

RUSSELL FIRE-RESCUE STATION

APRIL 18, 2012

Chairman Jim Dickinson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Trustees Jim Mueller and Justin Madden were present. Chief Carroll and Mr. Layne were present.

**REGULAR TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES:** *Mr. Mueller made the motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 4, 2012, as presented. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**MONTHLY REPORTS:** *Mr. Madden made the motion to accept the March 2012 monthly departmental report from the Police, Fire, Maintenance, Road, & Zoning departments. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**HEMLOCK POINT ROAD:** Mr. Dickinson read aloud the letter delivered today from Geauga County Engineer Bob Phillips to the residents of Hemlock Point Road. A representative of the Hemlock Point Road residents association read aloud a prepared statement. The Trustees were asked what they would do proactively to preserve the nature of Hemlock Point Road. Mr. Dickinson explained that the lines of communication have been opened. The Township roads have to be safe; the Geauga County Engineer is the resource the Township depends upon to ensure the roads are safe. Mr. Mueller is in favor of taking back Hemlock Point Road. Mr. Dickinson pointed out that when the resurfacing was estimated at \$350,000 it was a good choice for the Township not to have to incur those expenses. Now the widening job is estimated at \$1,000,000 and the Township cannot afford to pay that for Hemlock Point Road. Mr. Mueller said that the exchange of Caves Road for Music Street was also a good financial deal for the Township. The trouble the Township has now is over the widening of Hemlock Point Road. Mr. Buda, a Hemlock Point Road resident, stated that it is not in the best interests or mission of the Township. A request was made for an immediate injunction until a meeting is held to discuss the issues and a satisfactory agreement is reached. Mr. Dickinson pointed out that a meeting has been scheduled. Discussion is premature as the road plans have not been finalized. Mr. Madden wants to see the plans for Hemlock Point Road. It appears that the tree cutting was unwarranted, but the plans need to be reviewed. Mr. Madden pointed out that the Trustees have a responsibility to the entire Township. Governor Kasich has cut funding for local government and the estate taxes, so money is not an insignificant issue. Residents from other areas of Russell Township spoke in support of the Hemlock Point residents' concerns and demands. Mr. Mueller stated that if the residents really don't want Hemlock Point Road widened, they must convince Mr. Phillips to walk away from the Federal funding.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Chief Carroll has applied for a grant to provide for a prescription drop box in the Police Station lobby. He supports Chief Frazier's objections to the 17 day closure of Chillicothe Road. And, he is disappointed with the lack of communication on the project. Mr. Dickinson read aloud his draft letter to ODOT. *Mr. Mueller made the motion to authorize Mr. Dickinson to send a letter to ODOT District 12 regarding the closure of Chillicothe Road (SR 306). Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

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**ROAD DEPARTMENT - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:** *Mr. Madden made the motion to approve Resolution 2012-4: A Resolution to Order the Improvement of various roads, and the accompanying specifications prepared by the County Engineer. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**CLEMANS-NELSON:** Mrs. Heck is providing Mr. Brian Butcher, a representative of Clemans-Nelson Associates, with a copy of the current personnel policy manual. Mr. Dickinson agreed that it is time to get an update. He was very unhappy with the firm that the Township worked with most recently. Clemans-Nelson is a well respected firm that impressed Mrs. Heck at a conference in Columbus. Mr. Butcher will provide the Township with a proposal.

**WELLNESS PROGRAM:** Mrs. Heck reported briefly on a grant opportunity that is available for implementing a wellness program. A committee is needed to implement and set criteria for the program. The grant covers incentives for participants.

**COMMENTS WERE TAKEN FROM THE PUBLIC**

**WEBSITE CONTRACT:** Mr. Jim Abbott and Mr. Charlie Meyers, from WRIS, answered questions on their website redesign proposal. Social media was discussed briefly and it was agreed that this option would not be pursued for the time being. A calendar was not on the proposal's list of website features and this was deemed a necessity. *Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve the website redesign proposal, dated March 13, 2012, with WRIS Web Services, for an amount not to exceed \$6,500.00, and subject to the approval of the Geauga County Prosecutor as to form. Mr. Madden seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote: Mr. Mueller yes, Mr. Madden abstain, Mr. Dickinson yes. Mr. Madden abstained due to his friendship with a WRIS employee. Mr. Madden receives no benefit or gain from the WRIS contract with the Township.*

**BUS GARAGE:** The Township received the \$2,000.00 settlement check from the West Geauga Board of Education. Trailer title was not included. Mr. Kotowski, Russell resident and member of the WG Board of Education, will inquire about the title. Mr. Gallagher has the authority to dispose of the trailer. A letter may substitute for the title.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The next regular Trustees' meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 2nd, in the Russell Township Fire-Rescue Department.

A Special Meeting will be scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall to discuss the Hemlock Point Road project.

A Memorial Service is scheduled for Sunday, May 20, 2012 at Briar Hill.

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## Recycling events:

Motor Oil Recycling: resumes first Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m., April thru October

Appliance Collection: April 21st, 9 a.m. - noon, 12665 Merritt Rd, Chardon

Household Hazardous Waste Collection: May 12<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. - noon, Merritt Rd, Chardon

Scrap Tire Collection: May 19<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. - noon, Russell Recycling Center

Document Shredding: May 26<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. - noon, Russell Recycling Center

Document Destruction: June 9<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. - noon, Merritt Rd, Chardon

E-Waste Collection: August 11<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. - noon, Merritt Rd, Chardon

**PURCHASE ORDERS:** were approved for:

| Number  | Purpose                         | Amount    |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 77-2012 | Ladder inspection, heat sensors | \$ 416.00 |
| 78-2012 | Nightvision pocketscope         | 300.00    |
| 79-2012 | #411 Limestone                  | 880.02    |

Bills were approved as presented and drawn for same.

*Upon the motion of Mr. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Madden the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.*

James Dickinson, Chairman

Gerri Heck, Fiscal Officer  
Recorded by: M. Palmer