

Violet Township Board of Trustees

**April 2, 2008
Regular Meeting**

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

Mr. Smith called the roll and Mr. Dunlap, Mr. Myers, and Mr. Weltlich were present. Other Township employees present were: Greg Butcher, Township Engineer, Bill Yaple, Director of Operations and John Eisel, Assistant Fire Chief.

Mr. Dunlap asked the audience to join with him in the Pledge of Allegiance and to remain standing for a moment of silence in honor of those that safeguard our freedoms around the world and our public safety officers here at home.

Mr. Dunlap asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Mr. Weltlich moved, seconded by Mr. Myers to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2008 Regular Meeting without public reading as submitted by the Fiscal Officer. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Minutes approved.

Recognition of Guests:

Mr. Dunlap introduced Bernice Cage and Kerstin Carr from MORPC who were here to present the CapitalWays Transportation Plan.

Ms. Carr explained they update the transportation plan every four years. The recent 'draft' plan was completed in January. Then it is sent out for public review thru April 11th. The plan is revised based on these comments and then back to the board and MORPC adopts the plan in May. It is then sent to ODOT and FHWA and they adopt the plan in August. This plan identifies project and strategies related to transportation needs from now through 2030.

Mr. Dunlap noted that the Fire Department will soon have completed their traffic preemption for all traffic signals in Violet Township. We have a grant submitted for the remaining lights that need the pre-emption controls.

David Retter, the Watershed Coordinator for Blacklick, Rocky Fork Creeks and MORPC introduced himself.

Jim DeLucas from OTARMA was present. He reported our renewal is coming up April 7th and our rates have stayed the same.

Mr. Weltlich made a motion to increase our liability with OTARMA from 6 to 8 million dollars. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion A2008-0402 passed 3-0.

Mr. Weltlich made a motion to contract with OTARMA for insurance for the year 2008-2009. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion B2008-0402 passed 3-0.

Public Comment:

Mr. De Long, a longtime resident of Violet Township was not present; but he asked that Mr. Yaple present a picture that he found on a Humble Oil & Refining Company calendar. He had it enlarged and framed and he wanted it presented to the Road Department to place in the new Maintenance Building. Mr. Dunlap read a letter of appreciation from Mr. De Long, acknowledging the Road Department for the all the hard work they do throughout the year.

County Authorities:

None

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Departmental Reports:

Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief John Eisel was present as Chief Taylor was in Washington attending a National Fire Chief Board meeting.

Assistant Chief Eisel stated they have been busy getting all of the grant information together as this is the final week for the Federal Grant applications. MECC is actively pursuing a few different grants. One is for communications equipment that will allow them to access the statewide Marks communication system as well as the Columbus 800 megahurst analog system with one radio. The other grant was intended to be a regional grant but due to the roles the grant had to be rewritten. The intent of the grant will be for a mobile command and communications vehicle that is being applied for by Violet Twp. Fire, but with the intent that it will be shared with all of the 6 MECC agencies.

Mr. Weltlich explained he and Chief Assistant Eisel had been part of a sub committee of MECC appointed by Mifflin Township Trustees to negotiate a 'Stonehenge' lease for a new MECC Center. The Trustees approved this with several contingencies. One of the contingencies was that MECC participants, fire chiefs or the representatives have to put together the cost of the lease (moving, refurbishing) and then have to bring up an updated contract. The Mifflin Township Trustees want a resolution signed by the Director of Operations and Fire Chief committing to a 5 year contract renewable for five year increments up to a total of 15 years. The Trustees have to pass a resolution authorizing the Fire Chief and Director of Operations to enter into this contract. Resolutions will be done within the next few weeks. Mr. Dunlap explained to the audience that MECC stood for Metropolitan Emergency Communication Center.

Township Engineer

Mr. Butcher reported that the Busey Road realignment project is out for bid. We open bids April 11 at 11:30 am.

Mr. Butcher attended a two day workshop put on by the Bureau of Workers Compensation on safety.

Director of Operations

Mr. Yaple reported there was a list of noxious weeds letters in the Trustees boxes. They will be going out to the residents very soon.

The MORPC open house is tomorrow evening from 4-7pm at MORPC off of Front Street.

Mr. Yaple had passed out information as to the cost of a bond. In the past in our insurance program, the bond for the Trustees and office people who handle money are covered in our liability insurance policy. However a few years ago the state said if you have a budget of 'x' number of dollars the Fiscal Officers need to be covered at a higher level. This cost us another \$1000 in bonds for the Fiscal Officer.

The Ribbon Cutting/Groundbreaking ceremony for the new Maintenance Building will happen April 25th at noon. There will be information going out regarding this. This will be for the groundbreaking ceremony. Mr. Yaple would like the Trustees input on this.

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The streamside letters the Trustees signed will start going out next week. There are about 70 sections that Fairfield Soil and Water will walk. The Sheriffs Department will know about this activity as well as the Fire Department.

