

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of *MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES* Meeting

Held

MAY 20,

2008

Chairman Spanovich called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. with Mr. Angelou, Mrs. Stewart and the Fiscal Officer, Nancy White, present.

Also present were:

Dolly Hanning	2354 Agler Rd.
Patricia Shephard	2355 Agler Rd.
Meicha Walpole	2354 Agler Rd.
Jennifer Bailey	2376 Agler Rd.
Jeff Miller	Candidate for Fr. Co. Commissioner
Matt Monell	406 Howland Drive
Kim & Cleatus Wong	3001 Woodland Ave.
Dan Bender	Rocky Fork Enterprise
Jim DeConnick	Fire Chief
Michael Pocock	Police Chief
William Price	Police Lieutenant
Calvin McKnight	Service Director
Steve Blake	Code Enforcement Officer

Mr. Spanovich led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Mr. Angelou offered a prayer.

Res. 119-08: Approve Minutes of May 5, 2008

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2008 meeting. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 120-08: Approve Warrants for June, 2008

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the June, 2008 warrants for payroll and bills. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The Fiscal Officer asked to deviate from the agenda at this time to introduce Jeff Miller who is a candidate for County Commissioner. Mr. Miller said he is attending meetings to learn some of the concerns facing different areas. He said that he feels jobs and safety are two main issues and explained that he has been involved in creating jobs and is a 27 year veteran of the Columbus Police Department. The Trustees related that two of our main concerns are annexations resulting in lack of funds and not being able to convince Columbus to let the residents in the Leonard Park area tie into their water line without annexation. These people have little or no water and do not want to annex. Mr. Miller said he feels that sometimes Columbus does not take into consideration that they would have to provide services for all their annexations. He said that regional planning is something we all need to work together on as has been discussed at MORPC meetings.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Fiscal Officer presented the Board with the following correspondence:

1. Franklin County Board of Health letters to the property owners of 2564 Perdue Ave. and 3054 Perdue Ave. regarding violations that must be corrected or legal action will be taken.
2. Petition to Annex 0.29 acres from Mifflin Township to the City of Columbus for 3728 Agler Road which is a business near the intersection of Agler and Stelzer Roads for the purpose of receiving water.
3. Professional Image Productions letter offering a 20% discount to Gahanna Chamber of Commerce members. They offer business photography and videography service.
4. An e-mail was received regarding the abandoned residence at 2559 Milford Ave. It was stated there is high grass, weeds, trash and inoperable cars at this residence. Both Chief Pocock and Code Officer Blake said they are working on this. Mrs. Stewart asked Mr. Blake to follow-up on this as well as the properties listed by the Board of Health on Perdue and have a report at the next Staff Meeting. The Fiscal Officer said she also gave Mr. Blake a list of properties with code violations reported to her by phone over the last month. Mr. Blake said that these properties were new to him but the property at 2057 Republic that was reported to Channel 6 News is one he has been working on. He said that the Service Department has been very helpful with such a small staff but he will try to work with them on the properties with the most concerns.

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The Fiscal Officer said she and Calvin McKnight are going to Dublin tomorrow regarding a Public Assistance Grant Program through FEMA administered by the Ohio EMA for the snow emergency in March, 2008. Through this program, we can recover 75% of what we spent during that emergency for labor, equipment and materials. Mr. Spanovich signed a letter authorizing the Fiscal Officer to act as the Agent to sign the application for this program.

The Fiscal Officer said that today she attended with Deputy Chief Kauser and Battalion Chief Grossman a seminar given by Lee Fisher of the Franklin County Department of Economic Development about a collaboration grant where cities, counties, townships and villages if they collaborate can receive grants based on the number of entities that collaborate. You must have at least three entities involved with the percentages increasing the more entities that collaborate. They presented a good information and guidelines for what is permissible, etc.

The Fiscal Officer said that the Trustees should have a copy of the MECC amended budget which includes additional funds needed for their share of the 2007 Workers Comp premium and also for the MECC move to Creekside. She said that after this is approved, she can sign off on the MECC Lease Agreement and copies to Stonehenge.

