

## Violet Township Board of Trustees

February 20, 2019

Regular Meeting

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

**Mr. Sauer called the roll: Mr. Darrin Monhollen, Mrs. Melissa Wilde and Mr. Terry Dunlap, Sr. were present. Other Township Personnel present were: Director of Operations, John Eisel; Director of Development, Holly Mattei; Assistant Chief, Jim Paxton and Engineer, Greg Butcher. Chief Little was absent.**

Mr. Monhollen asked everyone to join him in the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence honoring those who have given us all our freedom here at home and abroad.

**Mr. Dunlap made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2019 Regular meeting without public reading as submitted by the Fiscal Office. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Motion carries 3-0.**

**Mr. Dunlap made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 11, 2019 Special meeting without public reading as submitted by the Fiscal Office. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Motion carries 3-0.**

**Mr. Dunlap made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 14, 2019 Special meeting without public reading as submitted by the Fiscal Office. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Motion carries 3-0.**

### **Public Comment:**

William Hawbecker, Jr. of 9230 Preakness Place in Pickerington was present. Mr. Hawbecker said it appears things are moving quickly with the Community Center and said minutes and results of previous meetings have not been available. He said there were many concerns of what is in the Feasibility Study and feels people need to understand what it is all about. He said the only place he has seen information available is on our website and facebook and said he has seen a few articles in *This Week* but not everyone gets that paper. He respectfully asked that the Trustees engage the Fairfield County Board of Elections to remove it from the May ballot and reconsider for the November ballot. He said the things people need to make an important decision do not exist and they are not publicly available.

Mr. Eisel explained we would be happy to get any minutes to him as we just transitioned to a new website. Mrs. Mattei added that in the Feasibility Study they had 8 focus groups that helped form this and the minutes of the Focus Group meetings are on the website as well.

Norm Hopkins of 11300 Milnor Road, Pickerington was present. He wanted to speak about the ballot and the resolution. He said he understands that townships have a different way of doing things than the City regarding a levy. He received the ballot from the Board of Elections and said it says basically what the resolution says about the parks and recreation but nothing about the community center and that bothers him. He feels they should notify the residents of the way it is. He said in order to be fair to the public we have to give them good hard information.

Mr. Eisel said it fell under the Parks and Recreation Levy because it was the best place to fit in the Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Eisel added the gentleman sitting behind him actually helped write that language for the ballot and he was from the Prosecutor's Office. Mr. Eisel explained our levy's are silo'd. For example when you vote and pass a Fire Levy it has to be used for fire equipment. With a road levy you cannot buy a fire

truck. With our levy you cannot do anything outside those bounds. Our commitment is that it will go to the Community Center. Mrs. Mattei added that as far as information, there is an Information Session on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Hawbecker asked if they will talk about how the facility will be operated and what is the plan for operation. He wants to know the clock hours.

Cathy Jensen of 10010 Oxford Drive, Pickerington was present. She wanted information; specifically the Wolfe purchase and the Community Center. She said she learned about it from the 'Next Door App' and it concerns her that she didn't learn about it before. She feels it is too early to put this on the ballot as it is a major impact tax wise to everyone in the community. She would like to slow this down and educate people. Mrs. Jensen asked if they could tape the informational meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> because she will not be able to attend. Mrs. Wilde said it will be on the u-tube channel. Mr. Dunlap said once it is on the ballot there is a big separation between what we can say and do and be involved. There is a committee that is going to be promoting this and getting the information out there. Mrs. Jensen said the information just has not gotten out there. Mrs. Mattei added we put information of the last public meeting in the trash bills. She said they have had over 30 meetings. Mrs. Jensen wondered why they don't know of these meetings. Mr. Eisel said we have used social media, our website, and the Pickerington magazine. Mrs. Jensen will contact Mrs. Mattei to learn more about the levy. Mr. Dunlap advised her that there were no Levies or taxes imposed for the Wigwam purchase.

Lee Parker of 12869 Fox Run Court, Pickerington was present. Mr. Parker said they have known about this for a long time and learned about it through numerous avenues and he personally feels comfortable with it. He does like the idea of understanding more about the operating portion.

Kevin Kemper of 1054 Milford Drive, Pickerington was present. Mr. Kemper said he has been following this for the past 6 to 7 months. He has seen articles in the paper, in the magazine and online. He believes this will be a positive investment and at this point it will create a vibrant community and will be a good investment for the majority of people in the community and feels it should stay on the May ballot.

Jean Parker of 12869 Fox Run Court in Pickerington was present. Mrs. Parker thanked the Trustees for their advocacy to make the Township a more attractive place for people to invest. She did feel they could get the word out better that it is not just a swimming pool or a recreation center but it is a Community Center and there will be spaces for family and community organizations and that we will have the opportunity to do a lot more than just have a track or have a pool. After listening to other people's concerns she believes there should be more clarity on the mechanics of how the land donation is going to work and the time boundaries of that.

**County Authorities:**

Assistant Prosecutor, Josh Horczak was present.

