

## <BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING 7/9-08>

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

### **PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Cyphert said a resident would like the township to alert the health department of sewage smell on Sitterley Road near Fairfield Farms subdivision.

### **FISCAL OFFICER REPORT:** by Carol Moore

- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve minutes of the regular meeting held JUN 25, 2008. Motion passed 3-0.
- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve fire dept payments \$840.00 to Physio for yearly service contract on heart monitor; \$900.00 to Luke Cullison Drywall & Texturing, Inc. for drywall of kitchen remodel; \$1016.42 to Lowes for fire kitchen remodel; 4280.05 for Pierce Engine 551 maintenance. Motion passed 3-0.
- **Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve Then & Now Purchase Order for \$5,500.00. HYDRAULIC HAMMER for Road Dept. Motion passed 3-0.
- **Motion** by Randles, second by Petty to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$34,717.79 and Payroll/ charges in the amount of \$40,679.87 having been certified by the Fiscal Officer that funds are available. Motion passed 3-0.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNICATIONS**

- FF Cty Trustees/Fiscal Officers Assoc. qrtly meeting at Richland Township Fire Dept, 3150 Market Street, Rushville, OH, on July 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Smith said a Rocky's Express representative called him and said the gas will not be put in until next year because they are running behind. They will alert the twp when the project resumes.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- OPWC Kauffman Road update: Smith reported asphalt application will begin tomorrow.

Randles said he spoke to Bob Stebelton who gave the township wood to give to Mr. Boyer. Solt said he will work on getting the wood transported on a flat bed. Some wood has already been delivered.

- Basement water problem update: the basement is drying up. Solt said we should be able to tie into the pipe out front by Friday and will take care of the Banker's property that was damaged. Smith said to make sure it is done right. Solt said they will also fill the holes in the parking lot.
- New OPWC applications: Engineering Dept of Lancaster notified us Round 23 State Capital Improvement Program grant application deadline has been moved up from OCT 5 to SEP 5, 2008. Petty, as the project manager for phases 2 & 3, will contact the county engineer's office to see if the application process is moving forward. Last word from Jeff Baird was for the township to wait for Baird to approve the signing of the engineering/application contracts with Lockwood Lanier for Kauffman Road phases 2 & 3. Also waiting approval for the Sitterley Road drainage project which is not eligible for OPWC.
- Petty said a tornado siren will soon be installed at Slate Ridge. Gill said the Lithopolis siren quote for repair is \$14,000. He will ask Lithopolis to share in the cost. Petty suggested asking Lithopolis to trade water and sewer services for siren repair costs. Smith said the village is having issues paying for the water plant now so questioned whether that can be done. Gill will present cost estimates for repair in the near future.
- Petty asked if the trustees wanted to discuss the JEDD.

**Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to not approve Bloom Twp's participation in the JEDD.

Discussion: Randles said the wording is not satisfactory, leaving it open for someone to possibly be forced in. Also, 100 years is too long. He said we should be open and pursue other ways of lessening the burden of taxes on our residents through similar programs. Petty said he is upset over some of the attitudes he experienced at the chamber meeting he went to because there is no free lunch. He said if some perspective company wants to come in and wants to TIF or tax abate, Bloom Twp residents should not subsidize the services because we would lose income. He said that someone at the chamber said farmland doesn't generate much taxes. Petty explained, however, that farmland is also not costing the township anything.

Smith asked for any public comment. Mark Heister of Alspach Road said the JEDD document is not for Bloom Township at this time.

Smith called for a Roll Call vote: Petty – yes; Randles –yes; Smith –yes. Motion carried 3-0

**ZONING & BOARD OFFICE REPORT:** by Anne Darling Cyphert, Board Admin & B/Z Admin. First half 2008 Zoning Permit Results: New Residence Permits are at an all-time low, but we are up some on Accessory permits. The first half of 2008, 7 New Residence Permits were issued (compared with 9 last year); 18 Accessory Permits (compared with 15 last year); 1 Residential

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Addition (compared with 3 last year); 2 Swimming Pool (compared with 3 last year). Cyphert noted it was interesting to see the bulk of the accessory permit applications come in about the same time as the tax refund checks.

Cyphert reported that work has begun on the new county plan that Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission and Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) are spearheading. Much more focus is going into bike paths and open space in this plan. A meeting outlining part of the plan was recently held and is on the table outside of the office for anyone to review.