Res. 121-08: Approve Amended MECC Budget as Presented Dated May 9, 2008

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve the Amended MECC Budget as presented dated May 9, 2008. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS (NEW BUSINESS)

SERVICE

Cemetery Price Increases – It was suggested the price increases presented at the last meeting could be increased more. Mr. McKnight presented the Board with a new rate schedule to be effective July 1, 2008.

Res. 122-08: Approve Price Increases for Mifflin & Riverside Cemeteries as Presented Effective July 1, 2008

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve the price increases for Mifflin and Riverside Cemeteries as presented effective July 1, 2008. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried. (See Referral File)

Additional Changes to Cemetery Rules and Regulations – Mr. McKnight said he has added #19 to the Rules & Regulations approved at the last meeting to cover cremations. The effective date will be July 1, 2008 to go along with the date of the new price increases.

Res. 123-08: Approve Additional Changes to Rules and Regulations for Mifflin and Riverside Cemeteries Effective July 1, 2008

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the additional changes to the Rules and Regulations for Mifflin and Riverside Cemeteries by adding #19 regarding cremations effective July 1, 2008. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried. (See Referral File)

Mr. McKnight also asked the Trustees to consider a small levy for cemetery maintenance for the future when all funds from selling graves and opening and closing of graves decrease. The Trustees agreed that this is something to consider.

Considering ways to cut down expenses in the cemeteries was discussed including fuel conservation which would apply to all Departments. Mr. Spanovich said the Police Department is already addressing this but maybe the Fire Department could come up with some written suggestions on how they could conserve fuel without jeopardizing the safety and welfare of our citizens.

Service Credit Bonus – Mr. McKnight recommended a Service Credit Bonus for Charles Dauberman for 14 years of service.

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Res. 124-08: Approve Service Credit Bonus for Charles Dauberman of the Service Department

Mr. Angelou moved to approve a service credit bonus for Charles Dauberman of the Service Department for \$700.00 at the discretion of the Board and funds permitting as recommended by Calvin McKnight. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Mr. McKnight said we just received an e-mail today from Linda Bailiff from the Ohio Public Works Commission that we did not score high enough on our Small Government Application to receive grant funding this round. The next round information session will be in June. Hopefully, we will score higher and there will be more grant money available.

Mr. McKnight said that at the last meeting he advised the Board of a request from a lady to install a memorial bench at her expense in her late husband's honor. The Trustees agreed with the wording that they stipulated. The drawing of the bench with the wording done by the family did not meet the Trustees' approval. If the family does not agree to the wording as stipulated by the Trustees, they will not be permitted to install the bench.

POLICE

Request for New Patrol Vehicle – Chief Pocock said the Police Department is in dire need of a new fully loaded patrol vehicle. He said they have almost been to the point where they had to borrow a vehicle from another township to cover shifts. He said he discussed this with the Fiscal Officer and she is in support of his plan to lease the vehicle and has offered to find the best financing for this endeavor. Lt. Price said so far they have not been able to find a vehicle on a State Contract that meets our specs but he is working on it. As it stands now, in Tennessee we are fifth on the list for a Dodge Charger. Chief Pocock said he is requesting that the Board approve up to \$30,000 for a cruiser replacement vehicle and they will continue to look for a vehicle. This will allow them to act quickly when a vehicle becomes available.

Res. 125-08: Approve Up To \$30,000 for a Cruiser Replacement Vehicle When One is Available to be Funded on a Lease Secured by the Fiscal Officer

Mr. Angelou moved to approve up to \$30,000 for a cruiser replacement vehicle when one is available to be funded on a lease secured by the Fiscal Officer based on the availability of funds. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Violations – Steve Blake said that the code violations discussed earlier in the meeting will be reported on at the Staff Meeting. He said that the Township clean-up was held last Saturday on May 17th and they filled a dumpster and picked up about 15 to 20 tires. He said he is working on a new program which he will present at a later meeting which he is calling the RAT Program (Remove All Trash). The same people participate in the clean-up and the people who especially need to participate do not. Mr. Blake said he wants to stop the Township clean-ups and use that money to key in on the people who really need to clean up their property.