**Departmental Reports:**

**Fire Chief: Mike Little (Assistant Chief Paxton filled in)**

Assistant Chief Paxton presented a Proclamation to Battalion Chief Greg Goodwin for his years of dedication and service with Ohio Task Force One. He recently completed his tenure with this organization, after serving for 10 years.

Assistant Chief Paxton reported we had the same track with our run volume for the month as we did last year at this time.

Our Fire Safety Inspectors have started their annual review of restaurants and bars within the jurisdiction.

Our EMS transports have modestly increased.

Chief Little will be attending the Ohio Fire Chiefs Winter Symposium on March 5-6.

The first resolution is to adopt 2019-0220-01 for the purchase of a medic chassis. It will replace medic 592 which will then go to reserve.

The second resolution is for the annual Blue Card update for the instructor-student support and continuing education renewal.

**Mr. Dunlap made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0220-01 – Purchase New Medic Chassis. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

**Mrs. Wilde made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0220-02 – Fire Department Blue Card Annual Instructor-Student Support and Continuing Education Renewal Fee. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Dunlap asked about the Chassis and if it would get them in the line quicker. Chief Paxton said it gets in the line quicker and they will probably save a few thousand dollars as well.

#### **Township Engineer, Greg Butcher**

Mr. Butcher reported potholes are being filled daily as needed.

On February 15, a meeting was held with personnel from the County Engineers Office, County Economic Development, Regional Planning and City of Pickerington regarding the US33 to I 70 concept. The focus of the meeting was to gather input from the Fairfield County stakeholders. The next step in this preliminary process will be to reconvene with representatives of MORPC to gather additional information on the best way to move forward with required studies and evaluation for the conceptual roadway. This project would not be funded with tax dollars. We look for federal funding for this type of project.

Mr. Butcher provided the Board a preliminary list of roads scheduled for resurfacing in 2019. The roads and proposed treatment were summarized on a spreadsheet. Mr. Butcher explained this will be the third year of a five year levy that was passed. This allows the public to hold us accountable. Mr. Butcher pointed out he put together a spreadsheet listing streets for potential treatment using data from a pavement condition rating; an evaluation we did a few years ago, visual observations as well as looking at the last time these streets were treated. Mr. Butcher said we have more streets available for treatment than we have money to resurface them. Mr. Butcher asked the Board to review this list and comment, ask questions, and share the information. Mr. Butcher said he is still fine tuning the budget and once they have the final 2018 numbers (including the carryover) in conjunction with our revenue projections for the first quarter, which will allow him to advertise and speak more intelligently on the budget. Mr. Butcher would like to present that resolution for consideration at the next meeting.

Mr. Dunlap said he believes we need to go back and re-visit what we've got in the paving program because we still have a lot of streets that have not been paved that were last paved prior to 1990. If we let them go too much longer we will lose them and really be behind trying to catch up. He would like to have a meeting so they can 'tweak' this better to get some of these other streets done.

Mr. Butcher agreed with what Mr. Dunlap said and stated we have fulfilled our commitment of almost three years worth of revenue in two years. He feels this is something to be proud of, however, this does not diminish the fact that we have a need to continue looking for those grants and stay engaged with state government as they look at a potential gas tax. Once we review our 2018 numbers we can sit down and carve out our plan for 2019.

Mr. Monhollen asked Mr. Butcher (since there was a large audience) to explain how they determine what streets to pave and let them know how much of the levy money has been spent on something besides paving streets. Mr. Butcher explained that the money

from the Road Levy that was passed three years ago generates about \$800,000.00 a year. Every dollar that we have received we have put into blacktop. We have four sources of funding; gas tax, a permissive license tax, a motor vehicle license registration and we have a Road and Bridge Fund which is derived from a very small portion of real estate taxes. The balance of what we have spent has been obtained from those other funding sources. He explained they get to the list he prepares by observation, changes, traffic volume, pavement condition; evaluation done by a third party and this is all pulled together. We put a budget together and that is based on other available data from other jurisdictions within Central Ohio.

Mr. Dunlap asked if Mr. Butcher had a chance to talk with the schools. Mr. Butcher said he did not but he will. Mr. Dunlap stated that since the City of Pickerington had decided to do their own thing and will not be participating in the combined paving bid process, if he had contacted the schools to see if they had any paving projects that they wanted to include in a combined paving bid with us.

#### **Director of Operations – John Eisel**

##### **Wigwam Update:**

- The Lodge lighting conversion is complete with the exception of the dimmers that will be installed soon.
- Entry and interior pass through doors are expected to be installed the week of March 4.
- Site work for the courtyard – Conduit for future electric to this area and drainage work has resumed with the good weather. They started working on this yesterday.
- Glass is being installed in several places
- The painting of the Administrative offices is complete
- Once office construction is completed, they will move over to the Lodge to finish
- Koorsen toured the complex to service the fire extinguishers and hood systems.
- SDG Security will be there tomorrow to perform the annual fire alarm testing for the theater.
- There are a number of signage requirements we have had to prepare for the event on Friday evening.
- Once the doors are installed in our offices; the carpet is there. They have been waiting to install the carpeting until the other construction items get done.

