in October. This equates to 14,424 meals.

A new branch of the Pickerington Public Library is planned across the street from Pickerington High School North.

Meetings (where there may be more than one Trustee present): None

Old Business: None

Tabled Business: None

New Business: The Violet Township Board of Trustees will meet in special session on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Violet Township Administrative offices for the purpose of conducting year-end business.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Violet Township Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Violet Township Administrative offices.

Pay Bills:

Mr. Monhollen made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion carries 3-0.

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. (after a 10 minute recess) ORC Section 121.22(G)(1) to discuss personnel issues. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Monhollen, Yes. Motion carries 3-0.

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:09 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion carries 3-0.

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Brian C. Sauer, Fiscal Officer

Joniann Goldberg, Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

Terry J. Dunlap, Sr., Trustee

Darrin Monhollen, Trustee

Harry W. Myers, Jr., Trustee

Date: _____