

## Violet Township Board of Trustees

July 15, 2020

Regular Meeting

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

**Roll Call:** Mrs. Niekamp called the roll: Mr. Terry Dunlap, Sr. Mr. Darrin Monhollen, and Mrs. Melissa Wilde were present. Other Township Personnel present were; Township Administrator, Edward Drobina; Fire Chief, Mike Little; Assistant Fire Chief, Jim Paxton and Development Manager, Robin Duffee via Teleconference.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. Dunlap asked everyone to join him in the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence honoring those that protect us around the world the world and here at home who have given us all our freedom here at home and abroad.

### Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Monhollen made a motion to accept as submitted by the Fiscal Office without public reading, the minutes of the Regular Trustee meeting of 07-01-2020. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Motion passes 3-0.

Mr. Monhollen made a motion to accept as submitted by the Fiscal Office without public reading, the minutes of the Public Hearing of 7-1-2020 for 2021 Tax Budget. Mrs. Wilde seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.

Mr. Monhollen made a motion to accept as submitted by the Fiscal Office without public reading, the minutes of the Public Hearing for Springcreek Section 3 Phase 2. Mrs. Wilde seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.

### Guest:

Michelle Cooper of Diligent/BoardDocs did a presentation via teleconference. This is for a proposal to increase our sound, TV, minutes etc. She presented an example of Sylvania Township and showed how they used it.

Mrs. Wilde asked if during the meeting people would be able to pull up the resolutions and read them as we are going through them. Ms. Cooper said yes they could.

Mr. Dunlap asked if they would be able to access these resolutions prior to the meeting if we have them available. Ms. Cooper said yes as soon as the information is made available to the public then you can access this information.

This is for minutes, agendas, resolutions and staff reports. This program does not have anything to do with the video or audio part of the meeting.

Mrs. Wilde said the program allows residents to search for certain subjects.

They would take care of uploading archived material during implementation for no charge.

Mr. Dunlap was concerned about public record as it cannot be changed and we want to make sure that this cannot happen. Ms. Cooper said once it is uploaded it is secured.

Mrs. Niekamp said she has utilized this tool at the school board as well as at the State of Ohio. There are multiple cities and Townships that use this because it makes all of your information more transparent and easier to access and is a very cost effective tool.

### Public Comment:

None

## County Authorities

Law Director, Josh Horacek was present.

## Department Reports:

### Mike Little, Fire Chief:

Chief Little reported the (3) companies that submitted RFP's will be interviewed next Wednesday. The companies are Pepper Construction, Robertson Construction and Setterlin Construction. Chief hopes to have a resolution at the August 5 meeting to approve the committee recommended company.

Post fireworks meeting was July 9 at Pickerington Police Department. Nothing to report as the City was happy with how the event went. No issues on either the PD or FD side. The goal for 2021 will be to encourage having the show the same night as Red, White and Boom in Columbus as we have done in 2018 and 2019.

Truro Township FD's new station 161 opened the week of July 9.

Run volume continues to be down (-6%). Transports are down as well (-14%) and EMS revenues are down (-9%).

### Ed Drobina, Township Administrator

Mr. Drobina reported he has gotten several calls regarding speed on Stonecreek Drive. We have put the radar trailer out there for a few weeks. He has called the Sheriff's Office and asked for more patrolling in that area. Chief Deputy Lape is going to do a speed study to see what is going on.

Pickerington Central High School is asking us to place an ad in the athletic program. The cost is \$550 for a full-page color ad. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to cover an ad for Central High School Booster Program. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes. Motion 2020-0715-A passes 3-0.**

Mr. Drobina reported the Pickerington LaxCats have been using Busey Park for Lacrosse and they seem to really enjoy it. They would like to purchase some dog waste stations and trash receptacles to be installed at the park. The Township would have to maintain them.

We have an air conditioning unit over in the theater that is down. Mr. Drobina did get a proposal for \$2994.00 to repair.

Fairfield County EMA will be working on some sirens tomorrow.

