



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

*Minutes of* **NORWICH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES** *Meeting*

**5181 NORTHWEST PARKWAY, HILLIARD, OHIO**

*Held* **October 7, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Roberts at 12:00 pm.

Roll Call - **Timothy Roberts, Chairman – Present**  
**Charles Wm. Buck, Vice Chairman – Present**  
**Larry Earman, Trustee – Present**

Also Present - **Jeff Warren, Fire Chief**  
**Greg Young, Battalion Chief**  
**Kate Cavanaugh, Township Administrator**  
**Steve Montgomery, Roads Superintendent/Cemetery Sexton**

**AGENDA ADDITIONS**

Mr. Buck would like to discuss the violation letter from Paul Eberts sent to a resident.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A resident of Saturn Road was concerned about the status of the road resurfacing, the road appears to have become a gravel road. Mr. Montgomery explained that due to the rain last week, there is still a topcoat of slurry sealing to be completed. Once this is done, it will look like the section of Ridgewood that was just completed.

**Approval of Trustee Meeting Minutes for 09/16/14**

Motion by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. Earman, for the approval of the Norwich Township Trustee meeting minutes for the regular meeting on September 16, 2014.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #141007.01

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Francis reported that September was quiet, there were two theft reports, one fraud report, and two overdoses and one untimely death on Cosgray Road. Trick or Treat is scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm, police patrols will be out in full force. The next COIRS Executive meeting is scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am, if the Township would like to attend. Verizon is awaiting one final legal review and construction can begin on the communication tower; building permits have been pulled and the contractor is ready to go.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Warren reported that the Utility truck has been delivered, striped, and placed in service. There was a tour bus fire on the freeway, no one was hurt but it was a total loss. In addition, the Main Street bakery fire was a total loss and the investigation is ongoing. He requested the Board to review and give consent to the training agreement for the five out buildings that are being demolished at Glenmont. October is Fire Prevention month and already 900 students have been trained. A smoke detector campaign is underway, the Fire Department is focusing on housing areas built before 1992 when hard wiring of smoke detectors became mandated. Fire Marshal Manske reported that inspection fees are up approximately 300% this year compared to last year. The increase is due to building construction. Chief Warren reported that the increase in inspections is being handled thru efficiencies. Mr. Buck would like to know why he has not been receiving the reports from Fire Prevention that he previously requested. Chief Warren thought that these reports had been sent, he will get the matter addressed.



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**CEMETERY & ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Montgomery reported that the cemetery mapping project is approximately 95% complete, there are a couple of areas that are a real problem. There is one day of slurry seal to be completed as soon as the weather allows and the road projects will be completed. Most of the work completed by Strawser looks good except for Danford Square which is a problem that is being addressed with Strawser and Mark Mullenax. The street resurfacing application used this year is not what Mr. Earman remembers agreeing to. Mr. Montgomery confirmed that this application was what Prairie Township did that he went out and inspected. It is a cheaper alternative to the mill and fill application; he thinks it will do what was intended. Mr. Buck feels that the contractor needs to do a better job with cleaning up after themselves.

**FISCAL OFFICE**

Mrs. Miles reported that the September Financial report should be sent by the end of the week and it includes information on the recent estate tax that was received. It will also provide an update on the EMS billing revenue.

**TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Cavanaugh reported that if the Township chooses to install light poles in an area where there is proper voltage, then AEP will install the light poles and maintain them for \$15 per month. Before moving forward, Mr. Earman recommends developing a policy for what criteria is required of residents who want to submit a request for a light pole. Mr. Buck wants to look at all intersections and requested that a newsletter article be placed about the light poles being considered. In response to a violation letter received by a resident from Paul Eberts with Franklin County Zoning regarding a 16 inch by 16 inch sign, Mr. Buck is frustrated that the Township has some bad properties that need serious attention, he is not happy that this is where Zoning chooses to spend their time. Ms. Cavanaugh suspects that the violation letter is the result of another property complaint in the area and while the inspection officer was out they drove around to see if there were any other violations. Mr. Earman thinks it makes sense what they are doing when they are out in the area looking for other possible things. According to Mr. Buck if the policy is changing then we need to know. Ms. Cavanaugh will set up a meeting for the Board with the Zoning Department.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - Late attendee

Mr. Gary Joiner with the Ohio Public Entity Consortium requested that the Board accept a no obligation proposal (for healthcare coverage). As an advocate for public entities for this state, Mr. Joiner feels it is warranted. According to Mr. Joiner, Ohio Public Entity Consortium is located in Plain City, has a staff of 17 and has relationships with Medical Mutual, UHC, Aetna, Delta Dental, Hartford and Standard Life Insurance. Ms. Cavanaugh reported that she had been in contact with Mr. Joiner and told him that once the renewal rates from the Township's current carrier were received she would follow up with Mr. Joiner if warranted. Mr. Joiner stated that the reason for his immediacy is that he can give a 2.5% premium reduction which equates to approximately \$27,000-\$28,000 cost reduction. The Board will discuss the matter with Ms. Cavanaugh and get back to Mr. Joiner.

**TRUSTEE-OLD BUSINESS**

In light of the recent Northwest News article that cited the potential consequences of the Brown Township levy failure as being murky, the Board agreed that the Township's intentions are very clear.



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Mr. Earman confirmed that fire service will be maintained until May 31, 2015. Mr. Buck further confirmed that the Township will not renegotiate the contract, no mutual aid will be provided, and no per run charge will be accepted. With other service providers quoting a million dollars more a year, it appears that the best option is to pass the fire levy according to Mr. Roberts. The Board requested that Ms. Cavanaugh and Chief Warren send a letter once again confirming these details to the Brown Township Trustees prior to their Thursday meeting.

**TRUSTEE-NEW BUSINESS** - None

Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Buck to adjourn the regular meeting of October 7, 2014 at 12:45 pm.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #141007.02

  
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Timothy Roberts, Chairman

  
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Jamie Miles, Fiscal Officer