**Grafton Township Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**July 9, 2019**

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

Trustee Haight made a motion to accept the regular trustee meeting minutes for June 11th, second by Trustee Homer-Miller. Jean yes, Christie yes and Carl abstain. Motion carried. **20190709-01**

Trustee Homer-Miller made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of $114,872.58 second by Trustee Wesemeyer. Christie yes, Carl yes and Jean yes. Motion carried. **20190709-02**

**Committee Reports:**

**Zoning Mike Strah –** There were 3 zoning permits issued. They are for an addition, an accessory building, and an agricultural building. 1) Kristofer Overstreet 18955 Chamberlain Road (addition $30,000), 2) Larry Hutlock 17757 Harvest Lane (accessory building $23,000), and 3) Greg Miller 16657 Chamberlain Road (agricultural building $100,000).

Zoning had an expenditure of ($28.70) for postage. $14.00 was out of pocket.

Last month the Vena’s complained a neighbor had placed a shed to close to the property line. Mike met with the Minnie’s on July 6th about the placement of a shed on their property. Neither neighbor knew exactly where the property line was. The Minnie’s had a survey of the property from some time ago, that stated the property line was 40’ off the south side of the foundation. Mike stated he would check on the progress of moving the shed in 2 weeks, and that all work should be completed by the end of July. The Minnie’s explained that they had concerns about the Vena’s property. Mike then visited the Vena’s. Mike expressed the concern of the Minnie’s, and what the Vena’s were responsible for according to zoning.

Mike investigated the complaint about 16091 Cowley Road. He met with Myron Laufman and walked his property. Everything was in compliance. Richard Carter of 16525 Cowley Road had complained of traffic and noise from said residence. Mr. Carter lives approximately 2,500 feet away from Mr. Laufman. Mr. Carter also stated that a truck from the residence would sound its horn early in the morning. Mr. Laufman stated that one of his employees (his son-in-law) lives down the street toots his horn for his children when passing his house. Mike asked Mr. Laufman to talk with his employees about this.

Mike met with Brian of The Jailhouse Taverne about proposed improvements to the property and upcoming events. Mike provided him with information and asked him to attend the trustee meeting with a proposal and information for the board. Brian was unable to attend the trustee meeting this evening due to a family emergency. Brian stated he would email the trustees with the proposed events. Mike stated they would like to have a beer sampling in October with 10-12 vendors. The estimated attendance would be 500-1000 people. Parking is a concern.

Mike met with Assistant Prosecutor Mangan about the Fender property. O.R.C. 505.86 for unsecure structures is still current. The contract with Mr. Chappell is still current if he were to take possession of the property. Mike had new orders for O.R.C. 505.87 trash and vegetation and O.R.C. 505.871 junk or inoperable vehicles. There is a property securement company that has inquired about current violations on the property. Mike sent copies to them. Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to sign O.R.C. 505.87 and O.R.C 505.871 for the Mary Jane Fender property, second by Trustee Haight. Carl yes, Jean yes and Christie yes. Motion carried. **20190709-04**

Existing Violations

Christopher Kroll & Crystal Etterman; constructing a fence without a permit, waiting on a BZA application for 409 home occupation.

Bryan Kaspar; constructing an accessory structure without a permit, and waiting on a BZA application for 409 home occupation.

Karl Hess; O.R.C. 505.87 violation, property is now in compliance.

New Violations

Issued (3) violations notice to:

David Spurlock; Building an addition, without a permit. No response. The new addition goes onto the second parcel he owns. Mike needs direction on combining the two parcels located at Erhart Road and State Route 57.

Earl Banks; Tall grass, Mike has made contact. Earl is working to remedy the situation on his mother’s Crook Street property.

Ronald Mantle; Nuisance material, open burning, and operating a business from an A/R district. Mike has a receipt of delivery. Mr. Steigerwald was at this property back in 2014 and nothing was done. Action might need to be taken on this Mennell Road property. Tim Adams stated the fire department was there this afternoon for an open burn.

