**Grafton Township Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**August 11, 2020**

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Wesemeyer, Trustee Weigel and Trustee Homer-Miller were in attendance. Fiscal Officer Amy Richards was also present.

Trustee Weigel made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular trustee meeting on July 14th, seconded by Trustee Wesemeyer. Andy yes, Carl yes and Christie yes. Motion carried. **20200811-01**

Trustee Homer-Miller made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of $73,695.44, seconded by Trustee Weigel. Christie yes, Andy yes and Carl yes. Motion carried. **20200811-02**

Bills were higher than normal due to pre-leveling done by Melway.

The Sheriff’s township impact officer emailed a report: There were approximately 35 calls for service in the township this month. After review there does not seem to be a trend in criminal activity. There was still a couple shooting complaints, and we will continue to address these with hopes of educating individuals involved. Besides this, there is not much to address in regards to crimes in the township.

**Committee Reports:**

**Zoning Mike Strah –** There were 13 permits issued, 5 houses, 4 accessory buildings, 3 fences and 1 sign. Total permit fees of $3,950.

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| 2681 | 7/15/2020 | 15505 Moorland Dr | Jason & Tracy Sapienza | $300,000 | $525  | House |  |
| 2682 | 7/15/2020 | 16719 SR 83 | Gary Mazurowski | $200,000 | $525  | House |  |
| 2683 | 7/15/2020 | 16719 SR 83 | Gary Mazurowski | $55,000 | $250  | Accessory > 500'  |
| 2684 | 7/22/2020 | 15794 Mennell Rd | Jeff & Lisa Knepper | $160,000 | $525  | House |  |
| 2685 | 7/22/2020 | 15794 Mennell Rd. | Jeff & Lisa Knepper | $15,000 | $250  | Accessory > 500'  |
| 2686 | 7/29/2020 | 33677 Crocker Rd | Michelle & Christofer Davis | $379,145 | $525  | House |  |
| 2687 | 7/29/2020 | 15675 Moorland Dr | Jeff Gleason | $3,800 | $75  | Fence |  |
| 2688 | 8/3/2020 | 36130 SR 303 | Belden UMC | $10,000 | $100  | Sign |  |
| 2689 | 8/5/2020 | 37352 Grafton Rd | Kate Stone | $6,500 | $75  | Fence |  |
| 2690 | 8/7/2020 | 16626 Chamberlin Rd | Eddie & Jennifer Corcino | $425,000 | $525  | House |  |
| 2691 | 8/7/2020 | 16626 Chamberlin Rd | Eddie & Jennifer Corcino | $30,000 | $250  | Accessory > 500' |
| 2692 | 8/10/2020 | 36835 Estee Ln | Deb Mc Ginty | $4800 | $75 | Fence |
| 2693 | 8/10/2020 | 37395 Grafton Rd. | Donald & Katherine Sanders | $5000 | $250 | Accessory > 500’ |

Zoning had an expense of $25 for the OTA webinar. There is a zoning webinar that Mike would like to attend on August 19. It is being hosted by the OTA at a cost of $25. Trustee Homer-Miller made a motion to have Mike attend the zoning webinar presented by the OTA at a cost of $25, second by Trustee Weigel. Christie yes, Andy yes and Carl yes. Motion carried. **20200811-04**

Mike has assigned two new address at 15794 Mennell Road (Jeff Knepper), and 34100 Grafton Eastern Rd. (Josh Lorek).

The BZA hearings resumed. Randy Nemitz/Glen Hawk were approved for their conditional use.

Last month Mike talked about Ronald Mantle, of 17601 Mennell Road, conducting his fence business from his residence. Mr. Mantle stated that he was still doing some business from there. He agreed he would apply to the BZA for a conditional use. He has not of as of today. Mike will get in touch with the prosecutor. Mr. Mantle gave an address in Columbia Station to the prosecutor and stated that is where he is conducting his business. Mike informed the Columbia Township Zoning Inspector since the address is also a residential property.

