

<<<BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING 2/14/07>>>

Brian Randles, Chair, called the meeting to order. Members present were Trustees Randles, David Petty, and Fiscal Officer Carol Moore. Also present were Anne Darling Cyphert, Board and B/Z Administrator; Fire Chief Terry Gill. Trustee Joseph Smith was absent.

Randles asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance and to remain standing for a Moment of Silence in honor of our troops serving in the Military throughout the world.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT:

- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve minutes of Regular meeting held 1-24-07. Motion carried 2-0.
- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$45,984.02 and Payroll/charges in the amount of \$46,203.27 having been certified by the fiscal officer that funds are available. Motion carried 2-0.
- **CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - Letter received from Fairfield County Engineer authorizing posting of weight reduction signs as of 2-2-07.
 - Letter received from EPA regarding hearing at Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission- in Columbus FEB 5 concerning request for recognition of Improved Air Quality in Columbus.
 - 1ST RE Tax advance for first half received: Fire \$122,000; Road Improvement \$32,000; Road & Bridge \$22,000.
 - Moore said several estimates have been received regarding window replacements for the administrative offices due to extreme air leaks causing ice build-up inside the windows and on the window sills. Randles suggested looking at the meeting room for window replacement as well. Gill said he is planning on replacing windows at the fire department as well. He suggested he and Cyphert work together to get price breaks.
 - Letter received from County Engineers Office requesting individual meetings with township trustees and fiscal officers to discuss townships' needs. Petty said he is unable to attend the date that the engineer offered but would be able to attend an evening meeting. Cyphert suggested it might be a violation of Ohio Sunshine Law for the trustees to meet with the county engineer to discuss township needs without calling a special meeting. Petty suggested he, Solt, and Randles go on March 1 or 2. Per directive from the board, Cyphert will call Frank Anderson, County Engineer, to ask to meet in the evening and if not, inquire about the 7:00 a.m. time. In addition, Cyphert will research if the meetings can occur as proposed without calling a special meeting of the trustees.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Discussion of Lora Lane/Alspach Road Project. Smith will update us at the next meeting. Cyphert will work with Lisa Fisher to obtain property owners signatures that need to be notarized.
- Prevailing Wage/Competitive Bidding: Petty said he learned at the Ohio Twp. Association conference, that we don't have to pay prevailing wage on the roof project. He suggested getting more estimates on the proposed project. Randles suggested having someone give an estimate for a tin roof. Gill, Prevailing Wage Coordinator, said he double checked the information from Petty and stated he is correct. He said he has been researching the requirements and the next time the trustees consider a project, they can contact him for information.
- Access Management discussion. Petty stated he is concerned regarding page 29 of the draft plan where a minimum distance between driveways depends on the speed limit on the road., At 25 mph, we could only have a driveway every 155 feet. He said that contradicts our zoning that requires 150 feet. Petty said he has a real problem with this superseding our zoning and that Bob Stebelton may have had a valid point about this taking authority away from the township. Randles concurred, stating that most of our roads are 50 mph and the spacing would be 425 feet. Petty cited examples in the township where safety has not been a factor when driveways are closer than 150 feet. Randles stated those concerns can be addressed at the next County Trustees/Fiscal Officer Association Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- RPC Subdivision Regulation Proposed Changes: Petty said he met with Holly Mattia of RPC. He said that according to Holly Mattia, if you are under 4.01 acres, you are limited to four lot splits plus the original. If you are 4.01 to 16 acres, you can have as many lot splits as you want as long as you adhere to township zoning. He gave the reasons for the regulations and said the township can support the proposed Subdivision Regulations Committee. He asked Mattia about township representation on RPC and on the Subdivision Regulations Committee. He said we can have a primary and alternate representative to RPC. The subdivision subcommittee representative can be a totally different person. He said whatever we put down on our letterhead is who can represent us. He said the township's RPC rep must abstain from

<<<BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING 2/14/07>>>

our issues. He said the committee's subdivision proposal, by state law, must be approved by in April. Randles questioned what was meant in the plan by "opening of the street." Petty will call Mattai to get the question answered.

- Fairfield County Health Department meeting: House to House Inspections. Petty stated he is concerned about the county's inspection program wanting to increase the annual septic inspection fee from \$25 to \$40. He said it is another unvoted tax. Cyphert attended the Board of Health meeting where it was discussed. Petty stated John Hizy from Greenfield Twp. Trustees told the health board he is concerned that county charges it annually when they don't inspect annually. **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to pass the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 06-007: BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES to oppose the Fairfield County Health Department's proposal to increase the House to House fee from \$25.00 to \$40.00.

ROLL CALL: Petty=yes; Randles=yes. Resolution carried 2-0.

- JEDD: Cyphert said she met with Trustee Gary Wetlick and Administrator Bill Yaple of Violet Twp. They request to meet in executive session at our next meeting with our trustees and legal counsel, Wanda Carter, in executive session at the Feb 28 trustee meeting regarding pending or imminent litigation.

