

RUSSELL FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

June 16, 2010

Chairman James Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Trustees James Dickinson and Kristina Port were present. Mr. Mueller welcomed guests, and Police Chief Carroll.

The Pledge was said.

MINUTES: *Ms. Port moved to accept the minutes of June 2nd, 2010, as presented. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MONTHLY REPORTS: *Mr. Dickinson moved to acknowledge receipt of the May, 2010 monthly departmental report from the Fire Department. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MONTHLY REPORTS: *Mr. Dickinson moved to accept the May, 2010 monthly departmental reports from the Maintenance, Police, Road, and Zoning Departments. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

POLICE DEPARTMENT: *Mr. Dickinson moved to accept the \$100.00 donation from Pepper Pike resident Mrs. Sylvia Oliver to be split 50% for the Police Department and 50% for the Fire Department, and used at the discretion of the respective Chiefs. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Chief Carroll reported that the new vehicle arrived and is now in service. He also reported that the new Glock weapons purchased were a great deal and are also in service. The Police Department has a 50% matching grant for vests. The balance in the grant from the Department of Justice is \$3,000.00. For each \$700.00 vest purchased a check is received for \$350.00. An alcohol check was conducted in the County and the Russell Police Department participated. Thirteen establishments in the County were cited for illegal liquor sales. Frequently, the cause of the illegal sale is a sales clerk simply failing to look up at the purchaser for age verification.

Chief Carroll was asked by Mr. Mueller to begin investigating a turn-key style project with the goal of enclosing and caging in a portion of the Old Fire Station for storage purposes. Ms. Port said that Mr. Bonner could prepare a plan to retrofit the building. No one should have access to the bay except the Police Department. A chain link fence and security camera would need to be utilized to ensure that evidence is not compromised. Chief Carroll would like to store the new \$8,000.00 speed trailer and the accident trailer. The accident trailer needs to be in a climate controlled environment. The Police Station currently has a cage in its garage. Chief Carroll will contact the vendor from the police station to give an estimate on dividing one bay into halves. One half of the bay would be secured for the Police Department, and one half of the bay would be for the Fire Station. He is interested in storage for two trailers. Chief Carroll does not want to incur a large expense, but storage would be great to have. Mr. Mueller wants specialists to provide some product literature and expertise. Mr. Gallagher is interested in removing the front bay doors and planting grass in front of the building. The

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costs for energy are astronomical.

FISCAL OFFICER: Ms. Heck requested the Trustees to come in and sign payroll checks this weekend. Mr. Dickinson will be out of town so the other Trustees will be required to sign.

The Township Public Budget Hearing will be scheduled for July 7th at the regular meeting. Ms. Heck will meet with the County Budget Commission on August 17th at 2 p.m.

Mrs. Heck reported that she did not receive money from Time-Warner for the franchise fee this year. In 2008 and 2009 the check came in February. Mr. Dickinson said it is definitely worth asking about. If a VSA or franchise fee is still in effect the Township is entitled to it. Ms. Port mentioned that the franchise fee is still coming on her residential cable bill, so the Township should expect money. Mr. Dickinson explained that last year Time-Warner withdrew the VSA so the franchise fee should still be in effect.

COMMENTS WERE TAKEN FROM THE PUBLIC

WASTE WATER SEWER PROJECT: Mr. Mueller explained that the Township has been working to assist local property owners with their attempt to get a private waste water treatment system near the intersection of S.R. 306 and S. R. 87. This project was not successful. Mr. Dickinson explained that it was difficult in this economy for the local landowners to raise the necessary money. Further, there was no identifiable and guaranteed cost to the participants. The costs varied depending on who was participating. Mr. Dickinson presented financing questions to the Geauga County Prosecutor's Office. He was told that the Township could not front the money. The Township could not front the engineering expenses. And, the Township could not participate without paying prevailing wage rates.

Due to cost and time issues, the Township now needs to move forward with a pump station and 2 inch force pressure line. Mr. Mueller gave credit to Mr. Dickinson for his extensive efforts to rally the land owners at the intersection. The responsibility for the project has now defaulted back to the Township. Mr. Mueller recommends that the project be spearheaded by the Township with the plan that the sewer will be a public utility owned by Russell Township. Three years ago Hess and Associates Engineering provided an estimate for a force pressure line option. At that time, the cost for a gravity sewer was two and one half times larger than the cost for a force pressure line. The gravity line had further complications in that it required a mechanical lift for the basement sanitary facilities at the Township Administration Building which would be an additional expense. Ms. Port expressed her concerns with becoming a public utility. Mr. Mueller explained that becoming a private utility was one of the three possible approaches identified by Gus Saikaly when this need for a waste water system became apparent.

Ms. Port prefers the gravity option because it is self-limiting. She understood that the County would not agree to put a sewer line on the north side of S.R. 87 and on the south side of S.R. 87. Mr. Mueller assured Ms. Port that a small gravity sewer could flow from west to east on the north

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side of S.R. 87, cross under the road, and then come into the Russell Township pump station. The pump station would pump out through a 2" or 3" line going east to west on the south side of S.R. 87. Mr. Mueller said that other properties can be handled easily. Ms. Port said that the County should manage the sewer not the Township because the County has done many waste water systems and are in the business. The focus should be on solving the waste water problem. Ms. Port is against privatizing the project and she is amenable to a gravity sewer. Mr. Mueller and Mr. Dickinson agreed that the local businesses may come to the Township. *Mr. Mueller made the motion to proceed with a Township owned and controlled utility plan allowing for a gravity line flowing east on the north side and crossing under S.R. 87, leading to a pump station that pushes along the south side of S.R. 87 and across S.R. 306. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion.* Ms. Port asked for further discussion. She wishes to review again the Water Resources recommendation and to address how the businesses will access the sewer lines. *The vote was: Mr. Dickinson yes, Ms. Port no, Mr. Mueller yes.* Mr. Mueller will contact Mr. Hess. The force main plan will tie in the old Fire Station into the waste water system.

