

Westfield Township Trustees

Regular Meeting

June 4, 2012

7:00pm

Trustee Harris opened the meeting at 7:15pm.

Trustees present: Ronald Oiler, Gary Harris and James Likley.

Trustee Harris asked that everyone please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome Guests: (see attached sign in sheet)

FIRE:

Chief Fletcher reporting: (see attached report)

- ✓ 40 Total calls for the month, comprised of 30 Squad, 6 Fire, 4 MVA.
- ✓ Department members participated in a cook out in honor of National EMS week. This was an important moral exercise for the members, who will receive a T-shirt and a flashlight to commemorate the experience.
- ✓ The Department's Open House went well resulting in a new application for membership.
- ✓ The Department has teamed up with Deer Pass Golf Course to hold a golf outing to support the purchase of a portable AED unit for the golf course and equipment for the department. (See attached for details or call (330) 887-5541 to make a reservation.
- ✓ There were 22 Hours of training this month.
- ✓ The first responder vehicle will return this week. It will have lettering and cabinetry installed by local companies helping to support our local businesses.
- ✓ The Department's rescue cutters will need to be updated to keep with current standards. The members will be looking into options in the near future.

Trustee Likley asked Chief Fletcher if he had seen an increase in false alarms. The Chief responded that he had not seen an unusual increase. Trustee Likley stated that there is a means in place to bill for false alarms. The chief stated that he was aware of the procedure.

Trustee Oiler asked if the current hydraulic system was capable of supporting a 350,000 pound draw. The chief responded that it was and explained the system and how it would be affected.

Trustee Likley stated that there was a very good turnout for the Memorial Day Parade.

CEMETERY AND PARK:

Trustee Oiler reporting:

- ✓ Lee Evans was able to get the new signs up at the Cemetery and after driving by several times it was determined that they were in a good location and could be seen from the road.

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- ✓ The gazebo was painted before Memorial Day. Trustee Oiler asked the contractor to give the Township a quote to paint the floor and to do a second coat on the Gazebo in case the Board of Trustees decide to move forward with that project this summer.

ROADS

Lee Evans reporting:

- ✓ Starting Tuesday June 5, 2012 south Leroy Road will be closed for twenty one (21) days for repairs.
- ✓ Mud Lake Road should be posted soon as the bridge project is scheduled to begin on June 11, 2012 and will run for 120 days.
- ✓ The Buffham Road project has begun. There have been some challenges with the current contractor. Mr. Evans has had to spend a lot of time there to supervise as he has seen the contractor trying to cut a lot of corners and getting into situations where they are uncertain of what to do. Mr. Evans stated that he felt that there was money that the Township could recoup for items in the bid that have not been performed. There is also money in the bid package for inspection. Mr. Evans is keeping track of all of his time there as the Township will get reimbursed up to 74% of the time spent on the project. Mr. Evans stated that the curve work in the road will not be started until all the pipe has been laid in the ditch enclosures. He will try to get the guard rail put in before the asphalt is laid so as to reduce the chance of damage to the new surface while installing the new guardrails.
- ✓ Trustee Oiler went up to Westfield Landing Road and found that the trucks are getting off the side of the road and doing damage to the edge of the road. Mr. Evans stated that he would file a complaint with the county to have it fixed.
- ✓ Trustee Likley saw a bill from Lytle Construction and asked if it was for the Deerfield Drive and Fox Hollow road work? Mr. Evans stated that it was for the Motor Paving on those roads but that the bill was not complete.

ZONING

Matt Witmer reporting: (see attached report)

- ✓ Inspector Witmer stated that he spoke with Bill Thorne regarding the Trustee's position on North Coast Premier Soccer. Mr. Thorne stated that he would contact Mike Sweeny and advise him.
- ✓ Inspector Witmer heard from Agent Hoffman of the CSX Police who advised him that there was a new agent taking over this area and that he would get an update from him regarding the Lesiak property. Some of the other violations are being worked on but at a very slow pace. Inspector Witmer will move forward with the complaint to help speed things along.
- ✓ Inspector Witmer sent an e-mail to Brian Richter at the Prosecutor's office regarding the status of the Hughes property but has not heard back yet.
- ✓ The Map Cabinet has not been started yet.

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- ✓ Inspector Witmer found out that the Buffham Road house that has been under discussion for several weeks is being sold and that the contractor feels that although the basement is full of water that the home can be made habitable again.
- ✓ Trustee Oiler stated that the county has money available with no matching funds required for demolition projects. There is a June 30, 2012 deadline to be eligible for these funds.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

Martha Evans reporting:

