

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of **MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Meeting

Held

AUGUST 21,

2007

A Public Meeting was held from 5:30 – 6:00 P.M. with representatives from the County Engineer's Office to discuss the OPWC grant application for roadway improvements of Melrose Avenue and Myrtle Avenue. Calvin McKnight will give a report later in the meeting.

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

Also present were:

Tom R. Price	11247 Center Village Rd., Westerville
Matt Monell	406 Howland Dr.
Dan Bender	Rocky Fork Enterprise
Dolly Hanning	2354 Agler Rd.
Paul Felix	Earl Ave. in Leonard Park
Fred Kauser	Deputy Fire Chief
Michael Pocock	Police Chief
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. 223-07: Approve Minutes of August 6, 2007 and August 15, 2007

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2007 and August 15, 2007 meetings. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 224-07: Approve September Warrants

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

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was presented to the Board by the Fiscal Officer:

1. Franklin County Technical Review Committee Agenda for a meeting held today at 1:30 p.m. The only case involving Mifflin was the Text Amendment for all townships in Franklin County to increase the allowable lot coverage to 35% in the Urban Residential district.
2. United States Department of Commerce letter inviting local officials to attend a training regarding the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Program for the 2010 Decennial Census. The workshop is being held on September 13, 2007 from 1:00 – 5:30 p.m. at the Jeffrey Mansion. Reservations must be received by August 30, 2007.
3. A letter dated August 9, 2007 was received from Ron O'Brien, Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney's Office regarding the potential merger of the Mifflin and Clinton Township Fire Departments. A copy of the Ad Hoc Citizens Advisory Committee report was sent to the Prosecutor's office asking for an opinion at the request of both Boards. It is the opinion of the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, William Stehle, that there are only two ways this can be accomplished. Clinton would need to contract with Mifflin or Mifflin with Clinton for the service or form a joint fire district. (See Referral File) At the June 21st meeting, Jim Williams stated that Gahanna would not be in favor of a joint fire district. Mr. Spanovich said he and Mr. Angelou both agree that as they become more aware of information regarding the proposed partnership, there are several obstacles that must be addressed before a decision can be made. Also, it will probably not be known what Clinton's financial situation will be until December when budgets are in according to their Fiscal Officer.

REPORT OF FISCAL OFFICER – Nancy White said that we received our second half settlement check last week and will receive one other large check in October. We received a notice from the County Auditor's Office regarding the Local Government fund. They are combining Local Government and Local Government Revenue Assistance funds into one and will just be sending one check. In 2008 we should receive about \$125,000 in the combined Local Government funds.

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The Fiscal Officer said that we contracted with Jack Reynolds of Smith & Hale to handle the annexation of the property at 4301 Johnstown Road to the City of Gahanna. We received an invoice from them for the legal services rendered in the amount of \$2460.00. It will go before City Council in October for approval and we could also have it rezoned at that time to be the same as all of our buildings. The Trustees agreed that we should have it done at that time.

Res. 225-07: Approve Paying Invoice for \$2460 to Smith & Hale for Legal Services in Connection with Annexing Property at 4301 Johnstown Road to the City of Gahanna

Mr. Angelou moved to approve paying the invoice for \$2460.00 to Smith & Hale for legal services rendered in connection with annexing the property at 4301 Johnstown Road to the City of Gahanna. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Verizon Cellular Tower – Mr. Spanovich said this project is on hold until the City of Gahanna completes a study on guidelines.

Finalize Employee Handbook – Mr. Spanovich said there are a number of items that should be considered for the Handbook. He said one of the main items is the Tuition Reimbursement Policy which will be addressed at the next Staff Meeting so it can be incorporated into the Employee Handbook.

The Trustees set the next Staff Meeting for Tuesday, September 4, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. due to Labor Day being on the first Monday of the month.

