

**WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**March 3, 2008**  
**7:00 pm**

Chairperson, Carolyn Sims called the meeting to order @7:00 pm by asking those in attendance to stand and Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

**Trustees in attendance:** James Likley, Carolyn Sims, Timothy Kratzer

Also in attendance was Fiscal Officer/Clerk, Martha Evans.

A sign in roster for others that were in attendance is attached to the minutes in the clerk's office.

**Public Participation:**

Mark Goffinet, from the Medina Co Auditor's office:

1. The auditor has assigned an individual to work with foreclosures. If anyone cannot make their mortgage payment, call the auditor's office and a one on one meeting can be held to assist those that need financial guidance. 2. There is a auditor's web page for information on mortgage issues. There is a seminar Thurs. March 6, 2008 from 2-8 pm.

Carolyn made mention she had received a call from Mr. Ted Lesiak representing Sanford Water Park Group expressing interest in the Carrasco property. Mr. Lesiak had initially intended to attend tonight's meeting to introduce himself and the project. Carolyn referred him to Dan Wilhoite of the Engineers office and Jim Troike of the Sanitary Engineers office. Mr. Lesiak may return to the township after researching the additional information.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

Martha read the follow-up letter from Dell Financial Services concerning the township's Dell Business Credit. Martha had filed a fraud report in 2007 after getting a statement for printer ink that was shipped to an address in PA. The township did not order such and did not receive the ink. The credit bureau has been notified and the account in question has been closed and a new one opened for township use.

Martha mentioned the statement of bills to be paid, fund status; school income tax booklets were available on the table for anyone to take.

Beth Grim asked for a copy of the cemetery deed owned by Clyde & Luella Whitmore. A note is posted in the cemetery deed book relating to this action.

There was a call from a resident who did not give name or phone number complaining about neighbors barking dogs.

Martha read the list of bills to be paid (copy of the list is attached to the minutes in the clerk's office) in the amount of \$30,764.29. Martha made mention that the health insurance for Tim was increased by \$310.31 per month because of his birthday.

**Tim made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Jim. Roll call: Jim, aye; Carolyn, aye; Tim, aye.**

Martha reported that she had sent a second fax to the Columbus Convention & Housing Bureau about the mix up with payment of the room accommodations for Carolyn and Jim at the Winter Convention. Martha did receive a reply this morning from the convention bureau that the hotel will taking care of the amount in question.

Carolyn mentioned the Web Master would fulfill his obligation to Oct. 2008 but the township needs to be looking for a web master before Oct. 2008.

Carolyn asked Martha if the internal e-mail roster was complete. Answer, No a list of the e-mails has not been provided to the office. Jim will see that the list is submitted.

Carolyn asked Martha if the bond for zoning secretary, Kim Ferencz was filed. Answer, No because the application is in Kim's box and needs to be completed and returned to her.

## **ROADS**

Lee reported that he has used 544 tons of salt this winter. There is 180 tons in the bins and another 150 tons on order. Lee has been patching pot holes as weather permits. Lee has spare parts for the Peterbilt snow removal equipment. The idler arm for the small dump truck has been received after a day or two delays. The company will be reimbursing for the defective part.

### **6177 Buffham Rd. ditch**

Lee reported he has put the retaining wall back in place, installed mailboxes, soft shoulder signs, & delineator markers. The landowner does not want to pay for part of the pipe to enclose the ditch. Jim asked what the county recommends. Why the wall did not survive. Lee answered by stating the wall was one of the county recommendations and the wall was installed March 27, 2007 (winter weather), there is a sand & gravel base, water line in the ditch, and mail person driving on the berm. There is an estimated cost of \$5,038 to extend the wall or \$11,682 to install 36" pipe as a ditch enclosure. There is 170 feet to enclose, 2 4x4 catch basins, 2 4x4 grates. Lee stated the catch basins are needed because there is water that comes down the driveway. Tim asked Carolyn if she asked legal? Carolyn answered yes. The type of driveway pipe does not match the type of pipe to the East at the Neumeyer property line, thus the cost of an adapter is as expensive as a section of pipe. The landowner will not upgrade his drive culvert. Legal stated the drive culvert is the landowners responsibility. An adapter is as expensive as a piece of pipe and will not hold as well.

Carolyn is concerned because it is a hazard to the traveling public and is affecting part of the road base. Tim suggested that Carolyn talk with legal to assess the landowner on the real estate taxes. We have legal way to recoup our expenditure. The road base is our problem but not the yard. Jim stated due to the fact this is effecting part of the road base, more information is needed.

### **8124 Westfield Landing Road**

Carolyn reported that the water upstream is going through the Smith property into the township's ditch and the combination of the water across the road is in a county wetland and the county's ditch on Kennard Road is being re-evaluated.

## **FIRE**

Jack reported the fire & rescue department had 35 runs for the month of Feb.

Jack gave a LONG RANGE PLAN FOR THE FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

The current levy was passed in 1997. Since that time the revenue generated has been sufficient for operating expenses, 2 rescue squads, 1 fire truck, turn out gear, radios, pagers, and numerous other capital expenditures.

But as prices increase, there is a smaller amount of the levy that can be saved to pay for newer equipment. The 1981 fire truck is on its last legs. The repairs are nickeling and diming us to death. The township needs to look at renewing the levy and/or additional levies to keep up with the current expenses and capital improvements.

