



3038 Boston Mills Road, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting April 6, 2017

The Board of Trustees met for their Regular Meeting, which was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on April 6, 2017.

Roll Call:

Janet Jankura, Trustee
Jeff Shupe, Trustee
Robert Luther, Trustee

Also in Attendance:

Phil McLean, Chief, Village of Richfield Fire Department
Larry Fulton, Summit County Chief Deputy Engineer
Mindy Remec, Township Administrator
Amy Page, Zoning Inspector
9 additional residents/attendees

Approval of Minutes:

March 2, 2017 Regular Meeting

Dispensing with the reading of the minutes, Ms. Jankura requested comments from Trustees Luther and Shupe, who had no corrections or changes.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Shupe to approve the March 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes as presented.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea)

Department Head Reports:

Police:

Fire Chief McLean reported for Chief Morgan, who was unable to attend, that township roads in the Cuyahoga National Park have reduced speed limits to 35 mph.

Fire:

Chief McClean provided a written report. Interviews for part-time employees have been completed. He is waiting on price estimates for a new squad. Driver training and operation classes for the new ATV are being scheduled and they will be conducting a search and rescue and rope rescue drills on the RJRD property.

Zoning:

Ms. Page reported that three certificates were issued in the past month. The Zoning Commission will meet on April 13, the Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on April 17 and the Summit County Planning Commission will meet on April 27.

Ms. Jankura gave an update on the ongoing erosion issues in the Woods development. The Woods Home Owners Association (HOA) board sent a letter requesting assistance. The HOA requested township trustees send a letter to the Ohio Attorney General's office to request immediate action. They asked the township to refrain from issuing zoning certificates to the developer or builder until the issue is resolved and to work with the county planning commission and building department to refrain from issuing occupancy permits. Lastly, the HOA requested the township trustees send a letter to the Village of Richfield to make them aware of builder's noncompliance in fixing the erosion problems. All trustees concurred with assisting the HOA with their requests after obtaining legal advice from the Summit County Prosecutor.

Fiscal: No Report

Parks and Recreation:

Mr. Luther reported that he instructed the service department to fill potholes on Rising Valley Park's driveway and to get quotes for possible resurfacing.

Ms. Jankura reported that the Richfield Joint Recreation District (RJRD) Board had hired a part-time administrative assistant.

Roads:

Mr. Luther announced chipping is the week of May 8 and that we have a carryover of salt for the next season.

Administration:

Ms. Remec requested a motion to approve payment of an invoice from Cleveland Water for the charged based on the number of hydrants in the township.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther to approve payment of \$4,755.53 to the City of Cleveland Division of Water from the general fund as a then and now certificate for the annual hydrant charge.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: none

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea)

The Edge Sports Academy made a donation of \$175.00 to the township in addition to the \$325.00 fee to reserve soccer fields at Rising Valley. Ms. Jankura thanked them for the donation.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Shupe to accept a donation of \$175 into the general fund from the Edge Sports Academy.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: none

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea)

Ms. Remec said that the township is at renewal period for the wellness center benefit. The program was approved last year in conjunction with a wellness resolution. She requested a motion to more clearly define eligibility for the program as full-time employees and elected officials.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther to define employees eligible for the Wellness Program at Akron General Lifestyles as full-time employees and elected officials as they become eligible.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: none

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea)

Ms. Remec reported the township received a request to have trustees consider adopting a resolution embracing diversity and denouncing activities of hate, intolerance and intimidation in the township from township residents. The Village and other neighboring municipalities are also considering adopting similar resolutions. Trustee Shupe asked if this was necessary and if there was a political motivation behind the request. Trustee Luther said that discrimination was already against the law. Trustee Jankura said that this would be good and said she thinks this resolution would just define in detail all of the possible groups that could be discriminated against and asked for a draft resolution for the next meeting for potential approval.

Ms. Remec and Ms. Page attended an informational meeting for a proposed Surface Water Management District proposed by the Summit County Engineer. The District would be voluntary for each municipality to opt in. Cost to the residential property owners would be \$4.00 per month and the funds would stay in the township for storm water projects. Revisions to the proposal are being made with input from townships. Service Department Foreman Jerry Schall identified some areas in the township that have drainage challenges.

Mr. Fulton said that the county and the township cannot use road and bridge funds outside of the road right-of-way to correct drainage issues so there is no mechanism in place to handle these issues. Summit County Council still needs to adopt the ordinance and then townships can choose to opt in. Trustee Jankura asked if the Woods development could be helped with these funds and Mr. Fulton said it should be, as well as some areas in Glencairn.