Mr. Eisel had 2 resolutions for consideration regarding the Community Center. One was to establish membership fees and the other to authorize the Director of Operations to sign the Memo of Understanding in regards to the land donation.

The Food Pantry Gala event is March 30. Mr. Eisel had a resolution for consideration for 2019 sponsorships.

The Chamber of Commerce is putting on the State of the Community luncheon on March 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be 20 minutes allotted to share plans and progress.

Mr. Eisel reported the week of February 17 through the 23<sup>rd</sup> is National Engineers Week and he wished Mr. Butcher well and thanked him for all he does.

Mr. Eisel also recognized the road crew for the awesome job they have been doing with all the weather changes we have had.

**Mrs. Wilde made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0220-03 – Authorize Director of Operations Sign Memo of Understanding Related to Land Donation for Proposed Community Center. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap.** Discussion: Mrs. Wilde asked how someone could obtain this information. Mr. Eisel said they just need to request it from Holly Mattei. She also asked if someone could talk about the high points for the people who were in the audience. Mr. Eisel said this consisted of a Memo of Understanding that was drafted between our Bond Counsel, our Law Director as well as

the Ricketts family legal consultations. They are donating approximately 30 acres as described in Exhibit B. We have responsibilities upon us for conditions on approval of the levy. We will have to take substantial steps to complete the financing which would be dependent upon the passage of the levy because once those revenues are passed, to begin the project we will bond the project. We will leverage that 25 years of revenue for the financing. Norm Hopkins asked if this was for May 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Eisel said it was. He said Exhibit B talks about our Feasibility Study. He said the only thing the Ricketts placed in there was that we would agree to provide appropriate and mutually agreeable recognition to John and Rita Ricketts for the charitable contribution. He added that all legal counsels felt that this MOU was the best vehicle to use.

Josh Horczak, from the Prosecutor's office said while this is a preliminary step in the donation process, it is moving forward. **Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

The second resolution was to Establish Membership Rates for the Proposed Community Center. Mr. Eisel thanked Norm Hopkins for his input on Silver Sneakers and said a lot of people did a lot of research to come up with these numbers. **Mrs. Wilde made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0220-04 – Establish Membership Rates for the Proposed Community Center. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap.** Discussion: Mrs. Mattei gave a quick rundown of the fees. She explained regarding the fees they sat down with Mrs. Tremblay from the Fiscal Office as well as our consultant, Moody, Nolan to understand what the other communities are paying. Understanding that our residents will be paying a property tax, we wanted to make sure that the fees were lower than the other communities that do not pay property taxes; they pay an income tax. They were able to adjust lower. For example: a family of 4 in the City of Dublin; their fee is \$520.00 a year. If this resolution is approved then in Violet Township a family of 4 would be \$195.00 a year. If a non-resident would want to come in and buy an annual pass, that same family of 4 pass would be \$950.00 because they are not paying the property tax that Violet Township residents would be paying. Mrs. Mattei added that seniors 65 and over are zero dollars right now. They are still exploring the Silver Sneakers program. If they are able to be reimbursed by Silver Sneakers for a charge then we will have whatever that charge is and then get reimbursed by Silver Sneakers. If we are unable to do that the proposal is to keep it at zero dollars for all Senior Citizens within Violet Township. **Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Monhollen thanked Mrs. Mattei for all her help and hard work in making all this information available for residents so they can make a very clear and transparent decision in regards to their support.

**Fiscal Officer – Brian Sauer:**

Mr. Sauer said he and Mrs. Tremblay will meet up on Saturday and go to some of the banks to get more access as far as other individuals that can access those accounts and do things when he is not available due to his work responsibilities.

**Trustee Reports:**

Mrs. Wilde reported she met with the park board. The Senior Center met with them on Thursday and they are still discussing expansion. She said they spoke to Mr. Butcher. Mr. Butcher said they were talking about a parking lot expansion; not an expansion of the building. Mrs. Wilde said they want more space for some other events. She feels the Wigwam would serve them well. Mr. Eisel added they have had requests to book the Wigwam for groups of 25 and 50 and we have been referring them to the Senior Center because the Wigwam capacity is far greater than for just 25 to 50 people.

Mr. Monhollen spoke with Mr. Hackworth from the Senior Center. Mr. Monhollen hopes they will 'warm up' to the use of the Wigwam for certain events.

**Meetings where there may be more than one (1) Trustee present:**

February 22 and 23 is Night of Broadway at the Wigwam at 7:00pm. Seating at 6:30 p.m.

**Old Business:** None

**Tabled Business:** None

**New Business:** The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Violet Township Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Violet Township Administrative offices.

**Pay Bills:**

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

**Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Motion carries 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.**

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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Darrin Monhollen, Trustee

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Melissa Wilde., Trustee

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