FIRE

Mr. Spanovich said the Board received several items from the Fire Department for approval.

Res. 126-08: Approve Personal Leave Request of Firefighter George Gulick Without Pay Beginning May 16, 2008 and Ending on July 1, 2008 and Being Responsible for the Cost of Maintaining His Health Insurance

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve the personal leave request of Firefighter George Gulick without pay beginning May 16, 2008 and ending on July 1, 2008 and being responsible for the cost of maintaining his health insurance as recommended by Chief DeConnick and Deputy Chief Kauser. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

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Pro-Tech-Safety Proposal for \$10,550.00 – Chief DeConnick presented the Trustees with additional information from Jim Mills that was requested at the last meeting. Mr. Mills was present to answer any questions. Mrs. Stewart said they just received the information and haven't had a chance to read it all as yet. She also had concerns regarding the ownership of the product that we are paying for. Mr. Spanovich asked that this be held for the June 2, 2008 Staff Meeting.

Res. 127-08: Accept Retirement Request of Dispatcher Carl J. Shirey Effective May 31, 2008

Mr. Spanovich moved to accept the retirement request of Dispatcher Carl J. Shirey effective May 31, 2008 as recommended by Chief DeConnick with well wishes. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

11/13/07 Invoice from Rich Pontius for \$6,360.00 – The Fiscal Officer said this invoice was approved at the November 20, 2007 meeting but has been on hold because it was not determined where the funds should come from to pay this invoice. Since this invoice was for architectural services for the MECC relocation to Creekside, the Fiscal Officer said it should be a MECC expense. Chief DeConnick said he felt that it should come from the General Fund because it was not a budgeted item for MECC and something the Board wanted to take to Stonehenge to determine costs. It was agreed by the Board and Chief DeConnick to pay for this invoice from the purchase order for architectural services that was done for Fire Department building improvements from the General Fund.

Res. 128-08: Approve Paying RP Hughes Architects Invoice for \$6,360.00 for Architectural Services for MECC Relocation at Creekside from Original Purchase Order for Fire Department Building Improvements from General Fund

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve paying the RP Hughes Architects invoice for \$6,360.00 for Architectural Services for the MECC Relocation at Creekside from the original purchase order for Fire Department building improvements from the General Fund. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The Fiscal Officer said for the record that she feels that this invoice is a MECC expense and she does not agree with the above resolution.

Chief DeConnick presented the Board with a memo of MECC Creekside updates and a preliminary drawing of a newly designed plan for the MECC space at Creekside. They have incorporated everyone's input making a better use of space. The MECC Board approves of the new plans.

Chief DeConnick gave the Trustees a copy of the MECC Chiefs Meeting minutes of April 3, 2008. It was mentioned that the other agencies feel they should share in the total cost of operating the MECC. This would take some of the burden resulting in extra work off Mifflin. Mrs. Stewart said she would caution on these discussions as MECC is a Mifflin entity.

Chief DeConnick said that three Firefighters were approved to attend the FDIC Conference in Indianapolis. He said four ended up attending with a fifth who just went for the exhibits. He said he will take responsibility of not getting approval for all of them but he would like to reimburse the Firefighters who turned in expenses on their personal credit cards at this time and work out the issues that need corrected. The Chief said he is not sure what all the issues are. Mr. Spanovich said the Tuition Reimbursement Policy and Credit Cards for Training Request under Old Business all need to be addressed as they all would dovetail together. He asked that they be held for the June 2, 2008 Staff Meeting. Chief DeConnick asked that he be given a list of the issues so he can clear them up with the individuals involved.

Mrs. Stewart suggested Fire workshops be scheduled to address issues and have suggestions for regular meetings. Chief DeConnick said he has already written a memo suggesting Fire workshop meetings on a weekly basis to keep updated on Fire Department matters.