Mr. Dunlap reported the Road Department would be closing Allen Road between Busey and 256 tomorrow between 8am and 4pm for Culvert replacement.

The first resolution Mr. Drobina had was 2020-0715-01 – To Declare property located at 13824 Violet Meadows Avenue a Nuisance. Mr. Drobina said this property is located at the northeast corner of Violet Meadows Ave. and Harbour Blue Drive. The home is vacant. Vegetation on the property is overgrown and contains noxious weeds. The property has been foreclosed on but Sheriff's sale has not occurred. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-0715-01 – To Declare property located at 13824 Violet Meadows Avenue a Nuisance. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

The next resolution was 2020-0715-03 to declare property located at 12308 Limerick Lane a Nuisance. Mr. Drobina said this property is located on the northeast corner of Limerick Lane and Meadowood Drive in the Woodfield Subdivision. This property is overgrown and contains noxious weeds. A washer and dryer have been left in the driveway. Additionally, there is an accumulation of brush, tree branches that have been laying on the south side of the home. In addition, we had a resident come in the other

day with concerns about this property. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-0715-03 - To declare property located at 12308 Limerick Lane a Nuisance. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

The next resolution is 2020-0715-04 – To declare property known as Violet Meadows Section 3 Lot 88 a Nuisance. Mr. Drobina said this property is located at the northeast corner of Kokomo Lane and Optimara Drive. This lot is vacant and contains overgrowth, vegetation, and noxious weeds. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-0715-04 – To declare property known as Violet Meadows Section 3 Lot 88 a Nuisance. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

The next resolution was 2020-0715-05 – Acceptance of Retirement (for Joniann Goldberg). **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-0715-05 – Acceptance of Retirement. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

**Elected Official:**

**Vanessa Niekamp, Fiscal Officer**

**Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-0715-06 – Accept 2021 Tax Budget. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

Mrs. Niekamp said she worked with Ed and Mike on a plan for budgeting of 50% of elected officials salaries, and the two fiscal staff, to the General Fund and the remaining 50% to Fire. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-0715-07 – Plan for Compensation for the Elected Public Officials. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

Mrs. Niekamp said the purchase order resolution authorizes the ability to spend in those line items by the set amount. Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-0715-08 – Purchase Orders. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.

**Mrs. Wilde made a motion to Ratify the Payment of Bills since the last meeting. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Discussion:** Mr. Dunlap asked if by doing this were we circumventing something in the law that says the Trustees have to approve the bills before they are paid. Mrs. Niekamp said no; they are approving the ability to spend funds via the purchase order and then they ratify the payment of those bills. Mr. Dunlap said those are all paid before they get to see what they are and what they are for and the amount and they are already paid before the Trustees get to see them. Mrs. Niekamp told Mr. Dunlap the trustees were not approving bills or having any authority prior to the township committing to the expenses before she got here. Mrs. Niekamp said she can't speak for why the prior administration processed bill the way they did, and went on to explain they were ordering items, receiving them, using them and then bringing a list of bills for the trustees to pay. Mrs. Niekamp said the trustees would have created a legal mess if they tries to deny payment for items they had already used. Mrs. Niekamp explained her administration utilizes the purchase order process to provide Trustees authority to grant, Ed or Mike, the ability to spend money in a certain fashion based off what that line item says it is used for and limit the amount. We are now paying the bills as quickly as we get them so people are being paid more timely and she is then bringing all the details to the Trustees to ratify those payments. Mr. Dunlap said something can be purchased that they did not want to be purchased and it is already paid for. Mrs. Niekamp stated you are providing authority for purchases to Ed and Mike via the annual budget, then again with the purchase order; but you can still question them as to each purchase as you always have. Mr. Dunlap said but by the time he sees the payment, we already got the item and used it. Mrs. Niekamp said yes, and the trustees either trust the individuals they have in place to follow the obligations of the budget and purchase orders or they don't, but they have never seen a bill for payment prior to the items already having been received or the funds committed for a purchase. Mr. Dunlap said, we'll handle it

that way then. **Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, no. Motion carries 2-1.**

**Report to Trustees:** Mrs. Niekamp had the ratification of the payment of bills. Mrs. Niekamp said the Trustees asked for additional details so what they are seeing now is the payment register detail with every piece of information that is inside of the accounting system. Mrs. Wilde made a motion to ratify the bills since the last meeting. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.

