

RUSSELL FIRE-RESCUE STATION

DECEMBER 7, 2011

Chairman James Dickinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Trustee Kristina Port was present. A quorum was noted. Trustee Jim Mueller arrived at 7:07 p.m. Mr. Dickinson welcomed guests and Maintenance Superintendent Jack Gallagher.

The Pledge was said.

**MINUTES:** *Ms. Port made the motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 16, 2011, as presented. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed.*

**MONTHLY REPORTS:** *Ms. Port made the motion to accept the October, 2011 monthly departmental report from the Fire Department. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed.*

**MONTHLY REPORTS:** *Ms. Port made the motion to acknowledge receipt of the November, 2011 monthly departmental reports from the Fire, Police, Maintenance, Road, & Zoning Departments. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed.*

**BUS GARAGE:** Mr. Gallagher reported that the abatement of the former Bus Garage is complete. The asbestos and lead have been totally removed. The building is wide open as the doors and windows have been removed. The large concrete slab remains on site. The small slab will be demolished due to the 16 inch grade differential. The Trustees agreed that the building should be demolished. *Mr. Mueller made the motion to authorize the Maintenance Superintendent to schedule the demolition of the former Bus Garage by a suitable company for an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.* Mr. Dickinson read aloud the recent letter from John Podgurski, legal counsel for West Geauga Board of Education. Mr. Dickinson identified the storage unit, gas pump, and gas tank as fixtures permanently attached to Township property. Mr. Gallagher told the Trustees that the trailer is titled. Mr. Mueller suggested waiting to see what West Geauga did with the bill presented to them. Mr. Dickinson will write a letter to Mr. Podgurski.

**TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS:** The Trustees and Fiscal Officer discussed the details of the Temporary Appropriations Resolution. *Mr. Mueller made the motion to adopt the Temporary Township Annual Appropriation Resolution for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, as recommended by the Fiscal Officer. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion. After further discussion, the vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.*

**NOPEC APPROPRIATION:** *Ms. Port made the motion to adopt Resolution 2011-17, a resolution establishing fund 4903 Miscellaneous Capital Projects and appropriating to that fund \$50,000.00. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.* The NOPEC grant money will be received in four installments of \$12,500.00. The Township is required to track how the money is used.

**ROAD PROJECTS 2012:** Mrs. Heck reported that the Township had recently received estate tax money. Mr. Layne will try to pave more Township roads with the new money. Mr. Layne added Surrey Downs Road and Riddle Road to his list of 2012 Road

RUSSELL FIRE-RESCUE STATION

DECEMBER 7, 2011

Projects for the County Engineer. *Ms. Port made the motion to send to the County Engineer for review, the revised proposed road projects for 2012 as recommended by the Road Department Superintendent. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION 2011-19:** *Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve Resolution 2011-19, authorizing the following transfer of funds:  
Within the Fire Rescue Fund \$5,000 from Motor Vehicle (Secondary Vehicle), line item 2111-760-750-0050, to Salaries 2111-220-190-0000. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE ZONING COMMISSION:** *Mr. Mueller made the motion that Donna Weiss Carson be re-appointed to a full 5-year term on the Zoning Commission commencing January 1, 2012. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS:** *Mr. Dickinson spoke with Fred Cuffari about his re-appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Mr. Cuffari wishes to be reappointed but is concerned that he may move out of Russell Township due to job requirements in the very near future. The Trustees discussed the possibility of appointing an alternate to the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Trustees tabled further discussion of appointing an alternate. Mr. Mueller made the motion that Fred Cuffari be re-appointed to a full 5-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals commencing January 1, 2012. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**NATURAL GAS:** *Mr. Chris Schloss, Russell resident, spoke to the Trustees about the Township's natural gas accounts. He represents a company that he says can provide savings to the Township by marketing the accounts to a new gas supplier. Mr. Mueller is interested in a variable rate account. Mr. Schloss offered an estimated NYMEX forecast price plus \$0.98. He stated that IGS charges \$2.98 over NYMEX, and that Integrys charges \$1.30 over NYMEX. Mr. Schloss proposes a 12 month contract for variable rate accounts. There is no termination fee with 30 days notice of cancellation. Mr. Dickinson suggested the Trustees discuss the issue with the department heads at the next Trustees meeting. Mr. Schloss explained that unless the Township switched promptly to Blue Flame Energy as their marketer the savings would not be realized for several months. Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve Blue Flame Energy as the exclusive marketer for seven Russell Township natural gas accounts at a variable rate for 12 months. Mr. Dickinson seconded the motion. Ms. Port asked for further discussion. The Township would be locked in to a fixed adder of \$0.98 over the NYMEX wholesale price. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Schloss will present the contract for the three Trustees to sign.*

