

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

Held

**SEPTEMBER 4,**

**2007**

Chairman Spanovich called the Regular Staff Meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. with Mr. Angelou and the Fiscal Officer, Nancy White, present. Mr. Stewart was absent.

Also present were: Chief DeConnick, Deputy Chief Kauser, Police Lt. Price,  
Service Director, Calvin McKnight and Code Officer, Steve Blake

The Fiscal Officer noted for the record that she is in receipt of a medical certification from Dr. Robert Cavaliere that Jack Stewart has been under his care for a medical condition and due to this condition, he is unable to attend Trustee meetings at this time. Based upon the ORC medical certification excuses the attendance requirement due to a medical condition.

Mr. Spanovich asked to dispense with the Pledge and Prayer.

### **Res. 234-07: Approve Minutes of August 21, 2007**

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2007 meeting. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

1. COTA's 2006/2007 Report to the Community was received highlighting key accomplishments of the past year and where they are headed for the future.
2. Franklin County Board of Health letter to the property owners of 2879 Northglen Drive regarding their failure to abate a nuisance. The necessary steps will be taken to abate the nuisance and the cost will be placed on the taxes as a lien upon the property. The property owner may appeal this action within 30 days of the notice.
3. Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security invitation to attend their observance of Patriot Day and first County-level National Preparedness Month celebration kickoff on September 11, 2007 from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on the Statehouse West Plaza. They are asking attendees to RSVP by September 7, 2007.
4. Two letters dated July 30, 2007 were received from Kenny Bing regarding complaints by a neighbor, Mr. Locke, regarding horses at 2583 Ferris Road Park South which is a property owned by Mr. Bing. Mr. Bing said that investigation into the complaints have found no grounds for the complaints.
5. A letter from Mr. Bing was received regarding an incident on August 30, 2007. The Mifflin Police Department was called because there was a witness who reported that tenants were stripping the house at 2704 Ferris Road that was already sold. It was felt that our Officer had an attitude and deemed this a civil matter and did not take any action. The Fiscal Officer said she will give copies of Mr. Bing's letter and that of the witness to the Police Department.

The Fiscal Officer said that at the August 15, 2007 meeting regarding the Fire Department construction improvement projects, the Board approved a contract with the architect, Rich Pontius, in the amount of \$285,000 and with Bird & Bull for site engineering in the amount of \$11,300. In order to issue purchase orders for these expenditures, she asked for the Board's approval to amend the appropriations and appropriate \$285,000 to 1-C-04 and \$11,300 to 1-C-04A.

### **Res. 235-07: Approve Amending the Appropriations and Appropriate an Amount of \$285,000 to 1-C-04 and \$11,300 to 1-C-04A for the Fire Department Improvement Projects**

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve amending the appropriations and appropriate an amount of \$285,000 to 1-C-04 and \$11,300 to 1-C-04A for the Fire Department Improvement Projects as recommended by the Fiscal Officer. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The Fiscal Officer said that our phone system uses the Centrex system. Our contract has expired and a new contract with AT&T needs to be approved. We have been paying approximately \$1200 per month and they are reducing that amount to approximately \$850 per month for a new three year contract.

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### **Res. 236-07: Approve Renewing Township Phone Contract with AT&T Centrex Service for Three (3) Years for a Approximately \$850 per Month**

Mr. Angelou moved to approve renewing the Township phone contract with AT&T Centrex Service for three (3) years for approximately \$850 per month as recommended by the Fiscal Officer. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Mifflin/Clinton Partnership Project** – Mr. Spanovich said that there have been negative stories in the Columbus Dispatch regarding Clinton Township's Fire Department and now their Police Department. He said he would not want this negativity to affect our Township and perhaps we should take a closer look at this proposed Partnership. Mr. Angelou said that as far as he is concerned, we are no longer considering a partnership or merger and those options should be taken off the table. Clinton would just be contracting with us to provide fire service for them and it is not known as yet if they can afford to write us a check for the services. Chief DeConnick said he does not want us to get into a bad situation either but he feels there is still a lot of value by working with Clinton and both Townships would see an overall improvement of operations and services. Mr. Angelou said the bottom line is that we would need to be shown that this is a good business decision. Mr. Spanovich said for the record that in the Thursday, August 23, 2007 article in the Columbus Dispatch, it was reported that some Clinton employees made slurs against certain groups of people which were offensive and one pertained to his Hungarian background to which he took an offense.