The Sanders of 37395 Grafton Road have yet to apply for their pool permit. They stated via email that their application would be in on July 24th. They called 8/10/2020 and scheduled an appointment for the pool and an accessory building. When asking about fees, Mike stated there would be a penalty fee for the pool. They objected to the penalty. Mike stated that it was his decision, and they could take it up with the trustees. The permit has not been issued. Discussion was had with the trustees and Ms. Sanders. Ms. Sanders stated that the website showed that a permit was only needed for an inground pool and did not see anything about an above-ground pool. Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to waive the penalty fee, second by Trustee Weigel. Carl yes, Andy yes and Christie yes. Motion carried. **20200811-03**

Mike called Joe Simmons about the status of his property at 36792 Law Road. Mike also inquired about the Simmons property at 36292 State Route 303. Mr. Simmons stated that he would mow the Law Road property, and that the clean-up at the 303 property would be done in 30 days.

Mike received correspondence from John Marshall about the property at the corner of Mennell Road and State Route 57. He is still seeking recommendations from me for a contractor to potentially remove the structures on the property. Mike composed a response to share with the board. Discussion was had on how to respond to Mr. Marshall and the requirements he will need to do. Mike will call Mr. Marshall and follow up with an email.

Complaints

Paul Schumacher inquired if a permit was issued for construction at 19044 Erhart Northern. Permit 2649 was issued 4/10/2020 to Alex Fieler.

Kirk Hirschfelder called on 7/17/2020 to complain about two lots that are not being maintained. Mike sent a violation out to the owner.

New Violations

Mike sent a violation notice out to Frank Lapos for nuisance vegetation on his two properties on Moorland Drive. Mike received a call from Mr. Lapos who questioned Mike about who complained and when. Mr. Lapos stated that he was going to talk with his attorney about Mr. Hirschfelder, and he stated those properties may be sold.

Mark and Elaine Peacock were issued a violation for constructing a pool without a permit. They have been in contact with me, and are resolving this issue.

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Existing Violations

David Spurlock

Mike Foldes/Cheryl Drake

Jerry Klimo

**Road Department Bob Richards / Chad Uehlein –** A new starter was put into the one ton. Tires were replaced on the trailer. The shifter broke on the road side mower and needs to be repaired; the trustees told him to get it repaired. Bob inquired about the Chamberlain Road mini grant paperwork. He has not received any paperwork and wants to know if he should go ahead and get the pipe and stone and what size stone. Carl will get the paperwork to Bob. Ditch cleaning and driveway pipe projects are ongoing. They have about a dozen footers to put in, which is a one or two weeks of work. Bob was told the chip seal would be starting, but as of today it has not. Dale is keeping up with the mowing and doing a great job.

**Fire Department Tim Adams / Bob Richards –** Bob reported that the annual pump test and maintenance has been completed for the squads, engines, SUV, and the grass fire truck. There was a check engine light on squad 176. CPR in Grafton looked at it; it is a fan motor. Bob will schedule to get it fixed. We are waiting to get parts for Unit 173 that has body damage; the wrong door was sent. The correct door was ordered and will get fixed. Bob is still waiting on a call back from Medina Glass Block on the repair to the window that was broken while it was at Williams for maintenance. Bob told Medina Glass that the bill should go to Williams. The trustees want to hold the check to Williams until the window is repaired on the fire engine; the Fiscal Officer will not mail the check. Bob is compiling a list of items to be purchased with the CARES Act money. Bob is having an ongoing issue with illegal open burning; he is currently working with the Lorain County Sheriff’s Environmental Crime Deputy and the zoning inspector.

**Cemetery Michele Gehring –** No report

**Town Hall Bob Richards –** The hall still is not being rented due to COVID-19

**EMS Penny Palmer** – There were 16 residential calls for the month of July, which resulted in 10 advanced life support, 3 basic life support and 3 no treat, no transport or cancelled. There were 2 motor vehicle accidents, which resulted in 1 advanced life support and 1 no treat no transport.

Mutual aid was received from Eaton Township for an motor vehicle accident assist and mutual aid was given to Litchfield for 3 residential calls and 1 motor vehicle accident.

Penny will place an order by the end of the week; expired supplies need to be replaced. She is going to check with Med Control before purchasing and see what she can get from them.

