

<BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 02/11/2009>

Dave Petty, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Members present were Trustees Petty, Joseph Smith, and Brian Randles. Also present were Fiscal Officer Tony Pranger; Board Administrator Anne Darling Cyphert; Fire Chief Terry Gill; Road Superintendent Randy Solt, and interested citizens. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and we paused for a moment of silence in honor of our military troops.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Dialogue** with firefighters Union

Scott Weber, Union President inquired about having a payroll deduction for \$1 per pay for part time personnel for food. Full time firefighters pay \$5 per month. Discussion from the trustees regarding why a payroll deduction is needed when they could collect their money at the fire station. Weber said it is sometimes difficult to track down the part time personnel for their payment.

Weber asked about the nominal group technique list that was presented by Lt. Williams at a trustees meeting a few weeks ago that contained requests regarding the department. The trustees said several items have already been addressed. Gill suggested not discussing this unless the lieutenant who presented it was present. Because of new equipment that was recently purchased there is no discussion this time about funds for a second fire station. Cooperation with other government fire departments would be nice but funding from them is not available at this time.

Weber said we are working through insurance issues. Cyphert reported that problems are surfacing again and she is concerned that our agent did not communicate the issue to us in a timely manner. Today she learned that last week he received a call from one of our employees that they received a reimbursement for a prescription that the insurance debit card already paid for. She emailed Burnham and Flower yesterday to say she also received a check Saturday for the same situation and was holding onto the check to find out where it needs to go back to. When no one from Burnham and Flower got back to her yesterday, she called again today. That's when our agent acknowledged there have been checks erroneously sent to our employees that now need to be sent back. She will need to carefully monitor the bill when it comes to check for errors.

The firefighters reported the new medic unit is doing well and travels nicely.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT: by Fiscal Officer Tony Pranger

- **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve minutes of the meeting held Jan 28, 2009. Motion carried 3-0.
- **Motion** by Randles, second by Smith to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$19,265.32 and Payroll/ charges in the amount of \$554,945.71 having been certified by the Fiscal Officer that funds are available. Motion carried 3-0.
- Discussion regarding Mac's Auto Part's invoice: some of it was fire department and Gill explained batteries are necessary for operation maintenance.
- **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve payment to Mac's Auto Parts in the amount of \$1,042.97 for maintenance of Road and Fire vehicles. Motion carried 3-0.
- **Motion** by Randles, second by Smith to approve payment to Nightingale-Alan Medical Equip. in the amount of \$932.00 for EMS supplies for fire dept. Motion carried 3-0.
- **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve payment to Heritage in the amount of \$897.67 for EMS supplies for fire dept. Motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS: Salt contract letter from ODOT: agreement must be filled out to qualify. Per trustees request Solt will deliver copy to Lithopolis and Cyphert will send copy to Canal Winchester.

OLD BUSINESS:

Propane: Valley Propane will eventually be taking over our propane for a significant cost savings. The trustees agreed to have Randles work out the details with the propane company.

Road limit signs: They went up February 2. They will come down upon notice from the engineer's office.

Financial reports: Fiscal Officer reported that they will be provided upon request but not routinely to the trustees.

BOARD ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: by Anne Darling Cyphert, Board Admin.

-Discussion about dividing cemetery sexton duties to have all business and computer aspects of the cemetery department to be handled by staff at the Administrative Office Building and the

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physical needs of the department such as grave showings, openings, and closings, mowing and grounds keeping of cemetery grounds to be handled by staff at the Road Department. Discussion followed with Dan Starkey, cemetery sexton regarding his memo about some issues with grave placements. Trustees will discuss the dividing the cemetery sexton duties at a later time.

-Update on Insight Franchise fees: The township received \$4358.13 in quarterly franchise fees for Oct-Dec 2008.

-Update on Engineer's Meeting: Frank Anderson would still like the trustees to come to his office for the annual meeting but is willing to send one of his employees to our meeting to address specific road concerns. The trustees will attend the meeting once scheduled at the engineer's office.

-Propane Usage Update: In December, Ohio Gas informed us when we called them that our propane usage was similar to the year before. She requested they provide a print out showing that. When she reviewed it, she noticed for 11 months in 2007, we used 1541 gallons. In 2008 for 12 months, we used 2890. Since the fiscal officer had the repair company in and they found a leak, we anticipate usage to go down. She said former fiscal officer Carol Moore had reported propane smells in the building in the past. Gill said the fire department ensured that carbon monoxide was not present. She reported per the trustees request we are no longer on auto fill. She spoke with Northeast Gas and they anticipate natural gas being available to our building within the next one to two years.

MORPC: Federal stimulus dollars: Cyphert presented an email to the trustees and Solt from MORPC regarding the township's ability to possibly obtain federal stimulus dollars for road projects. She said this is something the trustees and Solt may want to follow up on.

Schumacher junk vehicle case: After attending the OTA conference last week and learning about more updates on junk car laws, she informed the trustees about their option to consider starting the removal process on the Schumacher property on State Route 674 of numerous junk vehicles consultation with prosecutor's office. Various points of view were discussed. Randles expressed concern about the township's right of going onto someone's property. Smith suggested talking to the neighbors. Petty said it's an eyesore and if the prosecutor says we have authority, then we should start the process.

She reported that Dan Barham, citizen from Chickasaw Lane, wishes to express his thank you for pulling out of the JEDD and believes the JEDD was a bad idea. LuAnn and John Komives of Fairfield Farms are concerned the problems with their subdivision still have not been resolved. Cyphert said RPC is in communication with the engineer's office and Mrs. Komives and will keep us all up to date on the issue. She said a report has been issued for EMA funds from the September windstorm and will place it on the back table for review.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: by Chief Terry Gill

Gill reported he would like an executive session regarding personnel matters.

ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORT: by Road Supervisor Randy Solt

List of roads limits is now posted. Garbage truck companies have been notified.

Smith Road: road is tar and chip and damage has been done in the past due to construction vehicles going into Rolling Acres.

NAPA Tool and Filter sale: materials are now coming into the department. Snow removal road work is doing well.

The trustees are pleased with the township road crew but concerned about the county road crews regarding snow removal. They will address it with the county engineer. The county closed Pickerington Road for snow but failed to notify the township.

OTHER:

Motion by Randles, second by Smith to go into executive session for personnel matters. Trustees entered into executive session. Following it, Motion by Randles, second by Smith to come out of executive session. Motions carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

David Petty, Chair

Tony Pranger, Fiscal Officer