- ✓ Total bills to be paid is \$71,305.78 (List is attached)
Trustee Oiler made a motion to pay the bills. Trustee Harris seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Likley-yes, Trustee Oiler-yes, Trustee Harris-yes.
- ✓ Fiscal Officer Evans stated that all of the Trustees should have a copy of the fund status report.
- ✓ Fiscal Officer Evans stated that the Trustees needed to pass a Resolution for the Advance of Real Estate taxes. The Township should expect to begin to receive these taxes in payments by July 6, 2012, July 20, 2012, August 3, 2012, and a final payment in September.
- ✓ Resolution 20120-14 was read by title only **A RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ADVANCE OF REAL ESTATE TAXES FOR THE SECOND HALF COLLECTION 2012** Trustee Likley made a motion to adopt Resolution 2012, seconded by Trustee Oiler. **ROLL CALL: Trustee Likley-yes, Trustee, Oiler-yes, and Trustee Harris-yes.**
- ✓ Fiscal Officer Evans stated that when the Township paid their liability insurance for the fire department, it was for \$1,000,000.00 in coverage. The Township carries \$3,000,000.00 in coverage. For whatever reason one entity cannot have a different level of coverage from another. They have to be alike. Therefore the Township needs to purchase a \$2,000,000.00 umbrella to make that coverage equal. This will cost the Township \$1,273.00. She has asked OTARMA to quote the township on this as well and if it is less they can get a refund from Selective Insurance agency.
Trustee Likley made a motion to move forward with umbrella coverage with Selective Insurance Company for Westfield Fire and Rescue Department in order to get matching coverage with the Township of a total of \$3,000,000.00. Trustee Harris seconded the motion.
In discussion the Trustees asked that the Fiscal Officer look into paying on a monthly basis rather than trying to pursue a refund if necessary.
ROLL CALL: Trustee Likley-yes, Trustee Oiler, Trustee Harris-yes.

In a memo to the Trustees, Fiscal Officer Evans detailed her communications with the Auditor's office and the Prosecutor's office regarding the collection of shared taxes on the annexed land in Creston. (See Attached) As Bill Thorne is on vacation until June 11, 2012, it was decided that the Fiscal officer would

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follow up with Mr. Thorne upon his return as the Auditor's office and Mr. Karris of the Prosecutor's office are unaware of what the Township is referring to.

Heather Sturdevant provided clarification to the information previously received on this topic by stating that she had spoken with the Auditor's office regarding the new law. She was told that the Auditor's office felt that it did not apply to the Township's situation but that they took direction on this type of situation by the Prosecutor's Office. Ms. Sturdevant then spoke with bill Thorne of the Prosecutor's office who stated that he was dealing with the same type of situation with the City of Wadsworth and that the law did apply to the Township's situation. He stated that he needed to speak with the Auditor to see if they would calculate the amount for the Township as they agreed to do for Wadsworth so that the taxes could be collected. In a subsequent conversation with Mr. Thorne, he stated that he had spoken with the Auditor and that they would calculate the amount of taxes due for the Township in this situation.

Trustee Likley asked if the Township had received their estimated tax revenue from the Auditor's Office. Fiscal Officer Evans stated that it had been received and that she would give the Trustees copies of it.

MINUTES

Trustee Harris asked if there were any additions or corrections to the May 21, 2012 Public Hearing meeting minutes.

Trustee Oiler stated on page 5. The very last sentence of the top paragraph stated "that suggestion would supported" Trustee Likley suggested taking out the word would and substituting it with the word "was". The other Trustees agreed.

Trustee Oiler made a motion to accept the Public Hearing meeting minutes for May 21, 2012 as amended.

Trustee Harris seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Trustee Likley-yes, Trustee Oiler-yes, Trustee Harris-yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Oiler had a chance to review O.R.C 519.213 as recommended by Medina County Department of Planning Services in regards to Wind Energy. He determined that this section of the code was not relevant to what the Township was writing into its code as the O.R.C related to small wind energy farms which are over 5 megawatts of power. The Township is reviewing language for small individual wind energy systems that produce less than 5 megawatts of power.

Trustee Likley stated that he had written some language that he sent over to the other board members regarding Wind Energy as requested by his peers. He is waiting for Bill Thorne to get back from vacation so that he can review it and give the board his input.

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Trustee Likley stated that he will be meeting with Boris Slogar from the Muskingham Watershed and Jeff VanLoon on June 8, 2012. He has a summary package that Jeff VanLoon and Medina County Soil and Water Department has prepared. He will distribute this summary for the board's review. The intent to meet with Boris Slogar is to have him review it before submitting an application.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustees Likley and Oiler attended a meeting on fracking and determined that the people do have rights. Trustee Likley realized that municipalities have much more rights as to what they can do than Townships have. He was also concerned that the state has limited road work and repairs so when fracking is done and those large trucks come in and out over the roads, when they leave it is the local taxpayer's dollars that have to pay for those repairs. Trustee Oiler has seen some of the damage that those trucks can do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Motor Vehicle Tax Public Hearing Monday June 11, 2012 at 7:00pm
Zoning Commission Regular Meeting Tuesday June 12, 2012 at 7:30pm
Trustees Wind Energy Public Hearing Continuation Monday June 18, 6:00pm
Trustees Swimming Pool Public Hearing Monday June 18, 2012 6:30pm
Next Regular Trustees meeting Monday June 18, 2012 at 7:00pm

Trustee Likley asked the outcome of the BZA's recent variance hearing. Trustee Harris reported that the variance was approved as the original foundation for the porch was still there and they would be building the porch onto that foundation.

Trustee Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. Trustee Likley seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Trustee Likley-yes, Trustee Oiler-yes, Trustee Harris-yes.

Approved June 18, 2012