**James Likley offered the following resolution RESOLUTION 2008-06 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MEDINA COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE TO ESTIMATE FIRE LEVY REVENUE and moved the adoption of same, seconded by Timothy Kratzer. Roll call: James Likley, aye; Carolyn Sims, aye; Timothy Kratzer, aye.**

A discussion was held on the need for an addition to the firehouse or build a firehouse at the township municipal complex as there is room available. Jim related there is no parking at the present firehouse and Carolyn noted there are underground utilities on the lot north of the firehouse. Carolyn asked Jack to set up a meeting with the Village of Westfield, fire committee, and the Westfield Township Trustees to explore some options.

## **ZONING**

Stan Scheetz asked if the trustees would consider a joint meeting with the zoning commission on the topic of the rezoning and text amendment for Kratzer property. Carolyn and Jim stated they both could attend, therefore, there will be a joint meeting March 11, 2008 @ 7:30 pm. Stan did say that Patrice from the Planning Commission and Katrina from the Prosecutor's office plan to attend. There has not been any direct contact with the water park. Stan asked Martha to please fax him a copy of the new zoning fee schedule.

Carolyn gave Martha Riparian Maps for the zoning commission.

Tim asked Carolyn why she was trying to get this riparian setback zoning pushed through. Jim responded by saying this is a lengthy process. The prosecutor and planning services has had this for over a year and it keeps being pushed back. The planning services will be holding a workshop in June 2008. Agriculture is exempt. We do not want to table this topic.

Ryan Gregoire stated he has been involved with the Farm Bureau on the Riparian Setback Zoning. This is a sore subject within areas of the county. Riparian setback zoning is a touchy situation. Ryan had information from Senator Timothy J Grendell that he will give to Martha for distribution to the zoning commission and trustees. Carolyn stated the interest in Riparian Zoning is to support the Medina County plan for Well Head Pollution Protection of the Westfield Well Field for municipal water supply, including main waterways leading to the Aquifer and Aquifer recharge areas. Carolyn assured Ryan that Agriculture is Exempt, including his current operations. Ryan stated it would not agricultural forever. Carolyn expressed concern regarding the change on flood patterns over the last several years due to silt and other issues, Riparian protection is just one tool to protect the water supply to be considered at some point in the future by the township.

## **PARK**

Tim informed the board there will be an Easter Egg Hunt in the township park sponsored by the Leroy Methodist Church Sat. March 22, 2008. Tim mentioned that we have donated \$50 to the S.E.E.K. organization in Seville in the past. To donate to any organization Sections 501.A; 501.3.C; 505.07 of the Ohio Revised Code must be followed.

Tim read a letter of intent for park maintenance from the Village of Westfield Center.

**Carolyn made a motion to approve the park contract per the letter of intent as submitted, seconded by Tim. Discussion: All agreed there has not been any complaints and the park was kept in good appearance.**

## **CEMETERY**

Tim asked Bill about the cemetery deeds to be transferred, Bill replied they are on his list but way down there.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **WESTFIELD LANDING ROAD IMPROVEMENT**

Carolyn reported: Vacation petition for Westfield Landing Road was not validated by the County Prosecutor's Office. The commissioners cancelled the public hearing. The Grubis property has been transferred to John and Joseph Grubiss Trustee. Carolyn asked zoning inspector, Gary Harris if this was a zoning issue? Carolyn also has a note to Bill Thorne asking his opinion if the land transfer has any zoning issues. Carolyn asked Gary if anyone has contacted him concerning a variance

Answer, no.

The estimated cost of the Westfield Landing Improvement is \$190,000 (\$26,000 is engineers cost).

### **7611 GREENWICH ROAD (NELSON)**

Carolyn stated that since the township did not send a letter to Mr. Nelson stating the outcome of the public hearing, it now must be sent with the minutes of the public hearing. Carolyn is willing to have her phone number in the letter for acknowledgement, also include the township's e-mail address, mailing address and phone number.

**Carolyn made a motion to approve Albrecht Trucking Jan. 17, 2008 bid of not to exceed \$7,200 to clean up 7611 Greenwich Road, to notify Mr. Nelson of the clean-up, giving Mr. Nelson 10 days to acknowledge the receipt of letter, if no acknowledgement the township will then proceed with clean up, send him a bill giving him 10 days to pay, if not paid the 11<sup>th</sup> day the lien is sent to the County Treasurer's office to be placed on the real estate taxes, seconded by Jim.**

**Roll call: Jim, aye; Carolyn, aye; Tim, aye.**

Jim will attend the Comprehensive Plan Grant Meeting March 28, 2008 @ 9:00 am held at 124 W. Washington.

Jim and Lee addressed occupancy determination. Both had called the building department. The building can seat 168 people (chairs only) 78 people (with tables & chairs) and 235 people standing room only, A plaque will placed on the wall.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Policy on calling special meetings as well as other policies and procedures need to be addressed. The trustees are trying to find a mutual date for a special meeting.

Jim is looking into having a township message board being custom made as the commercial ones are very expensive. He is also considering putting the message board under the township complex sign out front.

Carolyn will attend the Health Dept Meeting March 20, 2008 5:30-8:00m.

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

February 9, 2008

**Jim moved to approve as submitted, seconded by Tim.**

**Roll call: Jim, aye; Carolyn, aye; Tim, aye.**

February 4, 2008

**Carolyn made a motion to approve as amended, seconded by Tim.**

**Roll call: Jim, aye; Carolyn, aye; Tim, aye.**

January 25, 2008 and February 18, 2008 tabled until Carolyn has time to make amendments.

Carolyn prepared a letter of interest for land re-utilization of the 7611 Greenwich Rd. property just for delinquent taxes. The trustees signed the letter.

**Tim made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Carolyn. Unanimous**

APPROVED April 7, 2008