

<<<BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING 4/12/06>>>

David Petty, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present were Trustees Petty, Brian Randles, Joseph Smith, and Fiscal Officer Carol Moore. Also present were Fire Chief Terry Gill; Randy Solt, Acting Road Supervisor; and several interested citizens.

Petty led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Kathy Mowery, candidate for Judge, Fairfield County Domestic Relations Court, spoke to the board regarding her candidacy and encouraged everyone to vote May 2.
- Steve Elsea, candidate for county commissioner, spoke to the board regarding his candidacy.
- Robert Stebelton requested the township dump truck to be provided to aid him in taking out trees on Brandt Road. He also requested he be provided with road traffic control items normally used by the township. The trustees agreed to have the township trucks and equipment available for the tree removal project. Stebelton questioned if the trustees would like to leave the trees due to Issue 2 money. All agreed to proceed with the tree removal. Petty told Stebelton to work with Randy Solt, acting Road Dept. supervisor, for assistance with the township trucks.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

- **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve minutes of 3-22-06 regular meeting. Motion carried 3-0. Petty pointed out that the minutes of the special meeting also need approval. **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve minutes of 3-22-06 special meeting. Motion carried 3-0.
- Moore explained that due to information received at the recent Local Government Officials' Conference, she is requesting approval of a resolution to supersede Resolution 06-06 which stipulates one trustee salary and benefits be paid from the Road & Bridge Fund and two from the General Fund. Moore said that prior to an OAG (Ohio Attorney General) Opinion in 2004, the AOS (Auditor of State) accepted resolutions that specified percentages of trustee salaries to allocate to various funds as complying with RC 505.24 (C). The OAG Opinion alters that. Now, if a trustee is paid out of a fund other than General, the trustee must document time worked. Audit will treat 2005 and 2006 differently when applying sanctions. We did pay trustee salaries in 2005 also out of Road and Bridge; this could be mentioned in a management letter, however, the AOS will not issue findings for adjustment for 2005 audits. They will issue findings for adjustment if 2006 is not corrected. Moore recommends the following resolution to correct 2006 only. She will go back and correct 2006.

Petty expressed that he is aggravated at the State's changing the rules on us. He said we were told for years that this was allowable. He said they even admit that they are changing the rules on us and it is going to hurt us in the General Fund on down the road but we have to do it.

Moore said the State auditor representative, Mark Howard, said they recognize the word of the OAG opinion had not gotten out so they will not issue findings for adjustment for 2005.

RESOLUTION #21-06: BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES that all three trustee salaries and benefits shall be taken from the General Fund for FY 2006. This resolution is retroactive to 1-1-06 and supercedes RESOLUTION #06-06. Further, to accomplish this, the fiscal officer is authorized to appropriate an additional \$20,000 from unappropriated money in the General Fund as follows:

\$ 8,000 to 1000-110-111 SALARIES - TRUSTEES

\$12,000 to 1000-110-221 MEDICAL/HOSPITALIZATION

Motion by Randles, second by Smith. ROLL CALL: Randles-Yes; Smith-Yes; Petty-Yes. Resolution passed 3-0.

- Correspondences received:
 - FF Cty RPC Annual Report for 2005 distributed to trustees & Dept Heads.
 - FF Cty RPC 4-4-06 meeting agenda received & minutes of 3-7-06 meeting.
 - FF Cty RPC 5-16-06 Public hearing at 9:45 a.m. @ FF Cty Courthouse, 210 E. Main. Revision to Subdivision Regulations-Proposed Addition of "Post-Construction Storm Water Management" Regulations.
- Announcements:
 - Final settlement received for first half real estate taxes. Total of \$127,303.61.
- **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$71,954.93 and Payroll/charges in the amount of \$34,288.28 having been certified by the clerk that funds are available. Motion passed 3-0.
- **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve Then & Now Purchase Order \$32,117.00 for For F-450 truck purchase. Motion by Randles, second by Smith. Motion passed 3-0.
- **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve Then & Now Purchase Order \$32,117.00 for Ford F-450 truck purchase. Motion passed 3-0.