Fire Dept. Building Improvements – Mr. Spanovich said that he met with our Architect, Rich Pontius, along with Mr. Angelou, Nancy White and Chief DeConnick on August 15, 2007 in a Special Meeting here at the Township at 11:30 a.m. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss moving forward to update and renovate our Fire Stations that are in need of repair. He said they also briefly discussed moving the MEC Center or expanding the present location. Mr. Angelou said he noticed when reading the MECC Chiefs Meeting minutes that they were also talking with Mr. Pontius. He said he feels this is a redundancy and that we hired Mr. Pontius and he should be working through us. Deputy Chief Kauser said that Mr. Pontius was there on our behalf and getting ideas on how to put together a plan for MECC.

Contract Photographer and Contract Consultant – Mr. Spanovich asked that these items be held for the next Staff Meeting on September 4th.

All other items have been addressed or are pending at this time.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

POLICE – Chief Pocock gave the Trustees a copy of Officer Bolock's evaluation and recommended that he be moved to the next pay level. He said the Department will be doing firearms on the range next month and with the Board's permission, he will be on vacation from September 2nd until September 7th. He said that the Trustees and Fiscal Officer are welcome to join them on the range to see what they do.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Steve Blake said Miracit is moving right along with some of the properties on their list. He also said he is looking forward to scheduling the final Township clean-up for the year which will probably be sometime in October. Mr. Blake said that since he is on the Health Insurance Committee for 2008, he feels there should be a committee meeting before the next Staff Meeting to start discussing some options for next year.

SERVICE – Calvin McKnight said a meeting was held earlier at 5:30 p.m. regarding Melrose Ave. and Myrtle Ave. road improvements. The Trustees passed a Resolution at the August 6, 2007 meeting to seek funding from OPWC for road improvements. They have asked that we approve applying for a loan of up to \$40,000 at no interest for our portion of the road project. If the loan is paid off in two years, we will receive a large percentage of it back. Mr. Angelou explained that by paying a larger portion in the beginning, we receive more points that will help in qualifying for the project. The loan would be repaid from the General Fund.

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Calvin McKnight said that by being a part of the Franklin County Engineer's work also saves us a lot of money and enables us to do a larger project. They handle all the bid work and will oversee our project. The Trustees agreed that we should apply for the loan.

Res. 226-07: Approve Applying for a Loan of up to \$40,000 to be Repaid From the General Fund for our Portion of Melrose Ave. & Myrtle Ave. Road Improvement Project Through OPWC Grant Funding

Mr. Angelou moved to approve a loan of up to \$40,000 at no interest to be repaid from the General Fund for our portion of the Melrose Ave & Myrtle Ave. Road Improvement Project which we are applying for under OPWC Grant Funding. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

FIRE – Deputy Chief Kauser said that we are currently the State Emergency Response Plan coordinator and we were activated early this morning to dispatch flood rescue teams to Richland County. It was on the news that we extricated a young lady from the freeway who lost control and was Med-Flighted to the hospital. He said this is a very busy time for the Fire Department especially with school starting.

The following requests for approval were given to the Board by Chief DeConnick before he left for a Conference being held this week:

Mr. Spanovich said the purchase request for a 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe to replace the Deputy Chief's vehicle will be put on hold for the September Staff Meeting.

Res. 227-07: Approve Stokes Basket Assembly for Both Sides of Ladder 131 from Finley Fire Equipment for a Total of \$3624.42

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve Purchase Request No. 08-05-07 for Stokes Basket assembly for both sides of Ladder 131 from Finley Fire Equipment for a total of \$3624.42 as recommended by Chief DeConnick & Deputy Chief Kauser. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 228-07: Approve Cisco ASA 5510 as Quoted from Affiliated for a Total of \$4177.00

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the Cisco ASA 5510 as quoted from Affiliated for a total of \$4177.00 as recommended by the IT Committee. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Mr. Spanovich asked that a request to approve expenses for the Fire Department Administrative Assistant to attend a seminar be held for the September Staff Meeting.

The Trustees asked that the request for Firefighter Beth DeConnick to attend the Paramedic Training course at Grant Hospital in the amount of \$3854.00 be put on hold for the September Staff Meeting.

