

Bloom Township Board of Trustees Regular Meeting 02/09/05

Joseph Smith, Chairperson, called the meeting to order. Members present were Trustees Smith, Larry Coyle, David Petty, and Carol Moore, Clerk. Also present were Anne Darling Cyphert, Board Office Admin. & Bldg/Zoning Admin; Tom Scholl, Road Department Superintendent; Terry Gill, Fire Chief; and several interested citizens. Smith led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Petty, second by Coyle, to approve the minutes of the 1/26/05 regular meeting, Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Bob Skinner of Joshua Homes and Casey McKinnley, of DiYanni Homes addressed the trustees about concern over the weight limit signs. McKinnley requested a maintenance bond be approved as was done in 2004 for his company. Coyle recommended using the same process of paving Smith Road during their construction phase. Scholl said he would like to see a thicker application to prevent the roadway from breaking up. He said we need more than the ½” they put on last year. Scholl would like a time frame of the opening of Market Street. Skinner said that will happen once size issues involving the road are addressed plus a fire hydrant that needs to be moved. McKinnley said that opening up Market Street will not help DiYanni and that Smith Road weight limits need to be addressed. Petty said he would like to see Market Street left closed and construction vehicles use Smith Road. Smith said it is up to the Board of Trustees to determine what roads need weight reduction limit signs. Scholl will meet with the developers to try to resolve the issue. Brian Randles of Salem Church Road said the Joshua developers also benefited from DiYanni’s paving project of Smith Road last year. Coyle said if the construction traffic damages the road, they will be expected to repair it. Scholl will schedule a meeting with all parties involved and bring a plan back to the trustees for consideration.

CLERK REPORT:

- Clerk Moore reported that she had obtained guidance from the County Prosecutor’s Office as to how to handle payment of the Arborturf bill that was for tree and debris removal caused by the December ice storm. Moore said we have been advised that the trustees need to pass a resolution declaring an emergency retroactive to December 28, 2004, and to attach a letter of correction to the minutes for the record that will show the auditors why we are declaring an emergency after the fact.

RESOLUTION #12-05: BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES that the competitive bid process is waived and an emergency declared for the removal of trees and debris due to the ice storm emergency retroactive to December 28, 2004, and that the bill from Arboturf for that period be paid in full in the amount of \$34,010.00.

Motion by Coyle, second by Petty. ROLL CALL:

Coyle: yes

Petty: yes

Smith: yes

Motion carried 3-0.

- Next Moore opened the sealed bids for cutting of trees and ridding of tree debris for the remainder of 2005. Smith read the quotes aloud.

Discussion: Arborturf President, Terry Cook, suggested rejecting all the bids because they were not comparable in what they bid on. Gary Arbaugh explained his ideas for bid proposals. Petty suggested getting two prices: 1) general work and 2) ice storm repair. Petty said some of the tree work should be done by our township personnel. Moore suggested Tom should work with the board to come up with a bid package that fit the work to be done. Petty suggested that the clerk contact Granville Twp for a sample bid. Cook said he would provide a sample contract and sample specs for the bidding process. Moore said she would get samples from other townships and other sources. Scholl said there is still an emergency need for tree removal and asked that the process be completed as quickly as possible.

Motion by Coyle, second by Petty to reject all four of the bids submitted as follows: Arbaugh Tree Service & Landscaping, Family, Inc. dba Arborturf, D-C Cunningham Group, Inc., and Mid Ohio Tree Service, Ltd. Motion passed 3-0.

- **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$20,093.35 and Payroll/charges in the amount of \$40,910.51 after being certified by the clerk that funds are available. Motion passed 3-0.
- Moore confirmed with Scholl that about 300 tons of road salt has been ordered this year against the ODOT contract. Moore said we can order up to 450 tons against the ODOT contract. Scholl said he would need more salt than that and that ODOT will likely deliver more than stated in the contract if we need it. **Motion** by Coyle, second by Petty approving purchase of up to an additional 300 tons of salt from the ODOT contract beyond the 300 tons of road salt that was originally estimated against the ODOT contract. Motion passed 3-0.
- Barry Walker of Trimmer Ins. said the dental quote needs to be changed and our premiums will be higher. Moore said it will mean almost \$900/year more than the original quote that had not included orthodontia. Moore requested a motion to approve the clerk signing the new quote. **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle to approve the additional cost. Motion carried 3-0.

