

Violet Township Board of Trustees

May 1, 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; Chief, Mike Little; Assistant Chief, Jim Paxton; Engineer, Greg Butcher and Josh Horacek, Law Director.

Mr. Monhollen asked the audience 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 as submitted by the Fiscal Office without public reading, the minutes of 4-17-2019 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 as submitted by the Fiscal Office without public reading, the minutes of 4-17-2019 Public Hearing for Case Number 01-ZC-2019. 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 adjust the agenda and go directly to Mike Little, Fire Chief because of what they have for this meeting and then go back to the original agenda. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes. Motion carries 3-0.

Fire Chief: Mike Little

Chief Little reminded everyone about the Open House for Lieutenant Belcher on Friday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Station 592.

Chief Little will be meeting with Huckleberry House in Columbus. He was approached to become a Safe Place for destination for children. We would be a 'go between' for a short time.

There was a Proclamation for Building Safety Month.

The first resolution was to accept the retirement and reclassification of Lt. Dave Belcher effective May 3, 2019. He has been a huge asset for the Fire Department. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0501-01 – Lt. Dave Belcher Retirement and Reclassification. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Discussion:** Mr. Dunlap asked if this had to be a unanimous vote to be approved. **Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes with regrets; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Belcher came up to the podium and read a note of thanks to the Trustees and Fire Department. Mr. Dunlap thanked him for his service and making him 'proud'.

The next resolution was to appoint Charles Kilger to the of full-time Firefighter/EMT Basic, with the stipulation that he shall pass paramedic school and attain his paramedic certification within 36 months of employment. The effective date of appointment shall be May 13, 2019. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0501-02 – Appoint Full-Time Firefighter – Charlie Kilger. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Monhollen presented the Oath of Office for Charles Kilger.

Public Comment:

Mr. Monhollen said for organizational purposes and respect everyone who speaks will be limited to 5 minutes per participants. Staff will alert participants at the 4 minute mark. He said public comment is not an open dialog and it is not customary that elected officials respond. He will make an exception tonight and allow a response in the 'new business' portion of the meeting if the trustees choose to do so. He thanked all participants in advance for their thoughtful comments. If they want to address the Trustees on business not currently before one of the Township's recommending boards or currently scheduled public hearing. Mr. Monhollen also added if they have anyone that prefers to submit their testimony in writing and have it entered into the public record to speak that is also permissible.

Daniel Beard of 11783 Covington Court, Pickerington, Ohio 43147 was present and had several questions. This is Exhibit A that was entered into the record.

Submitted for the Record from Mr. Daniel Beard
May 7, 2019

May 1st VT meeting

Vanessa Niekamp, Executive Director for the Pickerington Food Pantry, got \$32,000 donations at a fundraiser at the Wigwam. For every \$1 donated they can buy \$11 in food.

Q. Who knows about the \$32,000 in donations? I checked and the only place I saw this was in the Trustee minutes. Apr. 3rd. People should know the benefits of owning the Wigwam. Suggestion: Blow your own horn, tell us about the Good news.

Q. Do all of Our residents have a high disposable Income?

A. NO

Sound great when we are trying to attract business to locate here? Per the 2017 Census Reporter in Violet Township 1708 Persons are living below the poverty line in Violet Township. The Pickerington Food Pantry served 7713 people in 2018, an increase of more than 1000 over the previous year. Nearly 8000 people so far.

Q. Do people know that the Pickerington Schools has a program year policy for free and reduced-price meals for students unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast?

Q. How many people in VT are on a fixed income? How many are seniors? How many families live just above the poverty level? How will an increase in property tax affect them?

Q. Have you heard about the scams from companies like PAYDAY LOANS, or NO CREDIT CHECKS, SAME DAY SERVICE. Warning: If you suspect you've given information or money to a scammer, file a police report ...

Statement: It's well known that there are schemes that operate on a daily basis all around the world but not talked about. Low-income people aren't getting quality news and information. The May 7th vote is a case where not only the low-income people aren't getting quality news and information but very few are. So far I have discovered 10 different websites where we can find information, some true and some not...