**Rural Water –** They are doing some retro fitting in Penfield.

**LORCO –** Subdivisions are the big thing.

**Fiscal Officer Amy Richards** – A resolution is needed to increase our estimated resources by $42,909.73 for the CARES Act grant. Trustee Homer-Miller made a motion to increase the 2020 estimated resources by $42,909.73 due to receipt of the CARES Act grant, second by Trustee Weigel. Christie yes, Andy yes and Carl yes. Motion carried. **20200811-05**

Trustee Homer-Miller made a motion to increase the 2020 appropriations by $42,909.73 due to the CARES Act grant, second by Trustee Weigel. Christie yes, Andy yes and Carl yes. Motion carried. **20200811-06**

Carl inquired about the CARES Act and our list of ideas and wanted to see the list. Christie indicated that a copy of the ideas list would be shared with Carl and Andy; she thought that already had been done. Amy suggested that a committee be formed including one trustee, the fiscal officer, the fire chief and assistant fire chief to get pricing on items and get items ordered. Christie volunteered to be on the committee. Amy asked the other trustees for suggestions or what they want the money to be spend on. Amy stressed that this money must be encumbered by October 15th, and money not encumbered must be sent back. The money must be distributed by December 28th to be in compliance with the grant. Carl was not comfortable with the committee moving forward with purchasing items until the list of ideas had been shared and reviewed. Because of the Act’s time constraints, special meetings may need to be held to spend the grant funds if the trustees decide that the committee cannot order items. Also discussed was the high demand for some of the items, and that lead times to get some of the items could be months. Amy would like to start placing orders with the hopes of getting the items before the year end. Until the list of items has been reviewed and approved by the trustees, the committee cannot order items. Special meetings will be scheduled as needed.

The light district needs to be approved. Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to renew the light districts for Highlands and Haystacks and to keep the same amounts per parcel, second by Trustee Homer-Miller. Carl yes, Christie yes and Andy yes. Motion carried. **20200811-07**

**Trustee Andy Weigel –** Andy reported that he spoke with the County and has the requirements they need to vacate the paper streets. He will work on getting the required items. Andy also spoke with Dan Mole who is willing to help out the historical society. Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to pay the $500 filing fee for the vacating the paper streets, second by Trustee Weigel. Carl yes, Andy yes and Christie yes. Motion carried. **20200811-08**

**Trustee Carl Wesemeyer –** Carl opened the Crocker Road bids. The results are below:

* Cornerstone Earth Work $177,564.00
* Marks Construction $193,839.01
* Denes Concrete $201,492.75
* Catts Construction $189,649.75
* Northeast Ohio Trenching $193,032.00
* Fabrizi $215,232.10
* Mr. Excavator $210,322.25
* Northstar Contracting $210,980.00
* Perk Co. $211,202.85

Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to accept the bid of $177,564.00 from Cornerstone Earth Work, pending confirmation and approval from the County Engineer, second by Trustee Weigel. Carl yes, Andy yes and Christie yes. Motion carried. **20200811-09**

Carl stated that we were awarded the grant for the Neff Road Resurfacing (between State Route 83 and Mennell Road) from the Round 35 OPWC funding. All 5 small government grants from Lorain County were granted. Since this came out so late, we will put it out to bid in February. There still is no update on the annexation case involving Grafton Village.

**Trustee Christie Homer-Miller –** Christie asked if the other trustees had a chance to review the resolution to move away from FirstEnergy (Energy Harbour) electrical aggregation and go with NOPEC. Everyone reviewed it and wants to move forward with having the public hearings. Christie will get in touch with NOPEC to set up the public hearings. Christie followed up with the architect that is donating his services regarding the one-room schoolhouse; he has not been able to meet up with Klier due to illness. The next historical society meeting is tentatively set for September. Christie will attend and will follow up on the agreement between them and us. Christie reached out to the Department of Commerce again as her numerous attempts to contact Armstrong Cable have been unsuccessful. As of August 5th the township had a 80.8% census response rate. The next food pantry is next Saturday in Grafton. Christie inquired about the new road department building. Carl stated he has not had time to work on the drawings. The guy who did the original set of drawings probably will not want to redo them for what is required by the State. Carl will talk to the lumber yard about them doing the drawings for us. The township laptops arrived, and a time needs scheduled with Tim to set up the computers. It would be great if they all can be done at the same time; they will try for Tuesday the 18th. Christie is still waiting on the Cintas contract. She reached out again today for an update. On July 15th there was a virtual meeting of the trash consortium; the next meeting is October 21st. Zoning and BZA meetings have restarted.

**Audience Questions:**

Bill Oliver on Dellwood inquired about getting a speed limit sign on that road.

Trustee Homer-Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m.; seconded by Trustee Weigel. Christie yes, Andy yes and Carl yes. Motion carried. **20200811-10**

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 **Trustee Homer-Miller, Chairperson Amy Richards, Fiscal Officer**