

FIRE RESCUE STATION

January 20, 2010

Chairman Jim Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Trustee Jim Dickinson was present. Kristina Port was detained and would be present a little later. Mr. Mueller welcomed guests, and Fire Chief John Frazier and Police Chief Tim Carroll.

The Pledge was said.

MINUTES: *Mr. Dickinson moved to accept the minutes of January 11, 2010, as presented. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MONTHLY REPORTS: *Mr. Dickinson moved to accept the December 2010, Department Reports from the Fire, Maintenance, Police, Road, and Zoning Departments. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

FIRE DEPT.: Chief Frazier reported that Rich Clark had graduated from his paramedic class. He graduated second in his class. Kevin Krajewski has received a congressional appointment to West Point. Congratulations to these fine members of the Fire/Rescue Dept.

STAFFING: Chief Frazier submitted the cost update for the Staffing proposal. His estimate for cost increase is \$94,000 less the reduction of the pay rate of the daytime part-time Firefighters/EMT for a yearly cost saving estimate of \$4,726.80. Chief Frazier has met with the Fiscal Officer about this proposal. These additional costs would be taken from the Fire and Rescue Ambulance Fund. This Fund presently has a balance of \$127,042.55. Chief Frazier said new equipment purchases will be studied as they arise. Mr. Mueller suggested that estate tax money could be used. He asked what a new pumper truck might cost. Chief Frazier said at least \$400,000. Mr. Mueller asked the Chief to investigate what surrounding communities are charging for ambulance fees. Mr. Mueller said Russell Township would now have two paid staff personnel for 24 hours around the clock.

PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to amend the Russell Township Personnel Policy Manual, Section 5.4 "D" from "On Call Paramedic" to "On Call EMT, EMT Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic", based on the recommendation of Chief Frazier. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Ms. Port arrived at 7:21 p.m. and voted on the motion to amend the personnel policy manual.*

Mr. Butters suggested that the Township investigate the possibility of making a contract with South Russell Village for Fire/Rescue service. This suggestion was discussed and will be investigated.

PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to authorize one additional On Call position (EMT/EMT-I/EMT-P) in accordance with the Russell Township Personnel Policy Manual, Section 5.4 "D", based on the recommendation of Chief Frazier. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

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FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to authorize paying all certified Russell FD Firefighters and/or EMT, EMT-I, or EMT-P personnel who respond to emergency calls and/or attend approved, scheduled fire or emergency medical service training, \$8.00 per hour and \$2.00 for each additional quarter hour, effective March 1, 2010, based on the recommendation of Chief Frazier. Ms. Port seconded the motion. The vote was Mr. Dickinson yes, Ms. Port abstain and Mr. Mueller yes.*

FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to reduce the daytime (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.) rate of part-time Firefighter/EMT from the current rate down to \$14.70 per hour; the rate of part-time Firefighter/EMT-Intermediate from the current rate down to \$15.56 per hour; the rate of part-time Firefighter/EMT-Paramedic from the current rate down to \$17.25 per hour; and during the one year probation period for new part-time personnel, EMT, EMT-I, and EMT-P will be paid \$1.00 less, effective March 1, 2010, based on the recommendation of Chief Frazier. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion. The vote was Mr. Dickinson yes, Ms. Port abstain and Mr. Mueller yes.*

TUITION LOAN AGREEMENT: Chief Frazier reported that the Fire/Rescue Dept. often pays tuition expenses for members that are active in the department. The Chief makes these recommendations based on a candidate's qualifications. The member is then obligated to pay back the loan by serving in the department. The Chief is recommending that a loan be made to Andrew Tarasco who is studying in the Cleveland Clinic program. *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to enter into a Tuition Loan Agreement with Mr. Andrew J. Tarasco to compensate him for the costs of his paramedic training and certification. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

POLICE DEPT.: Chief Carroll reported that there was a safety training drill held at Westwood School. The radio communication was good. The Chief commended four officers that attended the funeral service in Washington State for the four officers that were ambushed and killed. Officer Lillash participated in the "Shop with a Cop Program" with two Russell Township residents' children. Mr. Mueller announced that the Police Dept. has equipment to "jump start" people's vehicles. The SWAT team was called out to a neighboring community on Jan. 3rd.

KOKOSING CONSTRUCTION INVOICE: An invoice was received from Kokosing Construction Co. for road repaving. There were a number of change orders that needed to be approved. Although the company was late in finishing the project the Road Superintendent feels the Township was not hurt in any way, the work completed was good. The County Engineer has recommended payment of this invoice. Mr. Mueller said he felt the bill was a reasonable amount and the Board should listen to the County Engineer. Mr. Mueller said this project was \$113,320.77 under the County Engineer's estimate. In his opinion getting the loan and doing the project early saved

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more than any interest on the loan. *Ms. Port made the motion to approve the change order/supplemental agreement to the contract for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Various Roads for a revised contract price of \$481,679.23. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The public comments were taken.

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL: Sean Sprouse, Employee Benefit Consultant from Burnham & Flower Insurance, was present to discuss renewal of the health insurance. He reported that he has access to every carrier in the state of Ohio. He has shopped and looked for other carriers. He presented other options with United Health Care and other carrier plans that were compatible to the present plan. All of these options were higher. Suggestions were discussed on ways to lower the insurance cost so the budget would cover the cost. It was finally agreed that the employee would pay 10% of the Health Insurance Premium. *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to approve the following Insurance coverage for Russell Township officials and full-time employees for the year 2010 and January 2011:*

Medical/Hospitalization - United Health Care/Plan 2AB/RX MM with an employee contribution equaling 10% of their premium deducted in their paycheck

Life Insurance - United Health Care

Dental Insurance - Delta Dental

Vision Insurance - Vision Services Plan (with a new \$20 co-pay)

Burnham & Flower Company proposes this plan in conjunction with the Ohio Township Association effective February 1, 2010. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Dickinson had spoken with the Assistant County Prosecutor about a new lease with the school for the bus garage building located on the old Russell School site. He has also spoken with Dr. Podojil, Superintendent of the West Geauga Schools, and it was Dr. Podojil's understanding that Mr. Dickinson would prepare a lease.

Mr. Mueller asked Mr. Dickinson to read over the deed and conservation easement to see if there was anything in those documents that would bar the Township from giving the Upper Chagrin Preserve property to the Russell Park Commission. There have been complaints of ATV use of the property and deer hunting. Mr. Mueller asked the Police Chief to get the Prosecutor's opinion as to what the Township could do about these problems.

Mr. Mueller and the Police Chief met with the Geauga Park District about deer hunting on The West Woods property. In the future the Park District will close the park, notify the Police Dept. and surrounding property owners when deer hunting is going to occur, and notification will be at 3 entrances.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Fire/Rescue Dept. is holding a Heart Saver CRP & AED class on January 28th. The next regular Trustees' meeting will be held Wednesday, February 3rd.

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR

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PURCHASE ORDERS: were approved for:

Number	Purpose	Amount
37-2010	Serv./Maint Ecowater System	354.00
38-2010	Gas & Diesel	195.29
39-2010	Shop Supplies	16.65
40-2010	Emergency Repairs	2,034.42
41-2010	Mat Service	4,200.00
42-2010	Computer Service	2,588.97

Bills were approved as presented and drawn for same.

Upon the motion of Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Ms. Port the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Mueller, Chairman

Gerri Heck, Fiscal Officer