

RUSSELL FIRE-RESCUE STATION

JANUARY 4, 2012

The Township Fiscal Officer called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Trustees Jim Dickinson, Jim Mueller, and Justin Madden were present. Department heads Chief Carroll and Mr. Machnics were present.

The Pledge was said.

REORGANIZATION: Mrs. Gerri Heck, Township Fiscal Officer, asked for nominations for Chairman for the year 2012. Mr. Mueller nominated Mr. Jim Dickinson for Chairman of the Russell Township Board of Trustees for the year 2012. Mr. Madden seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Madden nominated Mr. Jim Mueller for Vice-Chairman of the Russell Township Board of Trustees for the year 2012. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES: Mr. Mueller made the motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 21, 2011, as presented. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote: Mr. Mueller yes, Mr. Madden abstain, Mr. Dickinson yes.

MONTHLY REPORTS: Mr. Mueller made the motion to acknowledge receipt of the December, 2011 monthly departmental reports from the Fire, Police, Maintenance, Road, and Zoning departments. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT DONATION: Chief Carroll asked that the Trustees accept a donation to the Police Department. Mr. Mueller moved, based on the Fiscal Officer's recommendation, that the Board of Trustees accept the donation of \$250.00 from the Donahey family on Kinsman Road to the Police Department. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve the use of the donation for the benefit of the Police Department staff at the discretion of the Police Chief. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ZONING DEPARTMENT: Mr. Machnics had nothing to report at this time.

FISCAL OFFICER: Mrs. Heck received a letter from independent insurance agent Sean Sprouse. Mr. Sprouse will be invited to attend the January 18th Trustees meeting to discuss the policies available for 2012. The insurance rates appear to be going up but the amount of the increase is currently unclear.

NO COMMENTS WERE OFFERED BY THE PUBLIC

GAS SUPPLIER CONTRACT: Sheila Salem, Deputy County Prosecutor, explained that it is not unusual for a company such as Blue Flame Energy to act as intermediary and offer a contract with another entity such as Glacial Energy, a gas

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supplier. The price in the contract appeared good. Ms. Salem recommended some revisions be made to the contract. The non-specific liquidated damages clause (#5) should be renegotiated because the Township cannot allocate unknown or speculative costs ahead of time. A cap on these costs could be offered. A wrong date of January 2011 was in the contract. Further, Glacial specified a 10 day payment due date. This should be negotiated to 30 days. Also, the limitation on liabilities should be negotiated. Ms. Salem will contact Chris Schloss at Blue Flame by letter.

GEAUGA COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL: *Mr. Madden made the motion to appoint Mr. Mueller as the Township representative to the Health District Advisory Council. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

WEST GEAUGA DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to appoint Mr. Madden as the Township representative to the West Geauga District Communications Committee. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERS: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to appoint Mr. Madden as the Township representative to the Chagrin River Watershed Partners. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Mr. Dickinson made the motion to appoint Mr. Mueller as the alternate Township representative to the Chagrin River Watershed Partners. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to appoint Mr. Mueller as the Township representative to the Storm Water Management Program. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

HAZMAT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS: *Mr. Madden made the motion to appoint Mr. Mueller as the Trustee representative to the HAZMAT Council of Governments. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

HAZMAT COG PROXY: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to authorize Chief John Frazier to carry a letter of proxy to the HAZMAT COG meetings in the event that a Trustee is not in attendance. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve reasonable and necessary expenses for Mr. Madden to attend the Ohio Township Association convention in February in Columbus. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

CHAGRIN VALLEY INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to appoint Mr. Dickinson as Trustee representative to the CVIGC and if he is unable to attend then other Trustees may attend as his surrogate. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION FUND: Mr. Mueller will attend the January 17th meeting on the Local Government Innovation Fund. He is interested in communities joining together to share website and technical expertise.

EAGLE SCOUT RESOLUTION: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to accept the Resolution of Congratulations to Eagle Scout Emerson Schwarz as amended. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Dickinson read the resolution aloud. Congratulations to Mr. Schwarz on his accomplishments. Mr. Dickinson will attend the ceremony and say a few words.*

WELL DRILLING LEASES: Mr. Mueller is interested in sending a letter to Dave Dietrich and the County Planning Commission on the topic of model leases for well drilling contracts. He would also like to send the letter to the Bar Association. Mr. Madden will be the contact to the Bar Association on this topic.

REQUEST FOR USE OF TOWN HALL: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to grant permission for the Historical Society to use the Town Hall on January 14, 2012, subject to Township rules and regulations. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

WELCOME TRUSTEE MADDEN: Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Mueller look forward to working with new Township Trustee Justin Madden. Congratulations on his election.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next regular Trustees' meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 18th, in the Russell Township Fire-Rescue Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to move into executive session for a discussion of pending litigation with an attorney, pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22(G)(3). Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting moved into executive session at 7:45 p.m. Attendees were Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Mueller, Mr. Madden, Mrs. Heck, Mrs. Palmer, Mr. Machnics, and Deputy County Prosecutor Sheila Salem.*

Mr. Madden made the motion to move into regular session. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting moved back into regular session at 8:04 p.m.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Mr. Dickinson asked Sheila Salem, Deputy County Prosecutor, for information on the use of social media by Townships. Ms. Salem agreed that social media is a topic of discussion but she had no guidance to offer.

LAND USE GUIDE PLAN LIAISON: Mr. Madden would like to serve as the liaison to the Land Use Guide Plan revision project.

ZONING COMMISSION INTERVIEWS: The three Zoning Commission applicants will be scheduled for interviews one evening early next week. The Trustees indicated that they were available between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

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PURCHASE ORDERS:

Please find attached a list of purchase orders and blanket certificates.

Bills were approved as presented and drawn for same.

Upon the motion of Mr. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Madden the meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

James Dickinson, Chairman

Gerri Heck, Fiscal Officer

Recorded by: M. Palmer