

WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Special Meeting/Mowing Bid/Gen. Bus.

March 18, 2011

8:15 am

Chairman Oiler opened the meeting by stating the meeting was called to consider mowing bids and general business at 8:20 am.

MOWING BIDS:

Trustee Likley took the floor by reporting he had called Hopko Services and he provided 2 business references that he has provided service for in the last 6 or 7 years and a couple of substantial sized residential customers. He came highly recommended and a reputable service. He also gave a list of equipment. The other bid was not contacted in view of the pricing. Trustee Harris stated that Chidsey's have been around a long time and is very reputable also.

Trustee Likley mentioned the possibility of purchasing a mower and have the full time employee, Lee do the mowing. To mow both the cemetery and the complex takes approximately 5-6 hours each time. The reason for his suggestion is the lowest mowing package this year is \$520 more than the last 2 years. This year total package is \$4,510 (Hopko) \$5,244 (Chidsey). Trustee Likley seems to believe that by purchasing the mower it would pay for itself in about 2 or 3 years depending on the equipment that was purchased. We have to do more for less.

- Fiscal officer offered the following:
- In the past, when the lawn would need mowed, Lee would be busy on the roads
- Factors to be considered when hiring a part-time individual to mow would be unemployment, workers comp, Medicare tax in addition to their hourly rate.

Trustee Harris also mentioned the fact the township would have to purchase a trailer to move the equipment from complex to cemetery and a truck to pull it. Trustee Likley stated he had thought about that and possibly we could use the fire department's trailer.

Based upon the discussion of equipment and personnel it warrants more research.

Trustee Likley moved to award the mowing contract for Friendsville Cemetery and the complex to Hopko Services with a limit of 28 occurrences for year 2011, seconded by Trustee Harris. Roll call: Oiler, aye; Likley, aye; Harris, aye.

Trustee Likley will meet with Mr. Hopko and go through the cemetery and have an evaluation of the head stones etc.

TAKING OF MINUTES FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Trustee Oiler reported:

Medina Court Recorders: \$75/hour and \$4 per page.

Joy Turpin: \$15/hour 2 hour meeting would take 10 hrs to transcribe verbatim

Melissa: Could not transcribe from our DVD

WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Trustee Likley contacted Kim Ferencz because she is familiar with the issues, equipment, process and applications that are before this board. She will need to know what kind of transcription (verbatim, court transcription or summarization) and if she needed to attend the meeting or just transcribe from DVD. She did not give an amount because pricing would be determined if she needed to be at the meeting and type of transcription. Trustee Oiler asked fiscal officer to contact Kim and notify her that she does not have to be present at the meeting and the minutes will be verbatim as for a public hearing.

Checks to sign: Ohio Edison for complex, park and fire dept.; Mark Williams's reimbursement for mileage for a seminar/education. There are checks for the Village's share of the EMS revenue received.

Trustee Likley mentioned e-mail from Joseph Sarnego on Mudlake Rd regarding trash that has been dumped along the roadside. Trustee Likley will contact Sharon Ray at the Wadsworth Municipal Court to see about getting community service to clean this area on Mudlake but clean other roadside areas in the township before it is time to do the mowing. Possibly the Sheriff may have this capability also. Trustee Likley will report Monday, March 21, 2011 at the next regular meeting his findings on the community service.

CSX called and will be moving forward with the replacement of the bridge over the railroad on Mudlake beginning in June of this year.

County Commissioners will be meeting with the township concerning the Buffham Rd Railroad crossing.

Trustee Harris: Due to recent circumstances at our regular scheduled trustee meetings **I make a motion to suspend public comment starting today March 18, 2011 until a future date to be determined by the trustees, seconded by Trustee Oiler.** Discussion: Trustee Likley: I understand some of the concern and we had a meeting with Mr. Thorne last night that these are our meetings and it is our discretion for public comment. I think it is a bad idea, you could certainly limit it and certainly control it or attempt to try to control it but my take is that we are here to serve and represent our residents and this is an opportunity for them to bring issues, concerns, information to this board and I think stifling that is wrong but if it is the wishes of the board the majority rules but I say it is not a good approach. Trustee Harris pointed out we have limited it down to 2 minutes now. Trustee Oiler: We will do this for a while and see if we can't get things settled down. It is getting a little bit too much. I certainly believe if someone has something concerning their property or something going on about the roads and so forth they certainly can talk to us after our meeting or contact the chairman and ask to be put on the agenda. **Roll call: Harris, aye; Likley, NO; Oiler, aye.**

Trustee Likley: Information regarding the revenue ledger, number of meetings that had been paid in full and letter from Mr. Scheetz regarding his payment regarding additional meetings. We received an additional \$200 for the February 22, 2011 meeting. The question is what warrants that billing for those meetings. Meetings that would have held anyways such as regular meetings to conduct business did not

WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

warrant billing the applicant for those meetings. Questions before this board is the work sessions, informational meetings, and additional meetings whatever you want to call them if those are billable. I have not been able to figure up the total cost of this application to the township but to date Mr. Scheetz has paid \$1,600 for the application. The amount of meetings for this specific purpose I do not know that or the actual cost of members being compensated. If the work session, informational meetings and additional meetings are billable we need to communicate to Mr. Scheetz.

Trustee Oiler: I am of the opinion that work sessions and special meetings are not billable to any applicant. I believe he was paid up to date according to my figures.

Trustee Likley: Bill Thorne's determination was; if you are having a meeting anyways such as a regular meeting then you can't bill the applicant and there was a refund to Mr. Scheetz. From that time forward the zoning commission had a understanding that any application would need to be separate from regular meeting. Are those billable if they are held separate if they're not then have them on a regular meeting night when we are going to be paying it anyway. If that's the case we need to look at our policy and realize that this is a big application. We have not seen any to this extent prior. This has been a cost to the township for these special meetings. We just have to realize the cost in these large applications. Mr. Thorne has stated that we have the ability to cover those costs.

Trustee Harris: I looked over the information also and Mr. Scheetz has been more than accommodating when we have asked him to pay more and paid it. I feel he is paid up to date. I agree with Jim if the zoning commission is going to call these meetings they should specify what the meeting is for. Whether it's informational or is related to the application.

Trustee Likley: Every work session and informational meeting has been for the purpose of this application since the clarification of having a public hearing, work session on a regular meeting that was determined because you are going to have that meeting anyways. We are absorbing these costs. The larger applications will incur larger expenses for the township that should be reflected somehow in the application or in the language of our policy to insure not on the backs of the township.

Trustee Harris: Some of the work sessions can be used for future applications. We are going through a learning process.

Trustee Oiler: For the future we need to look at our zoning fee policy for future applications. We have learned a lot from this.

Trustee Oiler made a motion to confirm to Mr. Scheetz that all fees have been paid to date and will draft a letter to Mr. Scheetz to that effect, seconded by Trustee Harris. Roll call: Oiler, aye; Likley, NO; Harris, aye.

Gary made a motion to adjourn at 9:10 am, seconded by Trustee Oiler. Unanimous

Approved March 21, 2011