

RUSSELL TWP FIRE-RESCUE STATION

MAY 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman James Dickinson. Trustees James Mueller and Kristina Port were present.

Mr. Dickinson welcomed guests, and department heads Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Layne, and Mr. Machnics to the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

MINUTES: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2009 meeting as presented. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MONTHLY REPORTS: *Mr. Mueller moved to accept the March 2009 monthly departmental reports from the Fire, Maintenance, and Police departments. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MONTHLY REPORTS: *Ms. Port moved to acknowledge receipt of the April 2009 monthly departmental reports from the Fire, Maintenance, Police, Road, and Zoning departments. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT: Mr. Gallagher agreed at the request of Ms. Port to identify the pesticides used on Township properties for the Annual Stormwater Report.

Mr. Gallagher reported that the asphalt at the Recycling Center had been touched up. The repair is a temporary repair. Permanent solutions are quoted in estimates from GAR Paving. The best solution to repair the asphalt depends on the choices made concerning the Single Waste Hauler project.

Mr. Mueller said he did not intend to reduce the recycling center for 6 months after the beginning of the single waste hauler project. Mr. Dickinson mentioned that the sewer installation would rip up any asphalt repairs. Asphalt repairs are estimated at \$38,000.00. Mr. Gallagher recommended not spending the money if the new asphalt will just be ripped up.

The paving of the Town Hall and old Police Station lots will be discussed after the Budget workshops in June and after the sewer is installed.

Mr. Mueller indicated that he was not in favor of paving until someone is shown to actually use the former BP parking area.

Mr. Gallagher reminded the public that the Tire Recycling event is held at the Recycling Center on May 16th, and that the Memorial Observance is on May 17th from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Briar Hill Church.

ROAD DEPARTMENT: Mr. Layne reported that the Geauga County Engineer has provided revised cost estimates for the Russell Road Paving project. If five roads (Thornapple Dr, Woodsway La, West Ridge Dr, Sweetbriar La, Stonehedge Dr) are bid together then the estimate is \$515,000.00. Mr. Dickinson explained that the Township needs a loan to get all this paving accomplished. Mr. Dickinson said he had spoken with

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Ms. Heck. She has been in touch with National City Bank. National City Bank has committed to offer the Township \$700,000.00 at 3.25%. It is believed that the Township would be required to move the bank accounts to National City and establish a depository contract with them.

Pekin Road will not be repaved this year. Utility poles must be relocated which has caused a long delay. Geauga County will get an extension for the Township so that OPWC funding will not be lost.

Mr. Layne explained that the Clydesdale Trail Improvement will not significantly change the design of the Red Raider entrance. The problem in the past has been standing water. A catch basin and some regrading is intended to alleviate future problems. It is the County Engineer's assessment that the drainage changes will solve the problem. Mr. Layne has been in touch with the Red Raider Home Owners Association. *Mr. Mueller moved to approve Resolution 2009-07: A Resolution of Convenience and Necessity for the Improvement of Clydesdale Trail (TR 720) in Russell Township. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

BALANCED GROWTH: A discussion of the Balanced Growth Resolution was held with Amy Brennan, CRWP, and several members from the Zoning Commission in the audience to express their support for the Resolution and to answer questions from the Trustees. Mr. Rick Snyder indicated that by unanimous vote, the Zoning Commission recommended that the Township Trustees support the Balanced Growth Plan. The Zoning Commission did a very intensive job looking at the maps, Priority Development Areas (PDA), and Priority Conservation Areas (PCA). The Zoning Commission feels the Balanced Growth Amendment is another layer of support for what Russell is already doing. It reflects the Comprehensive Land Use Guide Plan adopted by the township in 1995. Ms. Brennan explained that the state's goal is to implement comprehensive planning. Russell has already been doing that for years with the Land Use Guide Plan and the riparian setbacks amendment. Members of the Zoning Commission assured the Trustees that the Balanced Growth Plan has no impact on property rights and does not impose mowing or fertilization restrictions on a property owner. The Balanced Growth Plan doesn't change the local codes, it works along with them. The Balanced Growth Plan does improve how requests for funding are viewed by other government entities. It opens up opportunities for property owners to receive extra points on grants.

Specific issue was made about the lack of a PDA at the intersection of SR 306 and Music Street. Ms. Port wants to place a PDA at that area. However, the Land Use Guide Plan calls for reduced growth at Music Street and SR 306. So, a PDA is not to be placed at that location. Mr. Snyder explained that the text of the BGA must change if the Music Street/SR 306 intersection needs sewers in the future.

Ms. Brennan explained that the text written for Russell Township goes into the Chagrin River Watershed Balanced Growth Plan. The Chagrin River Watershed Balanced Growth Plan can be updated by the request of the Township or if CRWP sees sewers going in to an area. *Mr. Mueller moved to*

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approve Resolution 2009-06: A Resolution supporting the Chagrin River Watershed Balanced Growth Plan in cooperation with the Ohio Lake Erie Commission's Balanced Growth Program.

Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the vote of Mr. Mueller aye, Ms. Port no, Mr. Dickinson aye.

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT: Mr. Chris Maksim, the Maintenance Zone Leader for the westerly portion of the Geauga Park District, introduced himself to the Trustees. He explained that his job is in operations. He schedules the daily jobs and works on maintenance projects. He will relay any questions or issues of concern to the proper people if any issues should arise in the future. He recommended that the Trustees' questions about spraying of herbicides would best be addressed to the Natural Resources staff.

POWER LINE VEGETATION CLEARING: *Ms. Port moved to approve the clearing of land in the power line right-of-way on land owned by the Russell Township Trustees and the application of herbicides according to the specifications of the EPA. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

WASTE WATER SEWER MEETING: A special meeting was held on April 25th to explain the estimated costs for property owners interested in participating in the sewer project. It is time to agree to participate or not to agree. A letter will go out as soon as possible. The letter will be reviewed by Mr. Gus Saikaly. It must be returned indicating the property owner's intent very promptly.

SINGLE WASTE HAULER PLAN: Mr. Mueller explained that the current single waste hauler plan was based on a contract that was let last year by Newton Falls. The key issue, he said, is recycling. The kinds of actual collections that will take place needs to be determined. Mr. Mueller is in favor of a choice of a 90 gallon dumpster or 3 large bags of any kind. He explained that this exclusive hauler plan allows us to become a greener community. The recycling ethic is huge in Russell. Russell would be much better off if we can combine increased recycling opportunities with reducing 2/3 of the truck traffic on the roads. The Township spends approximately \$7,300.00 on trash recycling annually. Mr. Mueller also hopes to achieve free trash collection for the Township owned properties in this plan. A public meeting will be scheduled when the plan is farther along.

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARDS: Resolutions of Congratulations will be written for Miss Sarah Brunner and Miss Caroline Alley who achieved Gold Awards in Girl Scouts.

SB100: Mr. Mueller and Ms. Port expressed their individual support for SB 100 to local authorities in the past weeks. Mr. Dickinson requested that a Resolution of Support for SB 100 be presented to the Board of Trustees for their signatures at the next meeting.

COSE ELECTRIC PROGRAM: Ms. Port explained that COSE is intending to offer electric aggregation rates to their members. Currently, COSE is attempting to determine the size

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of its member aggregate electrical demand. The May 12th wholesale electricity auction will determine the standard service offer price for electricity generation. Based on that auction COSE may be able to offer savings to its members. There is no commitment required, but a letter of authorization and copies of all the electric bills for the township is necessary before May 8th. The Trustees see no downside to investigation this potential cost savings program. *Mr. Mueller made the motion to submit a letter authorizing COSE to solicit electric generation supply pricing on behalf of Russell Township and to release all pertinent historical energy usage information. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

TECHNOLOGY: Ms. Port has been in contact with Dave Davidson of CONNECTOHIO, who is promoting an initiative that uses ARRA funding to bring broadband services to underserved communities. Ms. Port is also communicating with Mr. Steve Decatur, from Geauga County, to see what cost savings could be had if we changed phone service, IT service, etc.

NE OHIO PLANNING AND ZONING WORKSHOP: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve reasonable and necessary expenses not to exceed \$500.00 for up to 6 people to attend the NE Ohio Planning & Zoning Workshop on June 5, 2009 in Mentor. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

OTA ZONING SEMINAR: *Ms. Port made the motion to approve reasonable and necessary expenses not to exceed \$170.00 for Mr. Ric Machnics to attend the OTA Zoning Seminar on May 22, 2009 in Blacklick, Ohio. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

REQUEST FOR USE OF TOWN HALL: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to grant permission for the Hackamore Woods Homeowners Association to use the Town Hall on June 8, 2009, subject to Township rules and regulations. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

COMMENTS WERE TAKEN FROM THE PUBLIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Memorial Observance will be held at Briar Hill Church on May 17th, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. The next regular Trustees' meeting will be held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 20, 2009 in the Russell Township Fire-Rescue Department. A free program called Greenscape Your Yard will be held on May 20th from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the West Woods, rain or shine.

PURCHASE ORDERS: were approved for:

Number	Purpose	Amount
90-2009	Park Commission share of Rollback	\$11,986.94
91-2009	Firefighter II Training Agility	2,083.00
92-2009	3 carrying cases,back pouches,LP12	951.70
93-2009	modem for LP12	537.00
94-2009	LP12 modem year service & activation	120.00
95-2009	remove 2 trees on Sweetbriar,culvert	625.00
96-2009	replace culverts on Sweetbriar La	12,894.00
97-2009	interest payment, fire sta bond	79,880.00

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

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Bills were approved as presented and drawn for same.

Upon the motion of Mr. Mueller and seconded by Ms. Port the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Dickinson
Chairman
Board of Trustees

Melissa Palmer
Administrative Secretary