

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NORWICH TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Chuck Buck.

Mr. Rice led the group in prayer and the pledge of allegiance was said by all.

The minutes were approved of the previous meeting.

STEVE MONTGOMERY REPORT:

Mr. Buck asked about the curb and gutter work that was done this summer in the Ridgewood area. He was concerned about some of the areas that still are holding water after a rain. Mr. Montgomery surveyed some areas after a rain last week and said he also saw standing water in some of the repaired areas. He is going to check these areas again after the next rain and see how long the standing water remains. At this time the township will be in touch with the Franklin County Engineers, who bid out the work for the township.

Mr. Montgomery asked for an executive session at the end of today's meeting.

CHIEF GARNETT REPORT:

The month of July had many reports in the Timberbrook area of burglaries, and Chief Garnett announced that there were 3 or 4 arrests that were targeted from the burglaries. In July there were 227 total calls from the township, and 40 reports were taken. Total arrests for the month of July were 29 with 2 being juvenile. The City issued 17 citations. For the month of August there were 190 total calls taken and 23 reports taken. A total of 7 arrests for the month, with 2 juvenile arrests. There were 13 citations given for the month.

CHIEF LONG REPORTS:

The Department has two staff vehicles that we need to dispose of, a 1995 Astro van and also a 1996 Jeep. The vehicles can be sold directly to another government entity or they can be advertised in a local publication to be sold by sealed bid. The ad will run two consecutive weeks. Mr. Earman moved that we advertise to sell the vehicles by sealed bid. There will also be a minimum bid of \$1000.00 per vehicle. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. Motion carried. The ads will run the week of September 18 and also September 25. The bids will be opened up on October 2 at the noon meeting of the Norwich Township Trustees. R-47-06

Scioto Darby Road should be opened up completely by September 13. This was the last report that Chief Long received from the county.

TRUSTEE REPORT:

Mr. Rice has had a complaint from a resident about a property located at 4333 Hansen Court. The resident is building a large building (playhouse for children) and the neighbors are wondering if the resident received a permit to build the building. Mr. Rice turned this over to planning & zoning and they advised him that the new code allows a resident to build a 200 sq. ft. structure without a permit.

Mr. Buck congratulated Chief Long on his 30 years of service to Norwich Township and the fire department. Mr. Buck would like to recognize Chief Long at the next meeting to be held on October 25 at 6:30 PM and also have Chief Long's family attend that meeting.

At the next meeting, October 25 @ 6:30 PM, the Franklin County Board of Health will be here to present a program on Pandemic Flu. This presentation will begin at 7:00 PM.

The Trustees interviewed seven (7) candidates for the soon to open position of Township Fiscal Officer. It was moved by Mr. Buck to create the position of Assistant Township Fiscal Officer to be filled by the candidate chosen to assume the position of Linda Gill, current Fiscal Officer. Mr. Earman seconded the motion. Motion carried. The candidate chosen will train with Linda Gill for two months before the office is vacated by the retirement of Mrs. Gill. R-48-06

All of the candidates that applied for the position of Township Fiscal Officer were interviewed by the board of trustees. All applicants were qualified and some stood out as having more qualifications for the job than others. The job has changed over the years and a candidate with a business education and background is considered a plus. Mr. Rice moved to appoint Jamie Miles to the position of Assistant Fiscal Officer as of October 1, 2006 at a yearly salary of \$26,951.00. Mr. Earman seconded the motion. Motion carried. R-49-06

Mr. Buck moved to have Jamie Miles take over the job as Township Fiscal Officer as of December 1, 2006. Mr. Earman seconded this motion. Motion carried. R-50-06.

Chief Long, Chief Garnett, Mayor Schonhardt and the Township Trustees have been discussing the possibility of building a joint public safety building. This building would house the fire department, township offices, police department and also the city courts.

The location of this venture, on the existing fire department land would be the best location for the building. Mr. Rice is concerned that we need to know if we can purchase the land from the Franklin County Agricultural Society, before we move ahead to far with the project.

We have a good working relationship with the City, Mr. Buck states, and by doing a joint venture we can save tax money for the residents of both the city of Hilliard and also Norwich Township. Preliminary talks have been started with the Fairboard about the purchase of the land.

Representative Larry Wolpert had advised the township that state money may be available for this joint venture. This would be the first joint venture between a Township and a City in the State of Ohio. With this said, the state may be very interested in getting the funding approved quickly.

It was moved by Mr. Buck to hire the firm of Meacham & Apel to work on the conceptual requirements and designs. Mr. Earman seconded the motion. Motion carried. R-51-06

The Township will have to advertise to accept proposals according to the O.R.C. for Architectural Services to design and remodel the building to meet the current and future needs at the Central Fire Station site. Mr. Rice moved we advertise for this project for an architect and Mr. Earman seconded the motion. Motion carried. This ad will run in the Columbus Dispatch two times. R-52-06

Mr. Earman has been studying the investments of the Township and has suggested that we invest excess funds in Star Ohio (State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio). Star Ohio is an investment that the State of Ohio has allowed government entities to invest in, as there are many we are not allowed to use. Mr. Earman moved we invest \$5,000,000.00 from the General Fund; \$5,000,000.00 from the Fire Fund and also \$400,000.00 from the Police fund into Star Ohio. These would be set up as three separate accounts. These accounts are money market accounts and the money can come back into the Township if needed at any time. There is no penalty to put money back into our accounts when needed for expenses or purchases. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. Motion carried. R-53-06

Franklin County Planning & Zoning will meet with the board at the October 16th meeting at 6:30 PM to discuss the Darby Accord.

Executive Session called at 12:35 PM

Executive Session ended at 12:45 PM

Meeting adjourned at 12:49 PM and the next regular scheduled meeting will be held on September 25, 2006 @ 6:30PM at 4164 Avery Road.