Mr. Fulton reported that the county paving program bids are in the process of being awarded and that most bids came back under the estimated cost.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Ms. Remec reported that she and Mr. Shupe met with Wichert Insurance to review the renewal proposal. There were no significant changes to coverage and the rate is \$20,341.00, which is an increase of \$383.00 from last year.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther to amend Purchase Order 70037 in an amount not to exceed \$20,900 for Wichert Insurance with \$12,600 payable from the General Fund and \$8,300 from the Roads fund.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: none

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea)

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. to approve the Wichert Insurance 2017 annual premium for insurance renewal in the amount of \$12,073.96 from the General Fund and \$8,267.04 from the Roads fund for auto, inland marine, crime, property, general liability and public officials.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: none

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea)

Resident Mr. Dale Fashinpaur asked if the insurance is regularly bid for comparison. Mr. Shupe responded that there are other brokers, such as OTARMA, that the township could utilize but felt that Wichert Insurance had taken good care of the township during the recovery from the service garage fire. Wichert is an insurance broker that seeks and reviews bids from carriers on the township's behalf.

Ms. Jankura introduced discussion on enacting a Motor Vehicle Permissive Tax under ORC 4504.18. Ms. Remec said this was brought to our attention through the Township Association that many of the townships in Summit County have not enacted the tax. If enacted, it amounts to \$5.00 per registered vehicle in the township. It would generate an estimated additional \$15,000 for the roads budget. If trustees would like to move forward with the process it would involve holding two public hearing before adopting a resolution and legal advice would be needed. Trustees concurred that it is not necessary at this time and to revisit this in the future years if necessary.

Ms. Jankura asked Ms. Remec to present information on the discussion for seasonal service department help. Ms. Remec said that she had been working with Mr. Schall in regards to the need for seasonal help. Some of the jobs require a third person for safety. Mr. Schall has said he can get by with one seasonal summer employee for 32 hours per week from June through mid-August. The chipping program scheduled May 8-12 presents the only staffing difficulty. Dom Olivo, the seasonal employee originally hired only for the snow plow season, which ended April 1, has indicated his ability to assist with chipping. Ms. Remec requested a motion to extend Dom's seasonal employment through the May chipping week and start placing ads for summer help. Trustees agreed with this course of action.

MOTION by: Mr. Luther and seconded by Mr. Shupe to extend the seasonal employment of Domenico Olivo to assist with the township chipping program.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: none

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea)

Announcements:

Ms. Jankura thanked Mr. Shupe for presenting the state of the township address to the Richfield Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Jankura asked when negotiations for safety service contracts would begin. After discussion, trustees decided that Mr. Shupe would reach out to the Village in July to start the process.

Citizens Forum:

Resident and previous township trustee Mr. Dave Wyatt, 3055 Brush Road, spoke about the history of the Richfield Senior Center and the many programs the center offers to both village and township residents. The kitchen at the Senior Center has a costly needed renovation and he asked trustees to consider a donation of \$5,000.00 towards the project.

Ms. Jankura said they could look into whether the township could legally donate township funds towards a capital improvement for another government's property or if there may be another avenue for donating funds that the trustees could consider.

Mr. Dale Fashinpaour, 2677 Southern Road, said that the Pinneys purchased the property at 2678 Southern Road four years ago and reminded trustees to monitor the grass height at the property per the nuisance resolution approved last year. He asked for an update on the garage repair and expressed disappointment that the garage was not demolished instead of repaired.

Ms. Jankura said that Ms. Page would monitor the grass at the property. She also reported that the garage had passed inspection by the Summit County Building Department after the repairs were made. Mr. Shupe said he also noted that work had been done at the property, such as a tree being cut down.

Mr. Alex Burlotos, a village resident, commended the township trustees on the new building and the efficiencies and cost saving measures the trustees have been taking. He detailed the history of efforts in building a recreation center in the Revere School District and the opportunity the community has to build this center now in conjunction with the building and remodeling of the school buildings. He said that there are examples in other communities of recreations centers being run creatively and efficiently in order to break even in operating cost. Mr. Burlotos asked trustees to consider collaborating with the schools, the Village of Richfield and Bath Township in this effort.

Mr. Shupe questioned the feasibility of a recreation center being self-supporting and the possible future cost to township residents and asked for more planning and information.

Ms. Jankura asked if Mr. Burlotos had talked with the other communities. He said that he had talked with the Village of Richfield and there was interest in the project. He also talked with Bath Township.

Mr. Anthony Asher, township resident, asked trustees about articles written on a Streetsboro Road property and the owner's statement at a previous trustee meeting that he intended to lease the property to operate a jet engine testing facility. Mr. Asher said that he thought the property owner should have been advised of zoning restrictions and required permitting to alleviate any confusion in community news.

Ms. Jankura said that no proposal or requests have been made and asked Zoning Inspector Ms. Page if she had additional information.

Ms. Page said that the plans discussed by the property owner are not permitted under the township's zoning and that no plans have been submitted to the township.

Mr. Shupe said that the property is not zoned for that.

Mr. Asher commented that he lives in the Woods, which has a homeowner's association that regulates property maintenance, and that he sympathized with residents on Southern Road regarding the 2678 Southern Road property.

Agenda Requests and Items for Follow-Up: None

Township Corner Article: Mr. Luther offered to write the article for the May issue.

Adjournment:

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea)

Trustee

Secretary