**Finalize Employee Handbook** – Mr. Spanovich said there is a concern regarding the section dealing with education. There have been several recommendations regarding this that he and Mr. Angelou would like to discuss further in executive session.

Mr. Spanovich said there was a tuition request from both the Police and Fire Department for a class on House Bill #9 regarding public records which were withdrawn because the Fiscal Officer said she will be attending a class on this next week at the Government Finance Officers Association Meeting. The Attorney General's Office is offering free classes on H.B. 9 at various locations for the remainder of this year. H.B. 9 mandates every elected official or his/her designee attend three hours of approved public records training per term in office.

**Joint Maintenance Agreement** – Mr. Spanovich said that regarding the future Maintenance Agreement with the City of Gahanna, we will have a meeting at 11:30 a.m. today with representatives from the City in an open meeting to discuss the contract. A letter was sent to Terry Emery, City of Gahanna Service Director advising that at their August 21, 2007 meeting the Trustees approved withdrawing all Mifflin Township Police vehicles from the City's maintenance program.

**Hiring Recommendations** – Mr. Spanovich said this will dovetail into the finalization of the Employee Handbook and will be discussed later in the meeting.

**Paramedic Training Request** – Mr. Spanovich said that this will also dovetail into the Handbook and will be discussed later in the meeting after an executive session.

The Fiscal Officer said that the request for a service credit bonus for Firefighter Bruce Day has been on hold to research whether or not this should be paid. We are not currently paying him because he is on injury leave and being paid through Workers Comp. Also, we are not sure what his status is to return to work. Her recommendation is to pay him the lump sum of \$1100 for his service time and sending him a 1099 making him responsible for the taxes.

### **Res. 237-07: Approve Service Credit Bonus for Firefighter Bruce Day for \$1100.00**

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve a service credit bonus at the discretion of the Board and funds permitting for Firefighter Bruce Day to be paid in a lump sum of \$1100.00 and sending him a 1099 upon the recommendation of the Fiscal Officer as he is on injury leave and being paid by Workers Comp. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

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**Verizon Cellular Tower** – Mr. Spanovich said there was an article in the local paper that the City of Gahanna has delayed action on towers for the City. Calvin McKnight said that he received a call from Amy Callander that Verizon is withdrawing their request for a tower at our location at this time.

**Health Insurance Committee/2008** – Steve Blake said he is trying to get a meeting set for one day next week in the morning. Mr. Spanovich asked that he advise Lynn Stewart as she would like to be a part of that committee.

**Fire Vehicle Request** – The Fiscal Officer said that this request was on hold from the last meeting. Chief DeConnick said the request is for a 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe to replace the Deputy Fire Chief's vehicle which will be transferred to the Service Department. This vehicle would be purchased from Bob McDorman Chevrolet under the State of Ohio Contract. There was discussion as to whether it would be cheaper to take a new vehicle under warranty to the dealer for service or to the City of Gahanna Garage.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Spanovich said the next meeting will be our regular meeting on the third Tuesday of the month which is September 18, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

### **REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**CODE ENFORCEMENT** – Steve Blake said he is getting some dates set for the final Township clean-ups for this year. He is looking at October weekends by neighborhood. Mr. Blake said he wanted to respond to Mr. Bings's letter regarding large commercial trucks taking items from 2704 Ferris Road which Mr. Bing recently sold. Mr. Bing told Mr. Blake that he told the tenants not to drive those trucks around Mr. Locke's property and aggravating him. Mr. Bing said he has no control over that but actually, Mr. Bing owns the trucks. Mr. Blake said that Sgt. Baker is right in that this is a civil issue. The Fiscal Officer said that regarding the clean-ups, she will need an estimate on the cost to make sure there is enough money in the Code budget to cover this.