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NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion of employee activity logs. Petty would like to see from each department a two week summary of what the department has done. Example: Fire Dept. could just say made two fire runs, made 20 medical runs, 10 of those were mutual aid, and any significant information thereafter. The Road Dept. could report roads they have worked on with one or two line synopsis of what was done.

Randles said Anne Cyphert had submitted an activity log just before leaving on vacation. Randles asked the opinions of those department heads present. Gill and Solt both said they already keep logs. Solt asked if the log needs to be typed. Randles said it can be hand written as long as it can be read.

- Randles said he and Cyphert had discussed political campaign signs placed in the right-of-ways which is in violation of Bloom Twp zoning regulations. Signs will be removed from right-of-ways and placed beside the dumpster at the Greencastle office location. Randles said that he had a few campaign signs removed from the right-of-way during his election campaign. He said we are going to stick to the rules. Smith said that the signs can be a maximum size of 9 square feet and four feet off the ground.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Access Management discussion: Randles and Smith attended the recent. Access Management meeting where Dick Sommers spoke. They want to control the way driveways are accessed to cut down on impeding traffic; include more right turns only. Smith said the county engineer is giving townships an opportunity to initiate access management themselves. Smith said Bloom would like the county engineer to control the access management, that's one thing he is there for. The trustees will wait for a sample resolution and minutes of the access meeting before passing a resolution. The trustees agree that they would like the county to do it.
- Update on change in Ohio Firefighters Deferred Compensation program. Moore said she is disappointed that the new attorney has not yet provided an estimate for studying the deferred comp issue and rendering an opinion. She said there are other townships who are still researching the issue. Moore said Violet Township was offered an addendum different from ours. Petty said he thinks townships should not have different addendums. We will continue to pursue direction from counsel.
- Petty asked if the red truck had been taken in to be looked at. Smith said he would ask Steve at Bootsie's if we can get it looked at. He will schedule an appointment for the truck.
- Meeting room countertop: Randles said the guy who was going to do the work is on vacation. Randles will continue to work with Barry Holmes.
- Petty said he would like the trustees to take a road trip to see Widener Design & Construction Group's completed projects. It was decided to invite Jason Funderburg, an architect with Widener to come to the next meeting to give his opinion of how we could situate a new building on the land. Gill said the State EPA had said that due to the limited number of people who would use the proposed Fire sub-station, that a single family dwelling septic system is all that would be needed. Gill said we need an architect and engineering company to perform soil samples. Petty said that we want to know our options since we are all in agreement that we want to put a sub-station at the Greencastle location. Petty said once we come to an agreement how we want to situate the substation and septic system, then we can see how much land is left. He discussed options for the Road Dept. He suggested extending the Road Dept storage building in Lithopolis along the alley out to South St. which adds another third for storage space. Put addition on back of existing block building. This would avoid having to move everything (Road Dept) to Greencastle. Smith suggested building a storage building at Greencastle for storage of salt. Randles said we need to see what is feasible. Moore said that at the Local Government Officials' Conference, she had posed a question to an attorney with the State Auditor's Office concerning the bid requirements for the fire sub-station. She has given each trustee a copy of the answer that was received by email yesterday and asked that the trustees read the information. Petty said he and Gill think the building will cost approximately \$80 per square ft. It was agreed that this is just for the building ready to move in to. It does not include the furniture, septic, well or land preparation. Gill said the sub-station would have 3 bays. Petty will let Moore know if Funderburg can come at 6:30 prior to the next meeting so the meeting can be publicized.