Mr. Spanovich signed off on a request for three EMS personnel to attend a training seminar at the Ohio State University for a total amount of \$150.00.

Res. 229-07: Approve Capt. Lowe's Request for Time Off to Travel to North Carolina to Inspect COST Vehicle With No Cost to Township

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve Capt. Mike Lowe's request for time off to travel to North Carolina to inspect the COST vehicle at the request of the COST Advisory Board with no cost to the Township. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 230-07: Approve MECC Audio Recorder Maintenance Contract from Sound Communications as Quoted for \$2243.88

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the MECC Audio Recorder Maintenance Contract for one year as quoted from Sound Communications for \$2243.88 as recommended by Paul Adkins to be taken from the MECC account. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

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Chief Pocock said that regarding the Joint Maintenance Agreement, he would like to formally request that the Police Department separate from Gahanna's maintenance program. He said the time involved to take their vehicles from the Police Station to the Maintenance Garage and the cost for his Department are the main reasons for this request. After discussion, the Trustees agreed that this was best for the Police Department.

Res. 231-07: Approve Withdrawing All Police Department Vehicles from the City of Gahanna's Maintenance Program

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve withdrawing all Police Department Vehicles from the City of Gahanna's Maintenance Program under the new contract as recommended by Chief Pocock. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Mr. Spanovich said a letter should be sent to Terry Emery, the City's Service Director, informing him of the action taken by the Board. He said we should make it clear that we value the services we receive from the Joint Maintenance Program and would like to have a meeting with him and Dottie Franey to discuss the maintenance contract for the upcoming year.

The Fiscal Officer said she had a request from the Gahanna Jefferson Education Association to use our Meeting Room again for their negotiations on Thursday, August 30, 2007 beginning at 4:00 p.m. The Trustees approved the request.

POLL VISITORS FOR COMMENTS

Tom Price said he actually lives near Johnstown but he owns the Home Place on Westerville Road north of Innis Road. He said there is a storm sewer on the east side of 3-C Highway which is where the Home Place is and a grate covering a drop drain became missing and he felt this was a danger. He said he called the County, State and City of Columbus and they all said it was not their responsibility. He said he talked with Calvin McKnight who told him it was a State Highway but he was more concerned about the safety issue than who should take care of it. He said Mr. McKnight and Mr. Dauberman had a grate on it the next day and he wanted to thank them for taking care of it when no other agency would. He said that the other agencies should take a lesson from Mifflin Township when it comes to the safety of the public.

Dolly Hanning told Chief Pocock that Officer Bolock did a wonderful job in the way he handled the runaway girl situation this time. The Chief said he appreciated her comments.

Paul Felix said he lives on Earl Avenue in the Leonard Park area and asked if there was a possibility of getting water from the City of Columbus in the area. Mr. Angelou said the Trustees have tried to get City water many times for that area and was always told the only way to get City water was to annex to Columbus. He said in the 90's we did get a Federal Grant and were able to dig wells for the residents who qualified. Steve Blake said that Ben Weiner of the Franklin County Development & Planning Department is talking about trying to do something to get water in that area. Mr. Spanovich said this has been a continuing problem over the years and we will do what we can to help get water for that area but so far the City stands firm on their resolve not to provide water without annexation. Mr. Angelou said we will try again to make a case that this is a health and safety issue to the residents of Leonard Park and will take it to the County Commissioners.

Res. 232-07: Move Into Executive Session

Mr. Spanovich moved to go into executive session at the request of the Fiscal Officer for a legal issue at 7:33 p.m. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 233-07: Move Back Into Regular Session

Mr. Spanovich moved to go back into regular session at 7:47 p.m. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

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There being no further business, Mr. Angelou moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Joseph F. Spanovich, Chairman

Nancy M. White, Fiscal Officer

The Trustees approved the August 31, 2007 payroll warrants for the period of August 12, 2007 through August 25, 2007 and the August warrants for bills, Numbers 44304 through 44390. Copies are on file with the Fiscal Officer.

The August Receipts, Numbers 6753 through 6827, are on file with the Fiscal Officer.