**SERVICE** – Calvin McKnight advised the Trustees that he would be on vacation on September 12, 2007 through September 23, 2007 and D.J. Tharp will be in charge. Mr. McKnight said he just received an estimate in the amount of \$8730 from Cyrus Concrete Construction to install a 12x12 dumpster enclosure for the Administration Building. This would match our building and be the same as the one located at Sta. 134.

### **Res. 238-07: Approve Installation of Brick Dumpster Enclosure at Administration Bldg. by Cyrus Concrete Construction for \$8730.00**

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve installation of brick dumpster enclosure at Administration Building as quoted by Cyrus Concrete Construction for \$8730.00 as recommended by Calvin McKnight and the Fiscal Officer. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**POLICE** – Lt. Price who was filling in for Chief Pockock asked the Board to accept the resignation of Part-time Officer David Wolfel effective May 31, 2007.

### **Res. 239-07: Accept Resignation of Part-time Police Officer David Wolfel Effective May 31, 2007**

Mr. Angelou moved to accept the resignation of Part-time Police Officer David Wolfel effective May 31, 2007 per his request. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Lt. Price said that Mid Ohio Auto Recovery presented the Police Department with a donation check for \$2000.00.

**FIRE** – Chief DeConnick presented the Board with several requests for approval as follows:

Mr. Spanovich signed off on Purchase Request No. 09-01-07 for Smart CapnoLine Plus to monitor patients in the amount of \$1040.00 from Medtronic Physio-Control.

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Mr. Spanovich signed off on Purchase Request No. 09-02-07 for miscellaneous EMS supplies for patient care in the amount of \$1032.60 from Emergency Medical Products.

**Res. 240-07: Approve Miscellaneous Expendable EMS Supplies from Bound Tree Medical in the Amount of \$3105.20**

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve Purchase Request No. 09-03-07 for misc. expendable EMS supplies from Bound Tree Medical in the amount of \$3105.20 as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Res. 241-07: Approve 800 MHZ Mobile Radio & Accessories for Newly Purchased Medic 131 in the Amount of \$3568.00**

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve Purchase Request No. 09-04-07 for an 800 MHZ Mobile Radio & Accessories for the newly purchased Medic 131 from B & C Communications in the amount of \$3568.00 as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Res. 242-07: Approve Various HazMat Supplies as Quoted by New Pig Corp. for \$7912**

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve Purchase Request No. 09-05-07 for various HazMat Supplies as quoted by New Pig Corporation for a total of \$7912.00 as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Res. 243-07: Approve 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe to Replace Deputy Chief's Vehicle from Bob McDorman Chevrolet under the State of Ohio Contract for \$35,455.41**

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the purchase request for a 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe to replace the Deputy Chief's vehicle as discussed from Bob McDorman Chevrolet as quoted under the State of Ohio Contract for a total amount of \$35,455.41 as recommended by Chief DeConnick and Deputy Chief Kauser. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Chief DeConnick said he wanted the Trustees to be aware that he has heard nothing but praise for the way our MEC Center handled the Emergency Response Plan for the State for three days during the flood emergency.

The request from the Fire Department in a memo dated August 4, 2007 to hire a contract photographer was discussed. The Trustees agreed to approve this on a trial basis for six months at a rate of \$20.00 an hour not to exceed \$100.00 a month.

**Res. 244-07: Approve Request of Fire Department to Hire Walter Middleton Photography on a Trial Contract Basis at \$20.00/Hour not to Exceed \$100.00/Month to be Revisited in Six Months**

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the Fire Department request to hire Walter Middleton Photography on a trial contract basis at \$20.00/hour not to exceed \$100.00/month to be revisited in six months. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Res. 245-07: Approve Going Into Recess**

Mr. Angelou moved to approve going into recess to discuss the Maintenance Contract with representatives from the City of Gahanna at 11:38 a.m. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The Trustees resumed the regular session at 12:49 p.m.

Chief DeConnick said that the Board received a request at the last meeting to approve training expenses to attend EMT – Paramedic training for Firefighter Beth DeConnick. She has received confirmation from Grant Hospital to be accepted into the next Paramedic training class starting on September 10, 2007.