If the levy passes, we will be taking advantage of those that can least afford it. In my opinion, the only difference between us and the money scammers is that one can not file a police report. I want you to think about those that are not talked about, those that are forgotten. If the levy passes they will be paying higher property taxes.

I grew up in a family of 5 and we were always just above above the poverty level. I am the father of 5 and there was a time when we had to count every penny, I know what it is to be poor. I'd like to think we could do better for the low income, fixed income, seniors and those

Norm Hopkins of 11300 Milnor Road, Pickerington, Ohio was present. Mr. Hopkins asked if this zoning for the Wigwam will be presented tonight and voted on and goes into effect tomorrow or is it a process. Mrs. Mattei said if is approved tonight then there is a

30 day referendum period with the zoning going into effect in 30 days. He said he was against the amount of money that was spent

Cory Reskee of 8150 Meadowmoore Blvd. said he moved here from Georgia. He said he is so grateful that Violet Township chose to build a community center. He loves the way this is structured because it means that large families that don't have the resources that he has to afford the membership dues. He also appreciates the purchase of the Wigwam. He is fully in support of this and hopes that May 8th we all wake up and realize that we are all neighbors of each other. He thanked the Trustees and everyone who worked so hard on this and for giving them a chance to vote.

Jennifer Lewis and her daughter Hanna of 13356 Falmouth Ave. said she grew up here. She feels a community center would be a great improvement

County Authorities:

Josh Horacek Law Director was present. He said he looked into the issue that was brought up 2 meetings ago regarding the Sheriff's Department. He pulled the contracts and he is going to meet with Chief Lape about it but he had nothing specific to report.

Departmental Reports:

Greg Butcher, Township Engineer

Township Engineer, Greg Butcher

Mr. Butcher reported mowing of parks and cemeteries continues. This is a huge undertaking and staff is doing great keeping up with this.

Mr. Butcher said the township's 2019 paving program is out for bid. Bids open Tuesday, May 7 at 11:45 am at the Administrative Office.

The remainder of the 2018-19 contracted road salt quantity has been ordered. 1,350 tons total.

Specifications and bid documents are being prepared for this year's curb repair project that was awarded a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission.

On April 25, Mr. Butcher along with Mr. Dunlap attended the annual County Engineer's meeting with the other Fairfield County townships. He had some good information to share. The new gas tax for Violet Township will generate an additional \$184,421.00. This doubles our allocation. Mr. Butcher said Government DeWine is looking out for local governments; however, this gas tax is a huge deal as it relates to the infrastructure for the State of Ohio. Additionally, there will be \$50 million dollars in annual revenue for safety improvement throughout the State of Ohio. The Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) looks at big projects like 70/71 split, which has been dormant for a few years. It will not be dormant moving forward. He said it is important that the state has brought this forward and brought the gas tax and revenue associated with it.

The State of Ohio opened salt bids yesterday. He explained to the audience that we participate in cooperative purchasing with the State of Ohio. All of the counties, villages, townships, cities, parks or anyone that wants to add a quantity of salt into a spreadsheet; the State of Ohio will bid it as one amount. Those bids opened yesterday and the cost per ton was \$83.95 per ton and that is a lot.

Mr. Butcher had a resolution to purchase a fuel tank. It is time to replace them and upgrade the tank. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0501-04 – Authorize Upgrade to Diesel Storage Tank. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes, Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Butcher said we have been looking at a larger style mowing tractor and found one at a local golf course and we démo'd it and tested it and ran it and we think it is an opportunity to reduce our mowing time. It is \$3000.00. Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0501-05 – Authorize Purchase of Used Mower.

Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.

Mr. Dunlap said we had one part timer coming back. Mr. Butcher said he will be coming back. He asked if it would be wise to look for an additional part timer for the summer with all the extra mowing etc. Mr. Butcher said it is something to consider. Mr. Dunlap asked Mr. Butcher to look into this.

Mr. Monhollen asked Mr. Butcher to explain to the audience how much we have saved with the grants. Mr. Butcher said in 18 years we have received over \$5 million dollars in grants from the State of Ohio, the Federal Highway Administration and Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Those grants relate to culvert replacement, curb replacements, walking paths at parks, sidewalks (we have received over 1 million dollars in sidewalk grants and this is free money. Safe Routes to School is 100% grant. The OPWC is a 2674 split. We replaced all of our safety signs free a few years ago. That was a 100% grant from ODOT.