BLDG/ZONING & BOARD OFFICE REPORT:

- Board of Health report on nuisance abatement on Slough Road. Cyphert said the barn issue has been resolved.
- Board of Health Plumbing Fees Report: Cyphert reported she received a letter from the Fairfield Dept of Health Plumbing Inspector stating the dept. is requiring new residence owners to have plumbing inspections done by the county. She stated we already have a certified building inspector who is doing this and is concerned that the county may be treading on township turf and creating a duplication of services. She said Don Day cannot legally issue a final occupancy permit until the county has stamped it.
- Report on OTA Winter Conference. Cyphert distributed a power point presentation about zoning that was given at the conference. Cyphert reported on the procedure for responding to junk car complaints and noxious weeds complaints per the O.R.C.
- RPC Agendas. Cyphert cited examples of issues addressed the past several months on the RPC meeting agendas to give a general idea of what RPC does at their monthly meetings.
- Introduction of Building Resolution: Cyphert presented the state required building code resolution and will ask for approval at the next meeting.
- CW Chamber annual dinner invitation. Cyphert asked the trustees and fiscal officer to let her know at the next meeting if they plan to attend the Chamber event because the reservations are due March 2.
- Cyphert said that the twp received an invitation to the Conservation Easements Forum at the Ag Center on FEB 20th.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Firefighter LOCAL IAFF on insurance issues. Brad Shull, IAFF President, introduced Karyn Reis, who is the wife of a firefighter/IAFF member. Shull said she has a background and knowledge in insurance matters. Reis compared the township's 2007 health insurance policy to that of 2002. She said the main issue is that well baby care is more costly now than in 2002. Randles pointed out several areas where the insurance is now better than 2002. Randles stated he does not believe the total plan is less than what was offered in 2002. Shull stated there are communications issues with Trimmer Agency and he is concerned about customer service. Reis said the wife of Scott Richardson, Road Worker, is concerned about the lack of coverage for Gardisil inoculation. Shull said several areas of the new policy that have increased are some of the most used parts of the policy. Shull asked about the township trustees giving rebates to the firefighters who have a hardship paying increases in some of the areas which he said will become a contract issue. Randles stated he thinks the township has provided a good policy which is what it is required to do. Shull said the township did not communicate with the union before the policy changed. Shull expressed concern the prosecutor's office has not responded to the latest deferred comp issue. Randles stated he does not support the township trustees giving rebates. Petty said he is concerned the policy has changed but the township trustees did not change the policy, the insurance company did not offer the same policy. The township is paying an 8.5% increase for this policy. The firefighters pay \$20 monthly for single coverage and \$40 for family coverage and Shull would like to see that amount reduced in the next contract. He requested these amounts be cut in half from now until the next contract is negotiated. Petty said if the trustees offered giving rebates to the firefighters who have a hardship paying increases there would have to be a memo of understanding. Randles said the twp. has done everything required and kept the fire dept. in the loop. Shull disagreed because the fire department was not included in the executive session that was held in an earlier special meeting. Shull said he is a union man and he must go back to explain the board's decision to the firefighters. Randles said the township would not

<<<BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING 2/14/07>>>

ask firefighters to pay back the township in the cases where they receive better benefits than in 2002 as a comparison to Shull's request that the township reimburse for decreased benefits. Shull said one family from the fire department will have to go to the health department for inoculations due to decreased benefits. He asked again for the trustees to consider the township trustees giving rebates to the firefighters who have a hardship paying increases for the next 10 months. He stated Petty mentioned the idea at a previous meeting. Petty said the township did not cause the problem. Shull said another township firefighter from Madison Twp that is seriously ill is being taken care of by their trustees. Randles stated Shull's comments were inappropriate. The comparison is not valid. Shull said his comments were not meant to be disrespectful. Randles reiterated the new policy contains many increased benefits as well. Petty concurred. Petty said he is tired of being at the mercy of insurance companies and appreciates the knowledge about the new Gardisil inoculation that is not covered by the current policy because it is new. Shull said he wants to be able to tell the union firefighters they have support of the trustees. Randles said we tried in good faith to do everything we could; we had Frank Reis in on it to help us. Randles said the trustees have been extremely supportive of the firefighters and cited many examples of how they support the firefighters.

- Gill asked the trustees to elect two board members to serve on the 2007 board of the Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents Fund. **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to appoint Petty and Randles. Motion carried 2-0.
- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve purchase of 4 sets of turnout gear at \$1,358.00 per set. Motion carried 2-0. Gill noted the price did not increase from last year.
- **Motion** to approve the appointment of [name on file] as a volunteer firefighter effective 2-14-07 on a one year probationary period. Motion carried 2-0.
- **Motion** to hire current volunteer Firefighter [name on file] as Part-time Firefighter effective 2-14-07 at \$10.00 per hour with a one year probationary period. Motion carried 2-0.

ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- No report on "Update on Greencastle Drainage project" due to snow and ice priority.

OTHER:

Cyphert presented the trustees with a resolution for consideration at the next meeting regarding the certification of the Bloom Twp. Residential Building Department.

ADJOURNMENT

Randles adjourned the meeting.

Brian E. Randles
Chair

Carol J. Moore
Fiscal Officer