**Road Department Bob Richards / Chad Uehlein –** Carl gave the report in Bob’s absence. The chipper is in need of repair. Krystowski Tractor looked at it. They ordered a valve for the chipper. We have the chipper back and used it after the recent storms. The road side mower is at Polen’s for repair of the clutch, which went out. It will cost about $5,400; this will be done as an emergency repair.

**Fire Department Tim Adams / Bob Richards –** Tim reported that units 177, 173 and 172 are scheduled to go to Williams for the annual preventative maintenance and pump and ladder testing. Vasu is still working on the headsets for the new fire truck. The goal is to get the new fire truck in service by the end of this month. Rural Water is researching hydrant locations on Mennell and Chamberlain Roads; it will take them a few weeks. Rural Water is also going to provide updated maps. Tim reiterated what Bob’s been communicating; we do not have enough volunteers; we need more people. They had 9 people last night for hose testing. Tim received a $4,000 EMS grant; these grants come from seat belt fines, which is why the grant is lower than previous years.

**Cemetery Tim Adams –** Tim reported that there were 4 lots sold and 2 cremation burials last month. He also marked out 6 footers. The cremation area in Belden Cemetery was moved into the new dryer section of the cemetery.

**Town Hall Bob Richards –** Jean reported that the 3 hall doors were replaced. We are still waiting on the weather stripping to come in. Once it comes in, they will return to install the weather stripping and make any necessary adjustments.

**EMS Penny Palmer** – Penny reported that there were 13 residential calls for the month of June, which resulted in 10 advanced life support, 1 basic life support and 2 were either no transport or no patient. There were 4 motor vehicle accidents, which resulted in 2 advanced life support and 8 no treat no transport or no patient. Mutual aid was requested once with Eaton Township.

Penny received a quote for the preventive maintenance on the LUCAS machine. It will cost $324 from Physio Controls. This will not have to be done until next year.

The runs are up 16 from this time last year with no frequent locations. An EMP order will be placed soon for EMS supplies.

**Rural Water –** Carl reported members will be attending a state conference in Put-in-Bay for the next 3 days.

**LORCO –** They are working on updating paperwork and policies and procedures.

**New Business:**

**Fiscal Officer Amy Richards** – Absent

**Trustee Jean Haight –** Jean turned in the solid waste grant application to the County. The township will purchase 6,000 placemats for the fire department pancake breakfasts; the placemats will include the commissioners’ logo on them. We will also purchase 3 recycled picnic tables and 3 waste receptacles from Bright Ideas in Akron. Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to adopt the solid waste management plan for the Lorain County Solid Waste Management District, second by Trustee Homer-Miller. Carl yes, Christie yes and Jean yes. Motion carried.  **20190709-03**

Rumpke wanted to raise our price of trash removal for the consortium, but a letter was sent from the consortium’s attorney stating the contract did not allow a price increase because of the new gas tax budget that was passed July 1st. Mr. Guggenbiller will give another presentation on the Belden Cemetery sign. Jean received another estimate to replace the slate on top of the school house. Smith Roofing was $360 and Ohio Roofing was $860. Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to accept Smith Roofing’s proposal of $360, second by Trustee Homer-Miller. Carl yes, Christie yes and Jean yes. Motion carried. **20190709-05**

**Trustee Carl Wesemeyer –** The mobile device policy was discussed. Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to accept the mobile device policy, second by Trustee Homer-Miller. Carl yes, Christie yes and Jean yes. Motion carried. **20190709-06**