**Trustee Reports:**

Mr. Monhollen reported he spoke with Mr. Charles McKluskey, the Homeowner's Association President for Violet Meadows regarding speeding. Mr. Monhollen has spoken with Mr. Drobina regarding moving the speed trailer up there and communicating with Chief Deputy Lape.

Mr. McKluskey also had a question regarding our prioritized paving, the study we had done for the road levy money. This is a public document and we will make that document available to him. Mr. Dunlap asked if he told him there are about four subdivisions ahead of him on request for the speed trailer. Mr. Monhollen said he did not but he will tell him.

Mrs. Wilde asked what the 'liaisons' looked like six years ago. Mr. Dunlap said if there was an issue with the Road Department then it went to whomever was in charge of that and whomever was in charge of the Fire Department would take care of any issues for them and the same with the Admin area. She wanted to make sure we are maintaining those boundaries so there is not chaos and confusion.

Mr. Dunlap attended the Etna Township Zoning Commission meeting last night. There is a residential development plan for 359 homes directly north of New England Acres and Chevington Woods. They will have two connectors on Harmon Road, one connector on the east side where there is a stub out to Nantucket and two stubs on the south; one of them to Old Post Road and the other one to Cape Cod Way. All three of them will filter down to 204 through the New England subdivision. The major concerns were the two concerns that we presented which were drainage and flooding and traffic and safety. Jerimiah Upp, the County Engineer was there with Mr. Dunlap and he spoke first on behalf of Fairfield County and Violet Township. His concern was they do not have enough retention and detention even though they have nine detention ponds in that subdivision. They are fully aware of the flooding that comes down through our areas. Mr. Dunlap shared with them a few pictures that residents had given us in regards to the flooding. The board saw them and they went around to the developers. We asked them to reconsider their connectivity to us because those goes into narrow tiny streets into subdivisions and we just cannot afford any more traffic down through there. We already have an overwhelming amount of traffic and violators along Nantucket. They said they would look at that. When they get to the technical part of the subdivision; no matter what density they come out with then the Fairfield County Engineer, Mr. Dunlap, the developers and the Licking County Engineer will look at the topos' and the drainage and see how that can be handled to make sure we get a lot of retention to hold those flood waters back so we don't get the flood waters downstream. Ed will set up a meeting with Chief Deputy Lape, and Churchill to discuss the issues we are having on Stonecreek Drive and Nantucket and over in Violet Meadows.

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

Chief Little said the Memorial for the Ground Breaking for John Eisel is at 10:00 am on July 16, 2020.

**Old Business:** None

**Tabled Business:** None

**New Business:**

Mr. Drobina reported he would be getting a proposal from Keytel for a camera and new sound system and recording system. A computer will control it

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Violet Township Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at the new Violet Township Administrative offices located at 10190 Blacklick Eastern Road and we will entertain the public to attend.

**Mr. Dunlap made a motion to go into Executive Session per the ORC Section 121.22(G)(1) – To consider the employment of a public employee after a five minute recess to include the three Trustees, Fire Chief, Fiscal Officer, Township Administrator and the Law Director at 8:14 p.m. to 8:19 p.m. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes. Motion passes, 3-0.**

**Mrs. Wilde made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:08 p.m. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

**Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. Mr. Monhollen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Motion passes 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Vanessa Niekamp, Fiscal Officer

Approved by:

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Joniann Goldberg,  
Administrative Assistant

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Terry J. Dunlap, Sr., Trustee

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Date

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Darrin Monhollen, Trustee

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Melissa Wilde., Trustee