ZONING & BOARD OFFICE REPORT: Zoning Inspector was on a family vacation but had submitted a written report prior to her departure.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Gill presented the trustees with a 100% Award he accepted at the Safety Awards banquet. It is a framed certificate for Boom Twp having no time off last year due to injuries.
- Petty said he cannot attend the Safety CEO Luncheon on the 21st. Gill will make reservations for two and Smith and Moore or Smith and Randles will attend in order for the township to meet a requirement for receiving a 4% discount on Workers' Compensation premium. Gill attends monthly meetings also required for receiving the 4% discount.
- Gill presented a sample resolution for the trustees to pass that would allow the township to auction excess property via the internet. Gill requested the resolution be passed at the next meeting.
- Gill said his dept had a training fire on Cedar Hill Road Sunday morning. Sheriff's Office and Lancaster Police Dept. would like to participate in future training fires. Randles asked if a particular

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barn could be used in a training fire. Gill said EPA has to give permit for burning and Dept has to show training benefit and barns are hard to justify.

- Gill said the Knox Box is installed on the township administration building. He needs keys for all the interior office doors and the outside door on the parking lot side.
- Gill asked where the attorney fees would come from for the deferred compensation counsel. He said it should come from the General Fund or the union. Moore said we don't want the union to pay for it because we are not asking counsel to research their interests in it; counsel is researching what the township's role is.
- Gill referred to the minutes from the 3-22-06 Special Meeting. Referring to a comment by a firefighter on a particular shift, Gill wanted it understood that any time anyone was off on that shift, there was overtime; vacation, comp time, if someone calls in sick, if a part-timer calls off, any time someone was off there was overtime.
- Discussion of tornado sirens: Email from Tom Moe giving status of the sirens. Media coverage of tornado sirens did not mention that Bloom Township had transported the sirens to Fairfield County. Media only spotlighted Violet Twp.

ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Randy Solt, acting Road Dept supervisor, said Jeff Baird reported that we did not qualify for Issue II funds for the Kauffman Road project. Baird said our design plan is still coming and we need to resubmit for next year with a design plan. Baird suggested Bloom get a design plan for Brandt Road because it would be more points added on with a design plan that we did not have this year. Solt said he needs to do some patching and ditching to Brandt Road this year. Chip & Seal to Brandt Road is a priority this year.
- Discussion of bid ad for Summer Road Maintenance project. Decision to look at two separate bid ads next meeting separating the Chip & Seal from the Blacktop. Solt recommended using an ad similar to the example Fairfield County bid notice. Bid notices and bid specifications will be revised and presented for approval at next meeting.
- Purchase of Bucket for mini hoe discussed. **Motion** by Randles, second by Smith to approve \$978.50 for the purchase of a 18" bucket and Ten teeth, and 20 Pins from Columbus Equipment Company. Motion carried. 3-0.
- Truck body purchase: Solt discussed quotes with the trustees. Solt requested the trustees wait on this and decide at another meeting. He would like to do more research.
- Cemetery Report: Dan Starkey asked the trustees if they had reviewed his cemetery software package report. Starkey said he can get volunteer photographers to take pictures of the grave sites. Will be able to image all the old records, deeds, pictures of people. Starkey said Scott Richardson had found another Revolutionary War veteran grave, Ed Hoy.

Randles expressed surprise at the high cost of the software. Petty and Starkey said it is not out of line for this industry.

Starkey wants to advertise available plots in the next newsletter. He said Cyphert will work with him to design a flyer. Starkey said we have about 440 plots in Wesley Chapel. About 35% have been sold. Selling 3 or 4 plots per year will more than pay for the expense of cemetery software and supplies.

Starkey requested \$1,457 to start his cemetery project. **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to approve \$1,457.00 for the Pontem software purchase. Motion carried 3-0.

OTHER:

- Discussion of not wanting light taken out at Pickerington Road. Comment was made that it just moves the problem down to Carroll.
- Petty said there needs to be an executive session for Fire Department personnel issues. He said there will be no action taken or business conducted following executive session. **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing employee benefits and compensation. Motion passed 3-0.
- **Motion** by Smith, second by Randles to come out of executive session. Motion passed 3-0.

Petty adjourned the meeting.

David Petty
Chair

Carol J. Moore
Fiscal Officer