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- Announcements:
 - Tax advance received totaling \$126,000. (Fire \$92,000; R&B \$14,000; Road Impr. \$20,000.
 - Lithopolis has paid first billing and has been sent a second billing for salt etc.
 - Kroger credit cards are here and will be available to dept heads after the meeting. Need to sign one out- -Kroger will require a credit card to charge items beginning FEB 21.
 - Haven't received the \$400.00 for the cemetery lot.
 - Anne is re-applying for tax exemption for Wilson Road property. All applications were deliberately mass canceled. Re-application is required in order to obtain tax exempt status for this property. See letter from Barbara Curtis in Tax Exempt Property file.
 - Boosties Gas Credit: They want us to use a VISA card but that won't address the tax exemption issue. Petty said the tax issue needs to be addressed. Gill said he spoke with the owner who may consider billing monthly for fuel service. Smith said he was told they would not bill monthly. Smith will discuss the issue with the owner next week. Petty said we are legally obligated to be exempted from the gas tax.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Greencastle update: Anne talked with Barry Holmes of M-E Engineering. He hopes to have something for the trustee meeting in two weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

BLDG/ZONING & BOARD OFFICE REPORT:

- Anne Cyphert reported that if Bloom Twp would adopt the 2004 Residential Code of Ohio, residents would receive a better ISO Rating.

Petty said we should take the first step in adopting the 2004 code and accept public comment on the zoning change. **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle, to receive public comment on a proposal to adopt the 2004 Residential Code of Ohio during the next regular Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. Motion passed 3-0.

- Nauman Case: Anne announced the case was decided in favor of the township. Petty expressed his frustration that we cannot recoup our legal expenses when we have to pay for enforcement of our zoning.
 - GIS Software Purchase was discussed. The cost would be \$1,450 with annual updates costing \$850. Coyle said that our computer is not powerful enough to support this software.
 - Cyphert requested a motion concerning counsel for Abatement of Nuisance and Zoning Violations. **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle, to authorize Jerrold Schwarz to act as counsel for abatement of a nuisance and zoning violations regarding the Doss properties on Coonpath Road. Motion carried 3-0
 - Cyphert announced that help will be available to other Departments: Cyphert said due to building season coming up in March, the zoning office hours will be increased by an hour per day from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and that she has spoken with Aimee Hunkele, Administrative Assistant, who is willing to stay later in the afternoon or take work home with her in order to assist other departments. **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle to authorize Aimee Hunkele to work up to 20 hours per week based on workload. Motion carried 3-0.
 - Cyphert reported that she is working on the typographical errors and re-wording of the Comprehensive Plan as approved by the trustees and hopes to have it finished by end of this month.
 - Cyphert said she will have recommendations at the next meeting for Commercial Zoning Fees.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Tornado Siren Issue: Chief Terry Gill said five additional outdoor warning sirens are needed to cover the safety needs of the township. He provided a map developed by B&C Communications showing primary locations for warning sirens for overall twp coverage. The goal is to get the \$20,000/each sirens at no cost to the twp. The sirens would be funded through a grant.
- Gill stated remodeling is needed at the firehouse. He wants to convert the two upstairs bathrooms into one unisex bathroom, install a shower stall, and use the additional space for a locker room. He presented a quote from Ron Metzger Plumbing for \$1465. He said the firefighters will also be working on the project. He said the biggest expense is the \$1465. **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle to authorize the expenditure of \$1465 to Ron Metzger for remodeling the restroom and converting it into a locker room. Motion passed 3-0.
- Gill reported his department had a run on Brandt Road and about hung up the medic due to the condition of the road. He said Brandt Road posed a safety hazard for the recent emergency run. He recommended the township consider grants or funding to pave the road. Scholl concurred and stated an immediate need exists to widen Brandt Road. He said we need to address this before the summer road project is bid out. Scholl will talk to Bob Stebelton about removing trees in the area.

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- Moore stated the State New Hire forms were returned for two employees due to incorrect hire dates. **Motion** by Coyle, second by Petty, to correct previous motion passed 11-10-04; change Chris Deboard's date of hire from 10-29-04 to 10-19-04 and Kyle Haertling's date of hire from 10-29-04 to 10-20-04. Motion passed 3-0.

ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Alspach Road issue: Tom Scholl said something needs to be done for Mrs. Fry as was discussed at the previous meeting. Smith suggested having Tom contact Jerrold Schwarz to address the issue since it involves going onto private property. **Motion** by Petty, second by Coyle to hire the services of Jerrold Schwarz to address the Alspach Road private property issue. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion by Petty, second by Coyle: to hold an executive session to address Road Department Personnel Issues and to meet with department heads to discuss complaints against personnel. Motion passed 3-0.

Motion by Petty, second by Coyle: to come out of executive session Motion passed 3-0.

- Gill reported he had his first meeting with the Sate Fire Marshall today concerning the Eagles Nest Arena issue.

Trustee Smith adjourned the meeting.

Joseph Smith
Chairperson

Carol J. Moore
Clerk