

>>>BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING 08/10/05<<<

Joseph Smith, Chairperson, called the meeting to order. Members present were Trustees Smith, Larry Coyle, David Petty and Carol Moore, Clerk. Also present were Anne Darling Cyphert, Board Office Admin. & Bldg/Zoning Admin; Tom Scholl, Road Department Superintendent; and several interested citizens. Smith led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- David Wynkoop: 8592 Lithopolis Road said he had been contacted by Canal Winchester Schools saying their buses could no longer use the Greencastle parking lot as a turnaround because they were told by Bloom Twp that it is causing the asphalt to break up. He expressed concern that this would result in a hardship/safety problem to his children. The trustees said if the turning around is done without damage to the parking lot, they could reconsider. Scholl said the parking lot needs totally re-done due to permanent damage. Smith will communicate the instructions to Bev Hockman of Canal Winchester Transportation to inform her of the proper way to make the turn so as not to damage the lot. Trustees would like the buses to drive in one entrance and out the other to avoid sharp turnarounds that destroy the pavement.
- Lt. Tim Vorhis of the Sheriffs Office stated he was present to address any concerns. Coyle stated he is concerned about ATV noise in Collegeview and that the deputies would not enforce the noise resolution. Coyle said due to lack of enforcement the township trustees are considering suing the sheriff in a mandamus action. Petty said he will not vote to sue the sheriff but that we do have an issue. Petty asked if Smith knew about it. Coyle said he discussed it with Smith before calling Jerrold Schwarz, Legal Counsel. Vorhis said it is not fair to discuss suing the sheriff when the trustees have not tried to resolve it by talking to him. Vorhis said this was the first he had heard of the concern. Vorhis presented logged calls from the sheriff's office regarding complaints in Collegeview which showed one anonymous complaint from May 2005 regarding the ATV's. Coyle agreed to give the name of the complainant to Lt. Vorhis so he could investigate the complaint.

CLERK REPORT

- **Motion** by Coyle, second by Petty to approve minutes of 7-27-05 regular meeting. Motion carried 3-0.
- **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$17,508.62 and Payroll/charges in the amount of \$35,113.19 having been certified by the clerk that funds are available. Motion carried 3-0.
- **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle to approve \$814.38 bill for Road Dept signs that exceeded the amount Scholl had anticipated. Motion carried 3-0.
- Discussion about Budget Hearing: Moore reported the Budget Commission would like to see planning for future vehicles within the Fire Dept. budget. Gill said he plans on a future squad purchase once the current squad is paid off. This would just be a continuing line item in the Fire Dept budget making payments on the purchase.

Moore said Deputy Auditor Ed Laramée and Auditor Barbara Curtis expressed concern about the diminishing balance in the General Fund. Moore had told Curtis the Twp does not anticipate any more major General Fund expenditures such as were made in the previous two fiscal years; i.e. the purchase and renovation of the Greencastle Office Complex. However, Curtis said we need to build this fund back up which she said could take years. Moore told the trustees that as fiscal officer of the township, she would like to see existing furniture and equipment used as much as possible instead of new purchases when the move is made to Greencastle. Petty said as long as we spend only what we take in during the year, we should be OK. Moore said our budget was boosted by changing banks and getting a better interest rate. We also had a large amount added to the budget in 2004 from the Estate Tax which is being phased out. Petty complimented Moore on her bank negotiations for a better interest rate.

- Announcements:
 - Tom Moe faxed a letter offering NIMS IS100 and IS700 classes on AUG 20. All township employees will need to receive a certificate of completion for this course for the new FEMA funding eligibility requirements.
 - Citizens Report Annual Financial Report from Barbara Curtis was distributed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Petty said that he had been approached by a resident who inquired about renting the Greencastle building for Sunday church services. Coyle met with someone regarding this same issue who was willing to use the annex building and possibly restore it in exchange for free rent. Petty prefers renting them the main building. Petty suggested establishing a \$50 rental fee plus a fee for a township employee keyholder. Gill said the trustees should

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not consider using the annex building because it is not code compliant. Gill said he would like the township to allow non-profit organizations such as BCYA and 4-H to use the Greencastle project since his fire department is not ADA compliant. The trustees agreed they would rent the larger office building after the township moves into the building.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Discussion of SBC Bill for Damages in the amount of \$795.95.: Letter from Prosecutor's Office suggested we avoid litigation costs. Trustees agreed Cyphert should write a letter to SBC to inquire whether they would waive the bill since we are a government entity and since we have not charged SBC for occurrences.
- Greencastle Update: Coyle presented a proposal for telephones for a two way line Panasonic phone. He thinks everyone should agree on the furnishings. Cyphert presented the trustees with furniture samples for her department. The trustees agreed to allow her to purchase needed furniture for zoning according to the \$750 limit per purchase. Discussion of microphones needed for Greencastle Office for trustee and zoning meetings. **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle to authorize Cyphert up to \$850.00 for the purchase of audio equipment with the expense to be divided between General Fund and Zoning. Motion carried 3-0.