Cyphert reported she will be providing a new monthly report to Mary Konfal of the US Census Bureau on residential construction to aid in the upcoming census report in 2010.

Cyphert reported that Medical Mutual is starting a new program called Super Well Disease and Maternity Management that is free to the insured employees. She has distributed the notice to insured trustees and department heads and asked them to make sure all insured employees are given a copy of the flyer.

Noxious weeds report: Cyphert gave a report on the process followed for noxious weeds complaints:

1) When complaint form is received, she sends letter to property owner letting them know they should cut the weeds and that if not, the matter will be placed on the agenda at the next Board of Trustees meeting for official action.

2) If not cut, then the Board of Trustees can pass a formal resolution ordering that notice be sent via certified mail to property owner to cut or destroy their noxious weeds within 14 days of receipt of notice. The 14 day clock begins to tick once the certified mail is picked up. If after three attempts via certified mail the property owner does not sign for it, a legal notice is placed in the paper, then if no action, weeds can be cut/destroyed and costs sent to auditors office to be placed on their tax bill.

Randles asked if weeds can be destroyed by chemicals. Cyphert said the notice says cut or destroy so chemicals would destroy them but you would have to find a company willing to do that. Randles asked Cyphert to mention it to the prosecutor for his opinion.

A noxious weeds complaint form was filed by Ralph Carle against Donald and Margaret Keene of 11347 Alspach Road and by David Cornett against Terrence Hazel of 8725 Lithopolis Road. Cyphert will be meeting with the prosecutor's office regarding several issues including noxious weeds on Monday. The trustees said pending prosecutor review, Cyphert should send formal notice on behalf of the Board of Trustees to the Keene's and Hazel to cut or destroy the weeds within 14 days of receipt of notice. If weeds are not cut or destroyed, she will contact a company to cut/destroy weeds and costs sent to auditor's office to be placed on their tax bill.

**RESOLUTION #21-08; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BLOOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES** that pending review by the prosecutor's office that Donald and Margaret Keene of 11347 Alspach Road and Terrence Hazel of 8725 Lithopolis Road are hereby ordered, with notice to be sent via certified mail per procedures set forth in Ohio Revised Code, to cut or destroy their noxious weeds within 14 days of receipt of notice. Be it further resolved that, if after three attempts via certified mail the property owner does not sign for it, a legal notice is to be placed in the newspaper, then if no action to cut or destroy the weeds, the Board Administrator is to contact a company to cut/destroy weeds and costs sent to auditor's office to be placed on their tax bill.

Roll Call vote: Petty – yes; Randles –yes; Smith –yes. Resolution adopted 3-0

Cyphert said the Bay mail truck is being parked at the store again and the neighbor called in this morning to complain so she sent another notice to Bay's asking them to comply with zoning. The trustees concurred that violations should be filed against Bay in Fairfield County court if they continue to fail to cooperate.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** by Chief Terry Gill

- Gill presented estimates on a copy machine. The one being looked at is from the same company as the Administrative Office copier. This one also has a fax machine to add to their network. It would eliminate four computer printers and a fax machine. It is a demo floor model that has 8000 copies on it and the company has a 1-year lease option. Moore said the township administrative office building has had a good experience with the copy machine.

**Motion** by Petty, second by Randles to approve the purchase of a copier and a monthly service agreement for the fire department. Motion carried 3-0.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORT:** by Road Supervisor Randy Solt

- Solt said both new tractors were delivered yesterday. Mower components will be installed by the end of this month. A test run went well.
- Solt said he hopes to have township drainage project done within a week.
- He is working with Shelly Company to have them fix Bartlett Drive by pulling out 2 inches of asphalt and then will squirt tar and chip on it. It is being done in conjunction with Kauffman Road project.

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- Randles as Solt if he has the list of roads to be paved with this summer's maintenance project. Solt said he did not have it with him but had worked on it with The Shelly Company. Solt will bring 2008 Road List to the next meeting for review. Randles asked Solt to get the list to the trustees prior to the next trustee meeting so they can look it over. Solt agreed.

**OTHER:** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Smith adjourned the meeting.

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Joseph E. Smith  
Chair

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Carol J. Moore  
Fiscal Officer