

## Randolph Township Trustees Regular Meeting, Thursday March 12, 2015

Chairman Sue White opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge. Sue stated that she reviewed the previous meeting draft minutes and found them to be accurate. She asked if there were any corrections or additions. Mike moved to accept the previous meeting minutes as written. Roger seconded. RCV: Roger - yes; Mike - yes; Sue - yes. Present: Trustees Sue White, Roger Klodt, Mike Lang, FO Mary Rodenbucher, L. Klodt, B. Siegfert, E. Myrla, G. Harrison, R. and S. Bard

**Old Business**

Mike set up a mediation hearing for Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. through Witmer's attorney. Larry, Roger, and Mike will attend. Mike commented that Chris Meduri does not recommend that all three trustees attend.

Roger has no additional information on the Beverly Bird Sanctuary. Prior discussion was postponed in the hopes more residents would attend a meeting. Mike feels we should make a decision since he does not think more residents will be a meeting. There was discussion about closing the park. Mike stated that the park never really worked out. He remembers when it opened in the late 80's. The initial bushes did not last a week. Mike suggested removing the light, fence, and driveways. Mike moved to close the Beverly Bird Sanctuary and post signs "Use at own risk". Roger seconded. Discussion: Sue asked the audience for comments. Shannon asked if the gravel would be removed. Mike stated that we would place a ditch in the driveway make it noticeable not to pull in. There was discussion about signs stating the park was closed. Mike stated that some people know the park is there but may not know that it is closed. Roger suggested purchasing a few "Park Closed" signs. RCV: Roger - yes; Mike - yes; Sue - yes.

Sue reported on the EMA meeting she attended. She spoke about MUO and made it clear that Randolph Township is not in favor of the agreement. Other townships voiced the same sentiment. EMA will review the agreement as will the City of Kent and Ravenna who will get in touch with Chief Lang.

**New Business**

Mike received the 2014 Certified Road Mileage from the Portage County Engineer. Mike moved to accept the 2014 Certified Road Mileage of 31.280 miles for Randolph Township. Sue seconded. Discussion: Mike asked Larry about the status of the non-maintained roads. Larry stated that it has not been included in the figure for a while. RCV: Roger - yes; Mike - yes; Sue - yes. Mike received a few calls from residents that their mailboxes were damaged by the snow plow. There was discussion about the township policy, possible carelessness indicated by some residents, and the actual precautions used to plow the roads. Roger commented that while it is a misfortune of plowing that a mailbox may be hit he feels many residents do not understand how difficult it is to plow the roads. It would be a good education to ride in the truck if that were permissible. Roger commended our Road Department for the tremendous job they perform. Sue asked Mike if it was a township road. Mike stated it was. Larry commented that the last snow on Sunday was really heavy. It is usually the heavy snow that knocks the mailboxes over and not the actual plow. He further commented that the Step 2 mailboxes cannot handle the heavy snow.

Roger read an email from Gary Mango regarding the Lions Club placing a digital sign at the gazebo. Sue moved to allow the Lions Club to investigate the feasibility of purchasing a digital sign at the gazebo. Roger seconded. Discussion: Roger feels the Township should speak to the Zoning Boards. Sue commented that we are exempt from zoning regulations. Shannon asked if the township is willing to pay the bills and repairs. Mike stated that it is in the planning stages at this time. Mike voiced a concern that the space is large enough for the screen to be visible. There was discussion about color, bright lights, clarity. Sue stated that our current sign is used quite often and a digital sign would be nice. Sue is a bit leery that many other businesses will want a similar sign. Shannon agrees with Sue that she does not mind the sign change but also does not want to see many more installed. There were questions about the car dealers having digital signs. Roger commented that GM has strict rules that must be followed. It was agreed that the Township would file an application with BZA as an example for other businesses to follow suit. Sue thanked the Lions Club for the many good things they do for our township. RCV: Roger - yes; Mike - yes; Sue - yes.

Roger received a call from Bill Steiner at the Portage County Solid Waste District. The county is selling two wood chippers and would like to offer them to township first. Roger asked Larry if he thought that would be of

interest to the Road Department. Larry stated that we usually borrow one from the county each year. Larry received a call from Suffield Township seeking interest in purchasing the wood chipper as a group of townships. There was discussion about the cost of repairs and storage. Mike asked about the condition, Larry stated that it is well maintained. Mike would like to take a look at it before purchasing. He does not want to share the cost. Roger will contact Bill to set up a time to look at it and putting in a bid. Larry questioned sharing it with other townships with which we share other equipment. Roger stated that it would be borrowed as other equipment and anyone using it would pay for any necessary repairs. :

Sue reported that she excused from the Portage Planning meeting. She and Roger attended a deposition for other township business. Sue commended Mary for the great job she did which shows in the audit report.

