



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

*Minutes of* **NORWICH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES** *Meeting*  
**5181 NORTHWEST PARKWAY, HILLIARD, OHIO**  
*Held* **March 17, 2015**

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chuck Buck Timothy Roberts.

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** - None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mark Brian, Interior Designer with m&a Architects, presented flooring options for the Safety Services Building (SSB) Renovation Project. The carpet samples provided are all broadloom and colored completely thru. The proposed carpet samples are much heavy weighted making them much more durable. Mr. Brian also presented a vinyl option and ceramic tile options. He noted that carpet is the best acoustic option if this is a concern. The Board agreed to go with the flooring options as presented with the exception of placing carpet in the Rice room in lieu of vinyl tile because of noise concerns. Tom Linzell, project manager with m&a Architects, stated that he expected to have the final drawings by month end and to place the project out to bid early April. He will follow upon on this.

Mr. Morgan H. Gierman, President of the Timberbrook Homeowner’s Association, thanked the Township for its efforts with snow removal in the area. He noted that he would be attending the scheduled homeowner’s meeting tonight and that dates would be set for the Easter egg hunt/garage sale and July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. He commended Miss Cavanaugh’s efforts in addressing the resident issues at 1476 Willow Creek Drive. He noted that the resident has been removed and that the bank has taken possession of the property. On a personal note, he is not pleased with what he has read in the newspaper about how the Township and City are conducting their business. He termed it as exemplary taxation with exclusionary representation. He feels strongly that the cornerstone of the community is for both entities to be working together. He will continue to listen, read, and watch because he cares.

**Approval of Trustee Meeting Minutes for 03/03/15**

Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Buck, for the approval of the Norwich Township Trustee meeting minutes for the regular meeting on March 3, 2015.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Abstain

Motion passed - #150317.01

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Deputy Chief Fisher reported that the Franklin County Engineer’s Office (FCEO) is willing to assist the Township in conducting a speed monitoring study along Schirtzinger Road or the Township can



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do it themselves. Deputy Chief Fisher still recommends the Township purchase a stealth device for its use within the Township. Mr. Earman requested that the City be asked to use its stealth device again before proceeding with a purchase. Mr. Montgomery believes that FCEO will allow the device to be used along Fishinger and Dublin roads so long as we notify them in advance of placing the device. Mr. Montgomery will work with Deputy Chief Fisher to identify the best placement of a stealth device.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Warren reported that the engine refurbishment project is moving along and he expects to have it in house by May 15<sup>th</sup>. He reported that this past Saturday the testing process for future employment with the Township was completed and 98 of the 99 applicants showed up to take the test. The flu has hit the Fire Department, last week 10% of the work force was out with the flu. This has caused in increase in overtime. House inspections will be held April 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Buck requested Chief Warren to send a reminder text the Board prior to this happening.

**CEMETERY & ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Montgomery reported that the catch basin located on Medford Square has been repaired. He noted that it had been 32 years since the basin was last rebuilt. Mr. Montgomery has forwarded a quote from Strawser Construction for the cost to micro cape seal the roads for 2015. This pricing is state term bid. He does not expect the County to have bids until June. So this would be an option for the Township. He confirmed the price of \$5.63 per square yard is lower than what the Township paid last year. Perry Township has used this process a lot, Mr. Montgomery will get some recommendations from them to see their results. Mr. Montgomery noted that there are a couple areas on Braidwood that need some attention including a curb that needs rebuilt.

**FISCAL OFFICE**

Mrs. Miles reported that the first half real estate property tax settlements will not be received for another few weeks according to the Franklin County Auditor's office. In order to fund the payroll and payables for the second half of March we will need to make a formal request from Franklin County for an advance of the first half tax settlement.

**Authorization to Request Advance Payment of Tax Monies**

Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Buck, to authorize the Fiscal Officer to Request Advance Payment of Tax Monies as provided for by ORC 321.34.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #150317.02

Mrs. Miles reported that language included in House Bill 64 is proposing to resume the phase-out of Tangible Personal Property and deregulation reimbursements to schools and townships. In 2014, the Township received approximately \$345,000 in TPP fixed rate reimbursement revenue. Of this approximately \$313,000 was directly related to the Fire fund. The Board agreed to submit a letter to the legislators asking them to remove this language from HB 64. Mrs. Miles reported that the state auditor's office will be onsite March 31<sup>st</sup> to begin their fieldwork.



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**House Bill 64 Change Letter**

Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Buck, to authorize a letter be submitted to Representatives Kunze and Grossman and Senator Hughes asking them to support removing the TPP fixed rate reimbursement phase out language from House Bill 64.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #150317.03

**TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Cavanaugh requested the Board to approve the annexation petition for 3775 Trabue Road. She noted that this had previously been annexed, however, there was still some documentation showing that the property was located within the Township. So the purpose of this is to clear up any misunderstandings. Once all is settled, there will be no parcels located within Norwich Township on Trabue Road west of Hague Avenue. There are still a couple of parcels within Norwich Township on Trabue Road east of Hague Avenue.

**Approval of 3775 Trabue Road Annexation Petition**

Motion by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. Earman, for the Approval of Waiver of Right to Appeal the Annexation Petition for 3775 Trabue Road.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #150317.04

**TRUSTEE-OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Roberts has pondered the issue of making a donation to the (Davidson) Athletic Boosters for the strength and conditioning facility, he has issues making a donation from one taxing entity and giving it to another, especially considering that the school board is not making a donation to the project. On a personal level, Mr. Buck supports the efforts to get the project funded, however, he too has had conversations with school board members who have confirmed that the school board will not be making a donation and he is not in support of doing so either. Mr. Earman thinks that it is a broader issue, while he condones Mr. Buck's idea of using estate tax monies to give back to the community, the Township is looking at another \$300,000 reduction in its funding. In addition, the City has TIF'd over 1,000 residential units that we must serve without any tax dollars to do it with. The City has scrutinized the Township's decision to pay cash for the Safety Services Building and Mr. Earman is not going to apologize for this decision considering that the City has \$60 million in debt that costs the taxpayers \$5 million a year. Mr. Earman feels they have mortgaged our children and grandchildren. Mr. Buck noted that the Township has had a tradition of contributing to projects that give back to the community, he cited the Township's financial support to Homestead Park and the pool at the Hilliard YMCA. He stated that he understands the need for commercial TIFs and he is in support of however he is against residential TIFs. Based upon survey information gathered at the request of Representative Grossman, Norwich Township is in a unique position because they are the only Township where residential TIFs are being used. Mr. Earman's final comment speaks to the fact that the attorney general has ruled that fire fund money cannot be used to pay for collective bargaining issues, however, the state allows a city to take fire fund money and build a road or park, it makes no sense. Hopefully legislators will have a different attitude than the governor. On behalf of the strength and conditioning facility committee, Mary Ellen St. Clair and Janet Sole thanked the Board for their consideration.



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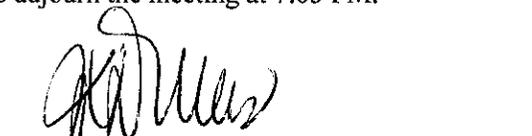
**TRUSTEE-NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Roberts confirmed that he has set up monthly meetings with Mr. Painter, (Hilliard City) Council President to try to open communications and bridge the relationship with the City. He will report back to the Board on his meetings.

Motion by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. Earman to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

  
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**Timothy Roberts, Chairman**

  
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**Jamie Miles, Fiscal Officer**