Mr. Yapple and Mr. Dunlap met with Blake Rafeld, the landscape architect regarding the Master Plan for the Pifer property. Mr. Yapple expects to have something later this week to go to Canal Winchester. He will also have information back on the complete landscaping plan for the new Maintenance facility.

The annexation of 6070 Lithopolis Winchester Road will be coming before the Commissioners on April 8th at 10am. Mr. Yapple will attend this hearing. Mr. Dunlap pointed out that on the petition it just said 6070 Lithopolis Road and left out Lithopolis Winchester Road. Mr. Yapple will check this out.

On the Snider Thornton annexation, our legal counsel, Ms. Carter filed the brief in response to the brief filed by the appellant to the fifth district court. The conclusion was that the original lower court did not error in their newer decisions and appelled the law in a correct way.

We attended the hearing along with the Poffs for the Club 33 hearing. It was informative. Mr. Loveland did a good job in attempting to turn some heads. It may be 30 to 45 days before we hear something back from the Liquor Commission.

There has not been any movement on House Bill 458 which clarifies expenditures from the General Fund on Road and Bridge.

Mr. Yapple stated as of noon today the governor and speaker Husted came together in the 'Omnibus Bill' in creation of jobs and agreed on the 1.5 billion dollar funding level. Of that 1.5 billion dollars the only piece that will go to the voters is the Ohio Public Works piece which is somewhere between 500 and 600 million. The legislative process will take care of the rest.

Along with what MORPC spoke about this evening, Mr. Yapple put a letter in the Trustees boxes on Ride Share. The City of Pickerington, Violet Township and the Pickerington Chamber of Commerce are working together to try to get some park and ride locations together within the 256 Canal Winchester area so we can help eliminate some traffic congestion on 70 and 33 by sharing rides. This will put two people in a vehicle. They will start meeting with businesses in the area.

Mr. Yapple looked into the letter Mr. Weltlich had received on burial funds. The state is taking the funds they had and now they will throw this onto the township. Mr. Yapple spent time with Jim Sheridan of Spence Funeral Home. He would like to discuss this further and meet with Mr. Sheridan and one or more of the Trustees.

Mr. Yapple reported our 'Hometown Hero', Allison Wendt will be honored again on April 16 at the MORPC annual meeting.

Mr. Yapple talked with Ohio University and we hope to have a letter from them giving us access to their property when we get ready to put the tornado siren in. They do not have a signed easement back from the governor yet.

Mr. Weltlich asked about the information he received from the Senior Center. Mr. Yapple stated they are trying to develop a 5 year plan so they can determine what kind of funding they will need. There is information on other senior centers in the

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area and what kind of funding they get. Our senior center is the only one in the area that is not part of a parks and rec program and that the staff and building is not maintained by the parks and rec department. This will come before the Trustees in the next 6 to 8 months. Mr. Dunlap asked Mr. Yapple to set up a meeting to include Mr. Weltlich and the Senior Center officers.

Mr. Weltlich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2008-0402-01 – Modification of Employee Policy Manual. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution 2008-0402-01 is passes 3-0.

Home Rule Resolutions:

None

Motions to Be Considered:

None

Mr. Weltlich reported he was contacted by Victor Piney to ask for donations for 'Adventures for Wish Kids' and the City of Pickerington has agreed to match whatever donation we make. **Mr. Weltlich moved that the Township donate \$1000.00. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Myers, yes. Motion 2008-C0402 is passed, 3-0.** Mr. Weltlich stated he would like for one or more of the Trustees to attend but he needs to know by tomorrow. This will be this Friday evening at the Riffe Center.

Fiscal Officer

Mr. Smith thanked the Trustees for allowing him to get some 'on the job' training over the last few months as well as Jim Van Kannel for his time and former assistant, Beth Shively for her time. Mr. Smith thanked his new assistant, Rochelle Menningen for her help too. Mr. Smith stated there would be some processes changes as they go forth to help the operation run smoother. He had the last paid payroll as well as the payroll for tomorrow.

Mr. Weltlich stated he would like to have a weekly or bi-weekly report of the investments.

Trustees Reports

None

Trustees Out of Office Meetings

Mr. Dunlap will be attending the kickoff for the new Pickerington Magazine tomorrow evening as well as Mr. Myers.

Old Business

None

Tabled Business

Resolution 2008-0319-03

Mr. Myers moved to remove Resolution 2008-0319-03 from the table. Seconded by Mr. Weltlich. Roll call vote: Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion D2008-0319 is passed, 3-0.

Mr. Dunlap moved to adopt Resolution 2008-0319-03 – Purchase Vehicle for Building Department. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap,

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yes; Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes. Resolution 2008-0319-03 is adopted 3-0.

New Business

None

Mr. Myers moved to pay the bills. Seconded by Mr. Weltlich. Roll call vote: Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Myers moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Weltlich. Roll call vote: Mr. Myers, yes; Mr. Weltlich, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Smith, Fiscal Officer

Joniann Goldberg, Administrative Assistant

Approved By:

Terry J. Dunlap, Sr., Chairman

Harry W. Myers, Jr., Vice-Chairman

Gary P. Weltlich, Trustee

Date:_____