Mary presented the Year-End Reports for 2014 from the Portage County Health Department. Mary reported that the audit was completed last week. Mary stated that one item in the audit needs to be addressed; some invoices are presented to the Fiscal Officer without approval of a purchase order in place. The trustees agreed that each department should check with the Fiscal Officer before making a large purchase. Mary presented the trustees with a draft report of the audit. She asked if there were any questions. Mary reported that she had to make two advances in February from the General Fund to the EMS Fund in the amount of \$5,500. Mary requested a motion to approve advances she made in February in the amount of \$5,500 from the General Fund to the EMS Fund. Sue so moved. Mike seconded. RCV: Roger - yes; Mike - yes; Sue- yes.

Mary requested a motion to appropriate receipts 37 - 46 totaling \$176,387.97 and pay warrants 36141 - 36175 and EFTs/vouchers 79 - 92 totaling \$37,657.09. Sue so moved. Roger seconded; RCV: Roger- yes; Mike - yes; Sue - yes.

Larry presented the Road Department report. Larry reported on salt usage, road and equipment maintenance. Larry reported that we did very well on salt usage this winter using 300 tons of salt as well as 300 tons of cinders. We need to purchase 38 tons to meet the minimum purchase requirement. Larry feels we should continue the use of cinders with our salt in the future. Larry related how the township obtained salt when he was hired. They took a loader and dump truck to the county salt shed to get the salt. They used 25 tons per year. Roger commented that we saved money by using the cinders. Mike agrees to continue using cinders. Larry brought up for discussion the summer salt purchase. He was on a conference call yesterday but there was no indication of the cost for the salt. Mike feels the range will float with what market can bear. Larry was considering placing an order for half of our salt. Larry stated that the reason the cost increase for the winter salt bid was that the stockpiles were gone. Larry explained the various township/village consortiums. Mike commented that we have two weeks to think about it and will continue discussion at the next meeting. There was discussion about a new salt shed. Larry will have some estimates for a salt shed. Sue agrees with the new salt shed. Larry reported that he would like to do more crack sealing this arid less chip and seal.

Sue presented the Zoning Department report. One permit was issued as well as one lot split. The complaint about the sign on St. Rt. 44 has been resolved. A quarterly meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the SC. This meeting will replace the previously scheduled in April. Regional Planning will submit the survey of needed zoning text changes to accommodate our changing growth. Sue reported that she received feedback that someone did not know the procedure to file a complaint. Sue will have the procedure on the web site. She reiterated that it is not the trustees who direct the ZI but the ZC and BZA. She has encouraged residents to come to the meetings with suggestions. The zoning book was printed many years ago and many things have changed. She stated Bruce is doing a good job. When he received a call and does not know the answer he makes the necessary phone calls to get an answer. Sue would like to<sup>1</sup> have a newsletter published soon and have this information in there as well. Shannon brought up an issue that needs to be addressed. She filed a written complaint last year about this time. She has not received a response. The trustees stated that the issue was handled. According to Shannon issue was quiet for a few months but has started back up. The trustees were not aware that the problem has resurfaced. Mike stated that we will take up the issue again. Shannon commented that she could take civil action but that comes with a great cost. Sue will have Bruce take immediate action tomorrow.

Roger read letter from Chief Lang regarding the EMS billing service. Chief Lang requested the approval of the new rates. Roger stated that the rate adjustments were implemented by Medicare. Roger moved to approve the new transport billing rates. Sue seconded. Discussion: Sue explained the definitions/type of transports. RCV: Roger - yes; Mike - yes; Sue - yes.

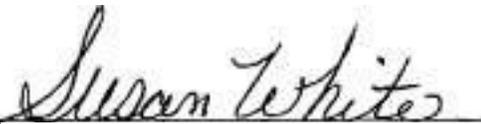
**Public Comment**

Gary commented that a lot of people are asking him if the taped meetings will be online. Sue stated that it was discussed in the past. Roger stated that we were behind getting the minutes online but it is current now. Sue thinks it is a good idea but feels the minutes are just as good. Sue stated that all are welcome to come to the meeting. Shannon asked if there was opposition to reading the minutes. Erin stated that you cannot get the same nuance from reading the minutes. Mary explained the meeting minute's requirement by the Auditor of State. The minutes do not need to be verbatim. The minutes need to convey the general decision making and discussion that take place. She does not pick and choose what goes in the minutes. Mike commented that the people elected them to do a job of making decisions for the township. Erin feels it is a good practice in democracy. She further commented that she feels the residents want the meetings and officials to be accessible. Mike feels that social media is out of control. He feels that someone should be able to look you in the eye and to tell them what you think. Sue stated that it is not a question of cost but a time issue.

Betty brought up a concern about parking lot potholes. Mike stated that we are working on it. Betty also brought an issue to the trustee's attention about Sarchione's employees parking past building. Mike stated that they are supposed to park against the fence. Betty stated that it also affects those who rent the buildings by not having enough parking due to the employees parking behind the SC/CC. There was discussion about the park and ride which was voted on in the past. Roger will make a phone call tomorrow to take care of this issue.

Shannon agrees that it pays to rattle the cage to keep things in order.

With no further questions, the budget hearing adjourned at 8:08 p.m.



Susan White, Chairman



Mary A^todenbucher, Fiscal Officer