CELL PHONE SURVEY: Resident Mr. Winston appealed again to the Trustees to help him get the word out about his cell phone coverage survey project. Mr. Winston would like the Township to use its means to communicate the need for the survey. Mr. Winston wants to accumulate hundreds of data points throughout Russell that identify the residents' cell phone company and signal strength both inside and outside homes. He says there would be a direct benefit to the Township through productivity enhancements, safety improvements, and cost savings. Mr. Mueller explained that the ORC does not give the Trustees the authority to act in this manner. Mr. Mueller asked if there was an instrument that could assist Mr. Winston in his information gathering venture. Mr. Winston owns the instrument but it cannot get readings inside people's homes and has the signal strength to work on approximately 5% of the residences. While Mr. Winston can test the 2 major bands, he cannot test any of the sub-bands. Cell carriers operate on different sub-bands. Mr. Dickinson recommended advertising in the newspaper and explained that he had already written Mr. Winston explaining an opinion from the Ohio Attorney General. Statutorily the Township Trustees cannot spend taxpayer money on projects outside of their authority.

LAUREL SCHOOL 208 VARIANCE: Laurel School has recently requested a variance to the 208 Plan to tie a second building into their existing package treatment plant. Mr. Morgan has provided the information requested about the design capacity of the plant, the existing use amount, and the proposed use amount after the second building is tied in to the plant. The Trustees will address the issue and finalize their decisions at the July 7, 2010 Trustee Meeting.

HACKAMORE EASEMENTS: Mr. Miller and Mr. Stanforth attended the meeting to discuss with the Trustees the situation of the fire easement in Hackamore Woods that affects their properties. Mr. Dickinson discussed possible changes to the draft easement language based on issues suggested in a letter received previously from Mr. Miller. Mr. Dickinson said that

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the initial solution was to move the easement to where the drive actually is. The Township will maintain the area only as much as the Maintenance and Fire Departments think is necessary for access of the trucks. Mr. Stanforth objects to the amount of his yard that the drafted easement would occupy. He does not wish to give the easement up into perpetuity, and he wants the road repaired. Finally, Mr. Stanforth wants compensation for his property. It is illegal for the Township to repair the drive without an easement so until an agreement is reached no repair will be done. Mr. Mueller suggested that the Township dig a pipe from the pond and put a dry hydrant at the road side. Then a fire truck would not have to go through the two properties. The Township will look into the hydraulics and find out if a truck can draw water that far. Mr. Mueller also suggested that the Township buy the property. Mr. Miller wanted to know how much money the Township would offer. Mr. Stanforth said to buy the properties the Township needs both residents to agree. Mr. Stanforth said it did not serve his purpose. Mr. Stanforth said that having the hydrant moved to the street is satisfactory to him. Mr. Miller also said that moving the hydrant is appealing to him.

BUS GARAGE LEASE: Mr. Dickinson read the letter he sent to Dr. Podojil, Superintendent of West Geauga Schools, months ago regarding the bus garage lease. He explained that a response came recently. Dr. Podojil is requesting two changes to the submitted draft. The first change is the revision of the lease end date in the contract. Dr. Podojil would like to have the lease extended to December 31, 2010. He does not think the busses will remain on the premises for the full extension but he is worried about weather delaying the new site construction past the drafted October date. The second revision requested is a change in the responsibility for payment of the environmental analysis. Dr. Podojil would like to share the expenses of the environmental work 50% - 50% with the Township. The Trustees stated that whatever pollution is on the bus garage site is there because of the school bus use. The School Board should conduct a Phase I analysis. If it reflects bad results then a Phase II should be paid for by the School Board. When the busses vacate the premises the trailer and above ground fuel tank will leave.

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

The Budget Hearing for the 2011 Budget will be held at 7:15 p.m. at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Township Trustees on July 7, 2010 at the Russell Township Fire-Rescue Station.

Dines Road is closed as of June 1st between S.R. 306 and Caves Road. It is expected to be closed for 60 days for bridge replacement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Mr. Dickinson made the motion to move into executive session for a discussion of the compensation of public employees, pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22(G)(1). Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

The meeting moved into executive session at 9:18 p.m. Mr.

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Mueller made the motion to move back into regular session and Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously and the meeting reconvened into regular session at 9:26 p.m.

EMPLOYEE INCREASE IN COMPENSATION: *Ms. Port made the motion to approve a 2 percent increase in compensation for Russell Township employees who are not subject to a collective bargaining agreement. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

PURCHASE ORDERS: were approved for:

Number	Purpose	Amount
124-2010	Park's portion of Laurel Sch ck	\$1,324.71
125-2010	New tires for cruisers, tire fee	\$1,613.44
126-2010	Motorola radios, Police Dept.	\$44,815.65
127-2010	Repairs, gabion wall, Hillbrook Dr.	\$6,850.00

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 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Mueller, Chairman

Gerri Heck, Fiscal Officer