

<<<BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING 01/24/07>>>

Brian Randles, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present were Trustees Randles and David Petty, and Fiscal Officer Carol Moore. Also present were Anne Darling Cyphert, Board Office and B/Z Administrator; Fire Chief Terry Gill; Randy Solt, Road Supervisor; and several interested citizens. 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:**

- Robert Stebelton said he opposes the county access management plan on the basis that the county should not be telling us what to do. He said it is unfair to many including to Mark Heister who was sitting with him at the meeting. He asked the trustees to look out for the interests of the farmers. He also reminded the trustees of a former proposal to make 50 acre tracts of land. He said now there is a proposal from the county to limit lot splits to four per tract. Cyphert inquired as to whether that proposal was still current. Stebelton said it is. Donna Abram said Larry Coyle who is the Bloom Township representative to Fairfield County Planning Commission should have been providing detailed reports to the trustees regarding this issue. Randles informed Stebelton that there is a meeting this Saturday of the Fairfield County Township Trustees and Fiscal Officers Association where a township representative will be chosen for the Access Management Committee. Randles said the township did not sign a petition against the access management plan. Abram said the township never has anyone to represent the large land owners. Cyphert stated when a person applies for a driveway culvert permit for a township road, she does not sign off on it until Solt signs it. Solt said he checks the driveway placement for safety issues before signing off on it. Petty said some townships are against access management, some are for it. Some are waiting to see what the final proposal is regarding access management. Petty said our position on access management was that if the county does it then we want the engineer to also handle any fees and permits involved. Stebelton asked the trustees to support his stance to the county commissioners regarding no access management by the county and no lot split limitations.
- Gino Zimmer attended this meeting at the request of the trustees to explain his Greencastle meeting room roof repair quotes. Zimmer stated the price includes a dumpster to haul old material away. \$5,708 is the cost for the steeple. It would be new siding at a medium grade with copper on it. This would cost another \$4,000. This would take care of water leakage problems. Credit is being given for salvaged slate. Total cost would be \$7,700 for steeple only. \$17,408 is the quote for whole project. Zimmer also provided the price if prevailing wage is paid. Gutters will be re-hung. New gutters are not needed because they were installed when the building was renovated. Moore said there is water pouring directly from the roof onto the ground at two corners and that water is seeping into the basement and foundation.
- Firefighter Union on Anthem 2002/Med Mutual 2007 spreadsheet that was dispersed just prior to the JAN 10 trustee meeting. Randles said the firefighters union president is unable to make it this evening.

**FISCAL OFFICER REPORT:**

- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve minutes of Organization meeting and Regular meeting held 1-10-07. Motion carried 2-0.
- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve cot purchase, with EMS Grant, of \$5,485.00. Motion carried 2-0.
- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$16,984.77 and Payroll/charges in the amount of \$52,657.19 having been certified by the fiscal officer that funds are available. Motion carried 2-0.
- Letter from Ohio Division of Liquor Control asking if trustees request a hearing on the advisability of issuing the permit to WE THREE CORP DBA HISTORIC MARCY STORE & DINER, 1004 Winchester Southern Road, Bloom Twp. The trustees stated no objections.
- Annual Certification of Township Road Mileage: 51.85 miles is this year's mileage. **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to accept Annual Certification of Township Road Mileage of 51.85 miles Motion carried 2-0.

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- Letter from Vance concerning Alspach drainage project urging it to move forward
- Email received from Carolyn Holbrook announcing Special Meeting SAT, JAN 24, 2007 @ 10:00 a.m. to elect representative to sit on board of access management.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Discussion of Alspach /Lora Lane project. : Cyphert was asked to work with Jerrold Schwarz, attorney, for his review and to obtain signatures for documents regarding this project.
- Petty asked about JEDD meeting. Cyphert stated it will be rescheduled when Smith returns.
- Cyphert reported she met with David Kandle of AT&T regarding residents' concerns over lack of high speed internet in the township. Kandle said all Bloom Township residents will be able to sign on to Wild Blue or wi-max by the end of 2007.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**BLDG/ZONING & BOARD OFFICE REPORT:**

- Update on state building requirements.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

- Gill asked the trustees to approve the hiring of current volunteer Firefighter [name on file] as Part-time Firefighter effective 2-04-07 at \$10.00 per hour on a one year probationary period. Randles said he will have to be hired at a future meeting because he did not appear at the trustees meeting for formal hiring as Randles had requested for all Fire Department new hires. Gill said the candidate has already been a volunteer and approved as such by his department. Randles said maybe all volunteers should also be approved by the board of trustees. Gill said the volunteer lives in Johnstown and it could be a hardship for him to attend a meeting. Randles said he can't let it slide because he does not know who he is and the volunteer does not know him either. Gill said Randles could come to the fire house tomorrow and meet him. Petty said that to keep with policy he should come to a meeting. Gill said that policy has never been approved by the board. Petty said he discussed it with Gill this morning and Gill said he would talk to Randles before the meeting which did not happen. Gill said the other two trustees have not asked for the future firefighters to come before the board to be approved. Randles asked if there needed to be a policy passed or could it be an honored agreement. Randles said if they are hired part time they should be brought before the board. Gill said that sends the wrong message to the volunteer who has donated his time. Randles said volunteers should be brought before the board also. He said they should also be brought back before the board prior to being hired part time. Petty said they should not have to come in twice. Gill said since he was already appointed as a volunteer he should be approved as a part time employee. Randles asked if a special meeting is needed to bring him before the board so he can work. Gill said overtime will have to be paid for minimum manning according to the union contract. Randles said to not put him on the schedule until he is approved. Randles asked to be called if someone has to be paid overtime. Gill said he would but why. Randles said to call him and we'll see about calling a special meeting.
- Gill said he has corresponded with attorney Scott Ziance who had suggestions for changes for the Lithopolis annexation agreement. He is waiting for the official agreement to bring before the trustees for approval.
- Discussion about Class A uniform badges: The association bought dress jackets for the firefighters but requests the board of trustees approve payment of badges of \$50 to \$75 each which will total over \$750 for 16 badges. **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve Class A uniform badges not to exceed \$1,000.
- Gill requests executive session to discuss personnel retirement.
- Gill asked the trustees to sign a letter to the Ohio Department of Public Safety.
- The fire department fought a fire at the Jepson residence January 14. It started in the front computer room. Hunters discovered it and called 911. It was ablaze by the time the firefighters arrived. Construction of the house consisted of old part and residential additions. The foam helped save some of their belongings. Concerns about access to the property were expressed.

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• **ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

- Update on Greencastle Drainage project: Solt will meet with Randles to sign off on updated permits for the project.
- **Motion** by Petty second by Randles to approve Annual NAPA filter and tool sale expense up to \$2,300. Motion carried 2-0. This will save the township about 30%.
- Fairfield County Sheriff's Office Incident Report: Storm Drain Grate stolen from intersection of Slough Rd and Mason Rd. sometime between Friday, 1-12-07, and Monday, 1-15-2007. Solt replaced it two days later with one he made.

**OTHER:** Motion by Petty, second by Randles to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion of personnel retirement. Motion carried 2-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Randles adjourned the meeting.

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Brian E. Randles  
Chair

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Carol J. Moore  
Fiscal Officer