

## Walnut Township Trustees Meeting

October 21, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM. Trustees Doug Leith, William Yates and Terry Horn were present.

The minutes for September 15<sup>th</sup> were presented for approval. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve the minutes with changes. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

The minutes for October 7<sup>th</sup> were presented for approval. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve the minutes with changes. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Budget worksheets for the Road and Bridge Funds – 2011, 2021, 2031, and 2231 – were distributed for discussion. The worksheets contain the last four years actual information and carryout the next 5 years at the same expenses and revenues. After discussion, it was decided to have the spreadsheets changed to reflect a 3% increase in expenses each year and decrease the amount retained in the individual funds for carryover in to the next fiscal year. There was a discussion regarding the amount that the township retains to carry over to the next fiscal year and as emergency funds.

Trustee Horn made a motion to set the baseline for the funds as follows – 2011 - \$30K; 2021 - \$60K; 2031 - \$300K; and 2231 - \$60K. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

It was discussed that there is a perception by the public that the township has 1.5 million in financial reserves and how to correct that misconception by the public. It was mentioned that the township does have over 1.5 million in revenue each year but over 1 million of those funds are exclusively designated to the fire fund and ems fund.

Tim mentioned that there is a need to trim trees. It was decided that the funds remaining from the Blacklick Rd project could be reallocated for tree expenses. Trustee Horn made a

motion to approve allocating \$8K for tree trimming. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Horn made a motion to approve checks 24496 through 24515, and EFT 2014-667 through EFT 2014-699, after being certified that funds are available and appropriations have been made by Fiscal Officer Kraner. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

### **Comments from the floor**

There were no comments from the floor.

### **Departments**

**Chief Hite – Thurston Walnut Township Fire Department** - Chief attended the Traffic Incident Management conference in Wintersville. Burt Snook is attending fire training and using the fire department car.

**Tim Morris – Roads** – Tim and Mike are working on the cracksealing and hope to have it completed next Tuesday – if weather permits. The check for the safety grant from OTARMA for safety equipment has been received.

Tim has been working on the Critical Infrastructure Grant. At this time, the in-kind work would probably amount to 9 weeks work and there would be \$5k out of pocket for stone.

### **Old Business**

Trustee Horn is meeting with AEP's counsel next Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, regarding Blacklick Road.

Trustee Horn presented Kevin Clouse's draft regarding the penalty for failing to obtain a zoning permit. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve the policy regarding penalties for failing to obtain a Zoning Permit. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Penalties Would Be –

New Homes – 100%  
Additions – 75%  
Accessory Structure – 50%  
All Other Building Permits – 25%

Trustee Leith made a motion to waive the penalty on application 14-62 for the property at 170 Holder Rd. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

There was a discussion regarding levies. Trustee Yates checked surrounding townships and determined that many of them have road and bridge levies in place.

### **New Business**

There was a discussion regarding the paycheck for Anne Darling-Cyphert. Fiscal Officer Kraner will contact Anne and then notify the trustees of the outcome. A report reflecting Anne's paystubs will be emailed to her.

Trustee Horn discussed that there are several firefighters that are close to 1500 hours and in order to have an accurate number, the regular hours must be added to the overtime hours. Chief Hite stated he was aware of the firefighters close to 1500 hours.

Interstate Gas will be the preferred vendor for the area of the township serviced by AEP. The cost will be 6.91 cents/kilowatt hour, which should be approximately a \$140 savings per year. The program is expected to begin in December or January.

At 8:57 PM, Trustee Horn made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

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Lynn Kraner, Fiscal Officer

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William Yates, Chairman

Terry Horn

Doug Leith