Mr. Beard said we should be patting ourselves on the back telling people about all the good things we do. He said he loves the Fire Department as they saved his light a few years ago.

Mr. Monhollen said they attended the State of the County address yesterday and our Fire Department is in the top 1.8% and in the State of Ohio the top 2.4% in the country. He thanked Mr. Beard for his kind words. We need to do a better job of patting ourselves on the back.

Director of Operations – John Eisel

Wigwam Update:

- Site work for the courtyard has resumed
- We received the quotes for the front and the Taylor Road exit gates
- Door handles have been replaced to meet standards
- Final punch list items from FD and Building Departments is being completed
- Office move is planned for May 17
- Beginning to plan the office move going forward.

To date, we have had 3 interested parties for the Rustic Drive office and 2 tours of this facility. We have an appraisal of the property scheduled to help determine the value.

The time has come to upgrade our Diesel storage tank at the maintenance facility and we have a resolution for consideration.

Tyler's Light 5k is Saturday May 4 at Toll Gate. Toll Gate Road will be closed to traffic from 9:45 until 11:00 a.m.

Lt. Dave Belcher's Open House is May 3 at 1pm at Station 592 and his retirement party is at the Wigwam on May 11 at 6:00 p.m.

The State of the County event took place at the Wigwam yesterday and it is the first time it has been in a location other than Lancaster and they had at least 100 more attendees than they ever had before/ To date we have roughly 3500 people for different events at the Wigwam so far.

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0501-03 – Resolution to Amend the Zoning Resolution of Violet Township, Fairfield County, Ohio Zoning Amendment Case Number 01-ZC-2019. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.

Fiscal Officer – Brian Sauer:

Mr. Sauer reported he had no report. He is adding Melissa Tremblay to be a signer on our Star Ohio account. This will give us more efficiency on being able to transfer funds.

Trustee Reports:

Mrs. Wilde reported she met with the Senior Center and has nothing to report.
Mr. Dunlap reported Bill Morgan took a tour at the Wigwam and he was grateful.
Mrs. Wilde read a note from a mom regarding the Prom for Central and how nice it was to have it at the Wigwam.
Mr. Monhollen also got very favorable response regarding Central having their prom at the Wigwam.
Mr. Monhollen was honored to give the opening and closing for the County.

Mr. Monhollen shared that we have a very good working relationship with the County.
Mr. Dunlap reported when they were at the County Engineer's meeting yesterday and reported there will be a traffic light going in next year where Bob Boyd Ford at Route 33A and Election House Road. There is also a cooperative grant for next year at the intersection of Allen Road and Basil Western Road. They have made it a 4-way stop which has helped immensely; They will totally upgrade that intersection to take out some of the blind spots from the hills. Milnor Road will get paved this year from the City to Refugee Road

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

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Tyler's Light 5k is Saturday May 4 at Toll Gate. Toll Gate Road will be closed to traffic from 9:45 until 11:00 a.m.

Old Business:

Tabled Business: None

New Business:

Mrs. Wilde told Mr. Beard that he can talk to the people at the parks and recs board at the city.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Violet Township Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Violet Township Administrative offices. Mr. Dunlap stated this will be the last meeting at this location.

Pay Bills:

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

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to take a 5 minute recess at 8:40 p.m. and then go into Executive Session per the Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) – to discuss/consider personnel issues. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Mr. Horcek stated they need to be more specific than 'personnel issues' and they need to pick a more specific word for the personnel issues. Mr. Dunlap added the word compensation to read – to discuss /consider compensation for personnel issues. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes. Motion carries 3-0.

Mrs. Wilde made a motion to come out of the Executive Session at 9:06 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, ye; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Motion carries.

Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Motion carries 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sauer, Fiscal Officer

Joniann Goldberg,
Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

Terry J. Dunlap, Sr., Trustee

Darrin Monhollen, Trustee

Melissa Wilde., Trustee

Date: _____