BLDG/ZONING & BOARD OFFICE REPORT:

- Cyphert updated the trustees on the seminar on nuisances she attended at the Ohio Township Association Summer Conference. She stated she learned a new process for dealing with noxious weeds complaints that will expedite the issue when it is occurring.

Along the same subject, the certified mail was returned as "no forwarding address" resulting in the need for a legal notice to be published in the newspaper as follows:

RESOLUTION 50-05: BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES that reasonable attempts have been made to contact Mitchell Gamble, last known address of 1525 Thomas Avenue, Columbus, OH, who is the owner of Bloom Township Parcel #0080080300, Alspach Road, regarding Noxious Weeds growing on his property, and that certified and regular mail have not been received:

The Bloom Township Board of Trustees now orders the property owner to cut and or destroy said noxious weeds within seven days of this notice. The property owner has a right to appear at a public hearing on this matter on August 24, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at 36 E. South Street, Lithopolis. If this order is not complied with, the Board of Trustees will consider taking action by having the noxious weeds cut and destroyed. The costs from this action will be forwarded to the Fairfield County Auditor's Office for a lien to be placed upon the property owner's tax bill.

Motion by Petty, second by Coyle. **ROLL CALL:** Petty-Yes; Coyle-Yes; Smith-Yes. Resolution passed 3-0.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Terry Gill presented paperwork for the NIMS course for trustees and employees to read.
- Gill reported he will meet with a representative from Workers' Compensation Frank Gates Company tomorrow. Suggestions were made to keep the township in its current rating program. He said 70 townships have been removed from the group rating plan because they no longer qualify. This has caused their BWC premiums to increase tremendously.
- Gill said current practice is to allow family members of emergency patients to ride in the medic on the way to the hospital. He said this has caused some risks that outweigh the benefits. This may cause the fire department to re-think this practice.

Gill reported the transportation policy in Central Ohio has changed regarding traveling to the closest hospital. The requirement used to be to go to the closest hospital. Now the requirement is to go to the "appropriate" hospital. He said factors such as trauma or other emergency are considered when deciding on a hospital destination. He said if the patient is not stable and insists on a hospital that is not closest; the medics will choose the closest hospital.

- A situation on Coonpath Road is being addressed by a state agency.
- Gill said his department has a five year plan that addresses future equipment needs that are budgeted. He offered to meet with the budget commission next year to explain it.
- Gill gave the clerk a copy of the drug free workplace policy.

ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Scholl reported Shelly Company will be paving Sitterley and Alspach Roads next week.
- He reported about damage issues on Red Fox road in Slate Ridge. He said he put a seal coat on it and then black topped it. He said Shelly did the other road as well by accident and the

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liquid that was put down is not working out. Shelly Company agreed to donate the labor but sell the materials at cost including black top. Moore said funds from Road Improvement could be used as long as the trustees agreed to allocate it for that.

Motion by Petty, second by Coyle to approve an additional \$6400 for road improvements on Red Fox Street. Motion carried 3-0.

- Scholl said his crew is working on the Alspach Road culvert project.
- Moore asked Scholl where we stand with the County Engineer's Office on prior approval for the reimbursable projects. Scholl said he will meet with them tomorrow.

OTHER:

- Petty expressed concern about money spent on legal counsel to sue the sheriff. Coyle and Smith said the issue had to be addressed. Petty said we should have talked to the sheriff before proceeding with legal counsel. Smith said the sheriff's office is not working with us. Coyle said two times, the sheriff's office has ignored our noise resolution and he will not sit back with a noise resolution on the books to help out citizens and have the sheriff ignore it. Coyle said he called the attorney to see how to get the sheriff to do what he is supposed to do. Petty said a face to face conversation should have been made with Sheriff Phalen. Petty said he gets the impression that Coyle and Smith had prior discussions about doing this without contacting him. Smith said Coyle asked him what to do and he said he didn't think seeking an opinion was hurting anything. Petty said he is upset over the attorney bills and that decisions are being made without him.
- **Motion** for Executive session by Petty, second by Coyle for the purpose of discussion of employee pay and benefits. Motion carried 3-0.
Motion to come out of executive session by Petty, second by Coyle. Motion carried 3-0.

Smith adjourned the meeting.