Carl received paperwork from the County regarding the paper street vacation of Dellwood, Bellaire and Arlington. There is a lot of work to be done. The Storm Water District project of ditch cleaning on Crocker Road was approved. This project is shared with Eaton Township. Carl received the OPWC forms this week. The Engineer has to get the pricing for the culvert replacement. The OPWC grant application needs to be sent in September but won’t be approved until January with the work starting next July. The OPWC culvert replacement project and the ditch cleaning project will be done at the same time. Carl and Amy will work together to get the easements signed and notarized. Mark Coffin is interested in joining the Board of Zoning Appeals. Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to appoint Mark Coffin to the Board of Zoning Appeals to take the spot of Tim Adams, second by Trustee Haight. Carl yes, Jean yes and Christie yes. Motion carried. **20190709-07**

Carl discussed the hiring of an attorney to defend us regarding the annexation of land to Grafton Village. Right now the annexation is not on the commissioners’ agenda for tomorrow since a judge issued a stay on it. The issue is if the 1988 court decree is still in place or if the new law voids the court decree. The judge will have to rule on that. Bob contacted the State about the ditch drainage at State Route 57 and Law Road; Carl is hoping to get something done by the end of the month. The hollow tree at Francis Beriswill’s property needs to come down. Bob called LMRE to have them remove it or trim it. If they don’t remove it, the Road Department might have to get involved. It is very tall. If the road guys cannot remove it, the township might have to hire an outside tree removal company to do it. Carl received a phone call about an unpaid invoice from Laketech. Christie did call them when we were going thru the zoning phone transition. They came out, but from the phone call Christie assumed the visit was a courtesy visit to go over what our phone system can do. She has responded to all their emails and phone calls. They indicated they would listen to the original phone conversation to see if there was any mention of us being invoiced for the visit, which Christie encouraged. Carl stated we need to pay them since Christie called them, and they came out. Christie would like to call them tomorrow to see what they heard on the recorded phone call. Trustee Haight made a motion to pay Laketech for the visit, second by Trustee Wesemeyer. Jean yes, Carl yes and Christie no. Motion carried. **20190709-08**

Tom Guggenbiller spoke about the new drawings for the Belden Cemetery signs. The arch is now 14’ high to allow for all the necessary trucks to enter the cemetery. He is still working on pricing at these time. He needs more time to work on the pricing and drawings.

**Trustee Christie Homer-Miller –** Christie reported that she is having issues uploading our invoice for the $465 NOPEC grant. She called and left messages so we can get reimbursed. Christie asked if anyone has heard anything on the double traffic circle, but they have not. Christie inquired about what we want to do about the property at the corner of Mennell Road and State Route 57 that is not maintained by the property owner. Carl stated that since Columbia has their road guys maintain nuisance properties that we should continue to have our road guys maintain the property at Mennell and State Route 57. Christie inquired about the one room school house repairs and painting; Jean is still waiting on quotes. Repairs have to be completed before painting can start.

**Audience Questions:**

The Nott’s who live next door to the Box property at Island Road and State Route 303 were in attendance. They wanted to know what was going on with the Box property since the last meeting. The Box’s were turned down for a conditional use permit for running a business. The Nott’s stated the Box’s are still running a business based on all of the UPS and FedEx deliveries as well as tow trucks dropping off cars. Mike will talk with Assistant Prosecutor Tom Mangan to see what is needed to take legal action. The Nott’s and Kolawski’s have videos and photos. Mike also will pay a visit to Mr. Box.

A resident inquired about a SWAC project regarding his Law Road property located near Chamberlain. Photos were shown and provided to Carl. Despite the neighbor replacing pipes, the issue still exists. Carl will talk with the County Engineer regarding the property. However, no more applications are being accepted this year.

Another resident stated that he is an auto hobbyist who might paint 2 cars a year. Down the road he might turn it into a business at which time he will work with zoning. He called the EPA to get clarification. They stated he was a hobbyist because he was not painting 4 or 5 cars a day. A neighbor complained to him that what he was doing was not legal since he has a residential property. Mike will take a look at what he is doing and will follow up as needed.

Trustee Wesemeyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Trustee Haight. Carl yes, Jean yes and Christie yes. Motion carried. **20190709-09**

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