



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of **NORWICH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES** *Meeting*
5181 NORTHWEST PARKWAY, HILLIARD, OHIO
Held **February 16, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chuck Buck.

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

Also Present - **Jamie Fisher, Township Administrator**
Jeff Warren, Fire Chief
Greg Young, Battalion Chief
Robbie Thomas, Cemetery Sexton/Acting Road Superintendent
Jamie Miles, Fiscal Officer

AGENDA ADDITIONS - None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

Approval of Trustee Meeting Minutes for 2/2/16

Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Earman, for the approval of the Norwich Township Trustee meeting minutes for the regular meeting on February 2, 2016.

Vote: Buck-Abstain Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #160216.01

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Fisher had no regular business to report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Warren had no regular business to report. A swearing in and pinning ceremony was held for the promotion of Battalion Chief Greg Young to the position of Assistant Fire Chief.

CEMETERY & ROAD DEPARTMENT

Mr. Thomas requested approval of a grave buy back from Hazel Wright and Beverly Balcer. The agenda item for the approval to replace lawnmowers was tabled to the next meeting. Mr. Thomas presented a quote from JD Equipment, Inc. located in Hilliard and JD Equipment, Inc. located in London, Ohio for the replacement of two John Deere Gators. The quote from the London location totaled \$8,054.40 net of trade allowance and is approximately \$350 less than the quote provided by the Hilliard location. Mr. Thomas confirmed that the sales representative from the Hilliard location would not meet the quoted price from London. Mr. Thomas would like to discuss setting a date for the re-hiring of seasonal employees at the next Trustee meeting. He provided a recap of recent snow removal operations and reported that the two newest staff members were progressing very well, they continue to work towards their CDL licensure and are very eager to learn.

Approval of Wright Grave Buy Back

Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Earman, for the approval of a grave buy back requested by Hazel Wright that was originally purchased on March 6, 2012 for \$700 (Block L, Lot 51, Grave 2).

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #160216.02



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Approval of Balcer Grave Buy Back

Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Earman, for the approval of a grave buy back requested by Beverly L. (Karnes) Balcer that was originally purchased on March 24, 1990 for \$300 (Block C, Lot 98, Grave 1).

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #160216.03

Approval of John Deere Gator Replacements

Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Roberts, to approve replacing the John Deere gators at a cost not to exceed \$8,054.40.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #160216.04

FISCAL OFFICE

Mrs. Miles reported that she has reviewed investment options and will be forwarding a change to the Township investment portfolio shortly.

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Fisher had no regular business to report.

TRUSTEE-OLD BUSINESS - None

TRUSTEE-NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Earman introduced the following motion of resolution to endorse the passage of Issue 9.

Approval to Endorse Issue 9

Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Buck,

WHEREAS, a charter amendment has been proposed and will be on the ballot March 15, 2016 as Issue 9; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to the Township's financial situation that the use by the City of Hilliard of residential TIFs be stopped.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Trustees of Norwich Township, Franklin County, Ohio hereby encourage a Yes vote on Issue 9.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Roberts read the follow prepared statement on his behalf:

“First and foremost I would like to thank Councilmen Baker and Erb for reaching out to me to genuinely discuss their thoughts regarding Issue 9. I truly value their friendships that go well beyond the political spectrum. We don't always agree 100% but have a mutual respect for each other and value our individual perspectives on the many issues we face.

We also discussed our concerns over the political climate that exists in Hilliard which I personally find rather disturbing. I found myself agreeing with many thoughts that Mr. Willis shared in his letter



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to the editor many weeks ago. The bear was poked and the pack formed. There's enough guilt to be shared by all regarding the negative political climate in Hilliard.

I would like to reflect back on Trustee Buck's statement at one of our meetings many months ago when he said "I don't know what I would do if I were in his place" referring to Mayor Schonhardt. I believe we all need to self-assess and keep that perspective. To those who say "if I were in his shoes I would do X or Y" with all due respect, are speaking out of naivety.

In conclusion, although I feel that Issue 9 has it flaws, I am voting strictly on how the overuse of TIFs by the city of Hilliard has harmed Norwich Township, despite the opportunity for relief to Norwich Township such as through the re-TIF of Tremont Club. It is my responsibility as a trustee to maintain the quality and level of fire and EMS service which our residents have come to know and deserve, therefore, as a Norwich Township trustee, I must vote YES to endorse Issue 9.

To be clear, I will NOT personally campaign for or against this Issue as I feel it is the result of disrespect and a lack of sincere effort to collaborate."

Roll Call:

Mr. Earman – Yes

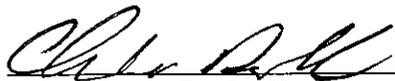
Mr. Buck – Yes

Mr. Roberts - Yes

Motion passed - #160216.05

Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Robert to adjourn from the regular meeting at 6:26 pm.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes


Charles Wm. Buck, Chairman


Janice Miles, Fiscal Officer