

RUSSELL FIRE-RESCUE STATION

JANUARY 5, 2011

The Township Fiscal Officer called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Trustees Jim Dickinson, Jim Mueller, and Kristina Port were present.

REORGANIZATION: Mrs. Gerri Heck, Township Fiscal Officer, asked for nominations for Chairman for the year 2011. Ms. Port nominated Mr. Jim Dickinson for Chairman of the Russell Township Board of Trustees for the year 2011. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion. Ms. Port explained that Mr. Dickinson was the senior Trustee on the Board. He has the legal knowledge to apply to contracts and issues of liability. She said he was neutral, fair, and engaged in the community. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dickinson nominated Mr. Jim Mueller for Vice-Chairman of the Russell Township Board of Trustees for the year 2011. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion. Ms. Port commented that Mr. Mueller had stepped up to the plate as Chairman in 2010 and that he had served well. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

The Pledge was said.

REGULAR TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES: Mr. Mueller made the motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 15, 2010, as presented. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MONTHLY REPORTS: Ms. Port made the motion to accept the November, 2010 monthly departmental reports from the Fire, Maintenance, & Zoning departments. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MONTHLY REPORTS: Ms. Port made the motion to acknowledge receipt of the December, 2010 monthly departmental reports from the Fire, Police, Maintenance, Road, and Zoning departments. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

FISCAL OFFICER: The Financial Report for 2010 is complete and copies are available in the Administration Building for the Trustees to review. Health Insurance information is coming in from Sean Sprouse. Mr. Sprouse will be invited to attend the January 19th Trustees meeting to discuss the policies available for 2011. There is concern that the estate taxes and Local Government Fund receipts will be lowered or eliminated in the future. Ms. Port said the Trustees would have to examine the situation at the Budget Hearings in June. Estate taxes are used as our Capital Improvements Fund and decreases are already being seen in the General Fund. Estate tax and Local Government Fund decreases could hamper the activities of the Township.

NOISE ISSUE: A Special Meeting will be scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, February 5th.

COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Dickinson attended an Intergovernmental Council meeting and was impressed with a presentation on strengthening communications in local governments. Mr. Dickinson would like to have Jesse Weinberger attend the next meeting to address the potential applications of newsletters,

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websites, social networking, and signage. Mr. Dickinson would like a hardcopy newsletter to be sent to homes in Russell.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS: The Geauga Maple Leaf would like the Township to place legal advertisements in that newspaper. Mrs. Heck will ask how many subscribers the Maple Leaf has in Russell Township.

COMMENTS WERE TAKEN FROM THE PUBLIC

BUS GARAGE: Mr. Dickinson redrafted the lease and Mr. McDade indicated that he was agreeable to the changes. Ms. Port noted that the Board of Education still has not paid their \$1 per year as agreed under the lease. *Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve and sign the lease drafted by Mr. Dickinson as presented. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

LIQUOR LICENSE: In November, 2010, Mac's Convenience store, known as Circle K, put two issues on the ballot. The beer and wine sales in original sealed containers issue and the Sunday sales issue were both approved by the precinct's voters. Objections to the liquor license may only be made based on strict and limited criteria. Zoning issues cannot be used as basis for complaint even though liquor stores are not permitted in the Russell Township Zoning Resolution and Land Use Guide Plan. Ms. Salem, Assistant Geauga County Prosecutor, read the list of allowed objections. Mr. Dickinson asked if a public meeting was appropriate as only the precinct voters approved it and not the whole Township. Ms. Salem explained that only the specific precinct voters of Russell could vote to approve the issues. The Trustees will not request a hearing to object to the license.

ZONING WORKSHOP: The Zoning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Zoning Inspector, and Trustees met approximately two years ago for a Zoning Workshop. The Trustees would like to schedule another Zoning Workshop for the spring of 2011.

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. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting moved into executive session at 7:50 p.m.*

Ms. Port 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 8:02 p.m.

SINGLE WASTE HAULER: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to rescind the July 21, 2010 award of the bid to Waste Management, Inc. and to rescind the contract with Waste Management, Inc. approved and signed on October 6, 2010. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Mr. Dickinson made the motion to authorize legal counsel to execute the appropriate settlement agreement with David Golden and Waste Management, Inc. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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Mr. Mueller said this was the easiest and best way to move forward to where the Township needs to go. Ms. Salem said notice will be given for 10 days in the newspaper. The agreement will be filed on approximately January 18, 2011.

CABLE BILL: Mr. Dickinson had a discussion with attorney Todd Hunt about the cable late fee and fiber installation issues. Mr. Hunt will continue discussions with Chris Thomas of Time-Warner. VSA fees are due to the Township within 45 days of the end of the first quarter. Brief discussion was held over the value of installing cable that is not maintained by an agreement anymore. On October 5, 2010 Time-Warner sent a letter saying that effective November 1, 2010 cable service through the institutional network would be terminated. The Road Department, Town Hall, and Administration buildings will be billed for cable services. The Road Department is interested in using the weather information from cable television. *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to authorize the Road Department to receive Time-Warner basic cable. Ms. Port seconded the motion. The vote was Mr. Mueller No, Ms. Port Yes, Mr. Dickinson Yes. The motion passed.*

GEAUGA COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL: *Mr. Mueller 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 Ms. Port 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. Dickinson made the motion to appoint Ms. Port as the Township representative to the Chagrin River Watershed Partners. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

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

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

OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to approve reasonable and necessary expenses for Ms. Port to attend the Ohio Township Association convention February 9th - 12th in Columbus. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

UPPER CHAGRIN PRESERVE: A meeting will be scheduled in late February for the Trustees to discuss the status of the Upper Chagrin Preserve. The Russell Township Park Commission and the Western Reserve Land Conservancy will be invited to participate in the discussion.

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ENERGY AUDIT: The application for the NOPEC grant is due no later than February 28, 2011.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next regular Trustees' meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 19th, in the Russell Township Fire-Rescue Department.

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 Ms. Port the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

James Dickinson, Chairman

Gerri Heck, Fiscal Officer

Recorded by: M. Palmer

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ATTACHMENT TO THE MINUTES**PURCHASE ORDERS:** were approved for:

Number	Purpose	Amount
196-2010	December janitorial	\$ 347.00
197-2010	Emergency door repair	\$ 150.00
198-2010	Fire Dept Christmas dinner	\$ 1,366.50
199-2010	JAN Health premium	\$ 4,049.36
200-2010	JAN premium adjustment, Swaidner	\$ 1,052.05
201-2010	Dec 22 nd payroll retire contrib	\$18,763.35
202-2010	Time Warner franchise fee	\$ 2,000.00
203-2010	Time Warner franchise	\$ 670.90
204-2010	Static IP Address/Domain Hosting	\$ 100.12
205-2010	Electricity for December	\$ 475.00
206-2010	Uniform Service	\$ 14.45
207-2010	Balance of Uniform allowance	\$ 3,271.51
208-2010	Dead deer pickup	\$ 150.00
209-2010	Heating system repair, Fire Dept	\$ 500.00
210-2010	Phone service 12/19 - 1/18/11	\$ 587.54
211-2010	Annual dues, Chief & A. Chief	\$ 100.00
212-2010	Medical oxygen	\$ 200.00
213-2010	Gas and Diesel for December	\$ 3,990.16
214-2010	Road salt	\$ 2,328.49
215-2010	Reimburse mileage, 2010 inspect.	\$ 86.00

Bills were approved as presented and drawn for same.