

FIRE RESCUE STATION

December 16, 2009

The Chairman James Dickinson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Trustees Jim Mueller and Kristina Port were present. Mr. Dickinson welcomed guests, and Fire Chief John Frazier. Police Chief Tim Carroll was on vacation and was excused from the meeting.

The Pledge was said.

MINUTES: *Mr. Mueller moved to accept the minutes of December 2, 2009, as presented. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MONTHLY REPORTS: *Mr. Mueller moved to accept the November 2009, Department Reports from the Fire, Maintenance, Police, Road, and Zoning Departments. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

FIRE DEPT.: Chief Frazier reported that the Fire Department's technology consultant has recommended that a new server be purchased. The present server has been in use for six years.

The new ambulance should be delivered in about 30 days. Assistant Fire-Rescue Dept. Chief will be inspecting the ambulance next Monday.

STAFFING: Chief Frazier presented a staffing proposal. This is a continuation of discussions held last summer at the budget workshop. There is a need to attract more personnel to the Fire Rescue Dept. The Fire Dept. has a focus group that has been meeting to find a solution to the problem. This proposal is a result of these meetings. Nighttime on call person would be added. All certified Russell Firefighters and EMT personnel, who respond to emergency calls or attend, approved scheduled fire or emergency medical service training be paid \$8.00 per hour. Part-time personnel payment would be cut by \$1.00 an hour.

Mr. Mueller asked if adding another full-time paramedic would help. Chief Frazier indicated it would not. Mr. Frazier has estimated the cost of this proposal would add a \$54,000 increase in personnel costs. It was figured at the highest possible rate. Mr. Dickinson said we need to start paying to attract people. Mr. Frazier said that surrounding communities such as Chester and Bainbridge are paying for around the clock personnel. Ms. Port said she was reluctant to hire another full-time person until the state has finished its legislation. She is afraid of unionization. Mr. Mueller said he doesn't want a situation when they are not giving their best.

Equipment needs were discussed.

Mr. Dickinson commented that the Township has been living on borrowed time. Mr. Mueller said he appreciated all the time Chief Frazier has put in on this project. Mr. Frazier thanked the Fire Dept. members for all the extra time they donated to this project.

The Trustees asked Chief Frazier to give them a break down of money for different staffing situations.

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TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS: The Fiscal Officer presented Temporary Appropriations for 2010 and answered Trustees' questions. *Mr. Mueller moved to adopt Resolution 2009-23: the Temporary Township Annual Appropriation Resolution for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010, as recommended by the Fiscal Officer. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The public comments were taken.

HEALTH INSURANCE: Burnham and Flowers Insurance Group have sent the upcoming United Health Care renewal. This renewal is a 22% increase. The Trustees were disappointed by the increase and want a universal application filled out by employees so the insurance agent can look for other plans.

REAPPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: Mr. Dickinson reported he spoke to Mr. Downing and he was willing to serve another term on the Board of Zoning Appeals. *Mr. Mueller made the motion that William Downing be re-appointed to a full 5-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals commencing January 1, 2010. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

TRUSTEE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2010: Mr. Dickinson made a proposal that since so much of the Trustees' business is routine that the Board meet once a month and more special meetings would be held for specific issues. He also suggested that the meetings begin at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Mueller was opposed to this idea. He felt the Board should act as one on matters. The Board needs to discuss issues and that was too long of a time period between meetings. Ms. Port said monthly meetings might be too long of a time period between meetings. She wasn't sure how she felt and suggested they have the organizational meeting on January 11th and discuss the meeting scheduling again.

BOY SCOUT RESOLUTIONS: *Ms. Port made the motion to pass Resolution 2009-24: A Resolution of Congratulations to Eagle Scout Recipient Mr. John Eugene Terbizan. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Ms. Port made the motion to pass Resolution 2009-25: A Resolution of Congratulations to Eagle Scout Recipient Mr. Aubrey Shaner. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

HACKAMORE WOODS: Mr. Dickinson reported he had sent the Hackamore Woods papers to Mr. Pearce Leary. Mr. Leary had some questions. He wanted to know if the Trustees wanted an exclusive or non-exclusive easement. He will draft an exclusive easement.

HEALTH INSURANCE: *Mr. Mueller made the motion to approve Resolution 2009-26 that whereas it is the intent of the Russell Board of Trustees to fulfill the obligations imposed upon it under Section 505.60 of the Ohio Revised Code now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of Russell*

Township, Geauga County, Ohio that elected Township officers and their immediate dependents shall be included in the township paid health, group life, vision and dental insurance, effective January 1, 2010. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Mueller made a motion to approve that any Township officer or full-time employee who elects not to participate in the Township's health care plan, the Township will reimburse the officer or full-time employee for each out-of-pocket premium that the officer or employee incurs for insurance policies as provided in section 505.601 of the Revised Code. This payment will not exceed an amount equal to the average premium paid by the Township for officers and employees under policies it procures effective January 1, 2010. Ms. Port seconded the motion. The vote was Mr. Mueller yes, Ms. Port abstained and Mr. Dickinson yes.

MILEAGE REPORT: The Trustees signed the Annual Township Highway System Mileage Report certification sheets. There are 56 miles of Township roads.

PARK DISTRICT: There have been some reports of hunting on Township Park property. Mr. Mueller suggested that the Upper Chagrin Preserve property might be given to the Russell Township Park Commission. His thought was that it might give the Park Commission some more leverage when they wanted to purchase other property. There will need to be an investigation to see if the donors put any restrictions on the property.

MISCELLANEOUS: Ms. Port reported she attended an O.D.D. monthly meeting. They are looking for projects to support.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: County Line Road is now open. The next regular Trustees' meeting will be held at 7 p.m., Monday, January 11. The Road Department Holiday Collection for needy families in Geauga County is through December 21st.

PURCHASE ORDERS: were approved for:

Number	Purpose	Amount
199-2009	Water Treatment System	\$ 3,963.00
200 2009	Replace 162' of Guardrail	3,212.50
201 2009	4 Computers/Monitors	4,029.83
202-2009	Door Repair	545.00
203-2009	Replace Transmission on Mack #47	7,899.35
204-2009	December Natural Gas	4,190.57
198-2009	Culvert Pipe and Supplies	633.50

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 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR

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Jim Dickinson, Chairman

Gerri Heck, Fiscal Officer