

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Trustees of Sycamore Township Meeting Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio

March 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Present for the meeting were President Bishop, Vice President Connor, Trustee Weidman, Fiscal Officer Porter, Law Director Miller, Planning/Zoning Director/Acting Administrator Bickford, Superintendent Kellums, Parks/Recreation Director McKeown, Interim Fire Chief Penny, and Lt. Ketteman from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Patrol Update

Lt. Ketteman reported that the February statistics were in line with other months. He stated that five of the eight burglaries were at businesses and 41 of the 45 breaking and entering cases were against businesses as well.

Lt. Ketteman reported that a solicitor in the north who has felony probation warrants was apprehended by Deputies Kidd and Singleton after a pursuit. The residents told Mr. Weidman they were pleased with the effort of the Sheriff's office.

Lt. Ketteman reported that they continue to monitor and police the panhandler situations at the highway exit ramps. In addition, the Sheriff's office will begin motorcycle patrols in the spring and will work on citing motorists who block the Kenwood and Orchard intersection.

Mr. Bishop asked for an update on the situation with the people taking advantage of the older gentleman near Wexford and Longford. Lt. Ketteman reported that the Sheriff's office was involved and working with the church to remedy the situation and get the resident the help he needs.

Lt. Ketteman reported that several deputies worked to apprehend burglars at Plas Plumbing.

Safety Equipment Purchase

Chief Penny presented a request to repair 18 sets of turnout gear at a cost of \$3,300 each. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connor to approve the request. All voted, Yes.

Chief Penny presented a proposal to add safety markings to various firefighter gear and equipment at a cost of \$15,716.10. These markings utilize advanced glow in the dark technology that will remain illuminated for many hours after being exposed to light and will greatly improve firefighter safety. Mr. Bickford stated that FoxFire was a sole source provider for this type of equipment. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connor. All voted, Yes.

Auction Update

Chief Penny reported that the fire truck sold for \$8,000.

Parks and Recreation Update

Mr. McKeown reported that baseball has started at McDaniel and Bechtold parks and Moeller will begin season at Schuler on Wednesday.

Mr. McKeown stated that CHCA, Mount Notre Dame and Landmark Christian are now using Township fields. In addition, there is now a girls fast pitch softball league at McDaniel.

Mr. McKeown reported that festival sponsorships are slowly coming in. Mr. Weidman requested an update on the status of various sponsorship requests and the Board will work on seeing what other sponsorship opportunities exist.

Hartzell Agreement

The resolution “Approving an Agreement with the Hartzell United Methodist Church for a Yard Waste Disposal Site” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading and declaring an emergency. Vote: All Aye. Resolution No. 2014-29 passed this 18th day of March, 2014.

Salt Purchase

Mr. Kellums reported that ODOT had requested information from communities that were interested in partnering with them on a 2014 salt purchase. The ODOT process requires communities to state how much salt they want without knowing the cost. They are then obligated to buy it.

Mr. Weidman asked how much salt we had left. Mr. Kellums reported about 300 tons.

Mr. Kellums stated that in the past we have partnered with the City of Cincinnati where we have received good prices and are not committed to buy until we know the price. The purchase should happen sometime in April.

The Board directed Mr. Kellums to continue working with the City of Cincinnati.

Crack Seal Purchase

Mr. Kellums presented a proposal to purchase 33,000 lbs of road crack sealant for \$16,200 from DJL Material & Supply. This purchase is in cooperation with several other townships. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connor to approve the purchase. All voted, Yes.

Proposal for Geotechnical Exploration

The resolution “Authorizing a Contract with Thelen Associates for Geotechnical Exploration” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading and declaring an emergency. Vote: All Aye. Resolution No. 2014-30 passed this 18th day of March, 2014.

Montgomery/Hosbrook Road Update

Mr. Kellums reported that we continue to wait on Duke Energy to procure the necessary easements.

Mr. Miller reported that the green space easement release issue with Duke Realty and the right-of-way property for purchase on Hosbrook Road was close to being completed.

Mr. Bickford reported that General Growth Properties had approved the underground utility easement and they were working with Duke Energy to get it executed.

Bench Billboards

Mr. Bickford reported that there were several bench billboards located in areas where they were not approved per the consent decree in the 1980's. Mr. Miller stated that an injunction would be required to remove them.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connor to direct Mr. Miller to begin the injunction process. All voted, Yes.

Mr. Weidman asked Mr. Miller to look into a set aside provision on the consent decree for the bench billboards. Mr. Miller stated that will be a longer term process, but he will get started on it.

Firefighter Hiring

Mr. Bickford requested that the fire department be allowed to hire a replacement firefighter for Unit 3. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connor to begin the hiring process. All voted, Yes.

Upcoming Public Hearing

Mr. Bickford reported that case 2014-03P2 was set for a public hearing on April 3, 2014 at 6:45 p.m. Mr. Bickford presented the request from The North Face for signage and stated that Zoning Commission recommended denial. Since the Zoning Commission case, The North Face has submitted a partial set of new drawings that will be presented at the public hearing.

Mr. Bishop requested a copy of the revised staff report when it is completed.

Purchase Orders over \$2,500

There were no other purchase orders over \$2,500.00 submitted for approval.

Schedule

The schedule of upcoming events was read by Mr. Bishop.

Mr. Weidman asked when the Township document shredding event was. Mr. Bickford reported that it was after the April 15th tax day and was on the website calendar.

Executive Session – Property Acquisition

A motion to enter into **Executive Session for Property Acquisition** was made by Trustee Bishop. Roll call vote: Weidman: Aye; Bishop: Aye; Connor: Aye.

End regular session: 9:54 a.m.

Begin Executive Session: 9:59 a.m.

End Executive Session: 10:17 a.m.

Back in regular session: 10:17 a.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Connor and seconded by Trustee Weidman. Vote: All Aye.

End regular session: 10:17 a.m.

Cliff W. Bishop, President

Dennis W. Connor, Vice President

Thomas J. Weidman, Trustee

Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

Greg Bickford, Assistant Administrator
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