**DENTAL INSURANCE:** *Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve the*

RUSSELL FIRE-RESCUE STATION

DECEMBER 7, 2011

2012 Delta Dental Insurance New PEBA 1250 Plan. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**TRUSTEES' MEETING SCHEDULE:** Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve the Trustees' 2012 regular meeting schedule as presented. Ms. Port seconded the motion. The vote was Mr. Mueller yes, Ms. Port abstain, Mr. Dickinson yes. The motion passed.

**VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS' DEPENDENTS FUND:** Mr. Mueller made the motion to appoint Mr. Mueller and Mr. Dickinson as the Township Trustee representatives to the Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents Fund for 2012. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**ZONING COMMISSION REFRESHMENTS:** Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve up to \$100.00 for the purchase of a party tray & cookies for the volunteers serving on the Zoning Commission. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**CVIGC MEETING:** The Trustees have volunteered to host the February meeting of the Chagrin Valley Intergovernmental Council in the Training Room of the Russell Fire-Rescue Department.

**NATURAL GAS LEASES:** Mr. Mueller suggested that he send a letter to Mr. Dave Dietrich and the County Planning Commission stressing the need to protect both resources and landowners involved in natural gas leases. Mr. Mueller suggested that model leases be made available that are favorable to landowners. Mr. Dickinson will contact the Bar Association so that they may have the model leases as resource material also. The Planning Commission may schedule a day long training event on this topic in the future.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The next regular Trustees' meeting will be held Wednesday, December 21st, in the Russell Township Fire-Rescue Station.

The Road Department Holiday Collection for needy families in Geauga County begins November 24<sup>th</sup> and runs through December 19<sup>th</sup>. Donations may be left any time inside the front door at the Road Garage, 15625 Chillicothe Rd. Accepting gently used household items, clothes, toys, and non-perishable food. Call Gene Layne with questions, 338-5309.

Mr. Dickinson thanked the Historical Society for their work on the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony. The event was a very pleasant one.

**PURCHASE ORDERS:** were approved for:

Number	Purpose	Amount
185-2011	Rock Salt, Ice Control	\$ 469.42
186-2011	Electric mini-tank water heater	\$ 250.00
187-2011	Road Anticipation Note	\$160,652.92
188-2011	Replace transmission #8181	\$ 3,256.73
189-2011	HRA draw	\$ 4,500.00
190-2011	2012 annual air sample contract	\$ 1,160.00
191-2011	Snow Plow blades/bolts & guards	\$ 2,306.52
192-2011	Fire gear, coats, pants	\$ 11,116.46

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

RUSSELL FIRE-RESCUE STATION

DECEMBER 7, 2011

193-2011 Demolition of Bus Garage	\$ 6,980.00
194-2011 Asbestos removal	\$ 5,200.00
195-2011 Sets of dress uniforms	\$ 4,485.00
196-2011 Curbside Collection	\$ 4,128.00

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 8:52 p.m.*

James Dickinson, Chairman

Gerri Heck, Fiscal Officer  
Recorded by M. Palmer