

Minutes
LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 21, 2011

Meeting called to order: 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Trustee Lynda Bowers, Trustee Nanci Shanley, Trustee Bryon Macron, Fiscal Officer Shirley Bailey.

Minutes – Mr. Macron moved to accept the minutes of October 17, 2011 Regular Meeting, October 20, 2011 Special Meeting, October 24, 2011 Special Meeting and November 7, 2011 Special Meeting. Ms. Shanley seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Correspondence – Ms. Bailey presented the following:

- **Medina County Sanitary Engineers – request to add a fire hydrant at Fire Station 2 on Heatherhedge. Chief Hall clarified that the Medina County Sanitary Engineers is his full time employer and that is why they are asking for signatures to confirm that it is not a conflict of interest. Discussion was held on what fund should be used to fund this project. Chief Hall stated that this is for the hydrant assembly and labor. Ms. Bailey feels the General Fund is too low to fund the entire amount. The Board feels that the General Fund is the appropriate place to fund this project. Ms. Bowers moved to make an additional appropriation to the General Fund from the investment balance in the amount of \$3,200.00 to the appropriate line item to pay for the hydrant contract with the Medina County Sanitary Engineer’s Department in the estimated amount of \$3,142.40. The work can be done next week according to Chief Hall. Ms. Shanley seconded the motion. All voting in favor.** The Medina County Commissioners will need to sign the contract as well.
- **Medina County Engineers – Sale of materials to Townships and Villages. Ms. Bowers moved to approve the Sale of Material Collaborative Purchasing Opportunity with the Medina County Engineer. Mr. Macron seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

Financial Report – Ms. Bailey reported the following balances:

Checking - \$781,011.68 Investment - \$2,126,573.94

Requisitions – Ms. Bailey presented the following requisition balances:

Service - \$68,419.88 (\$68,000 for purchase of Ford F550 & Snow Prep for truck as previously approved & budgeted)

Administration - \$253.38

Fire & Rescue - \$8,401.69

Ms. Shanley motioned to approve the requisitions. Mr. Macron seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Department Reports:

Service Department – Mr. Macron reported that the skid steer had been discussed in the five year forecasting meeting. Mr. Macron motioned to purchase a Case SV300 skid steer and

accessories from Wellington in an amount not to exceed \$22,000.00 after discounts and trade-ins. The breakdown is:

Skid Steer - \$58,761.00

State Bid Discount - \$13,444

Trade in of Tractor - \$24,000

Trade in Boom Mower - \$6,000

Net Price - \$14,022

Attachments – Bucket with cutting edge - \$1,295, Front-end digger - \$4,596, Set of Forks - \$850. The department will attempt to borrow a snow plow attachment to see how much it would be used. Attachments are available for rental. The ones requested for purchase will be used often enough to justify the purchase.

The skid steer is a Case SV300. Ms. Shanley requests to have a listing of purchases like this in advance of the meeting in the future. Mr. Macron reported that the cost is \$21,640.00. This equipment can be on a roll over program. Wellington is willing to do this for \$3,500.00. This contract will have to be looked over by the Prosecutor's Office. Mr. Macron does recommend the roll over program since this equipment will be used in salt. Ms. Bowers clarified that initially this piece of equipment is listed in excess of \$50,000. It is listed with Wellington on state purchasing and we will be receiving the state bid (STS) discount. **Ms. Shanley seconded the motion. All voting in favor. Ms. Bowers motioned to give Mr. Macron the authorization to run the contract through the Prosecutor's Office and sign anything necessary to accommodate the purchase and the roll-over program. Ms. Shanley seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

Senior Snow Plow – Mr. Macron invited seniors that are eligible to contact the township to be included in the program. Ms. Bailey stated that the township had received a call to thank us for offering that service.

Address Signs for Seniors – Ms. Bowers reported that the Zoning Commission had discussed address signs for the seniors of the township. Jim Bennett, Bath Township Trustee, has sent the specs and information that Ms. Bowers will forward to the Service Department. Ms. Shanley will be picking up a sample and will bring that in as well. Bath Township calculates that it costs \$6 - \$7 per sign. This is an address marker made on fiberglass with reflective address numbers that is placed at the entrance of the driveway in the right-of-way. Bath also uses reflective stickers to advise the departments of special conditions concerning that address.

Fire Department – Chief Hall reported that for October there were 9 fire runs and 35 EMS runs, totaling 44 for the month. There were two structure fires over the weekend in a 24 hour period. As of today there have been 480 fire and rescue calls.

Santa Visit – The information will be placed on the Township website. Santa is scheduled for visits on December 17th. Residents are encouraged to check website for information regarding participation.

Ambulance – There have been minimal hits on the website and no communication from potential buyers. The new ambulance is scheduled to arrive soon. Ms. Bowers stated it will be advertised in the upcoming OTA magazine. Discussion was held about advertising on Ambulance Trader.com. This would be for a fixed selling price rather than an auction and we would be charged a flat fee for the service. EBay would have a fairly high fee and difficulties in setting the

account up. Ms. Bowers suggests that the department discuss this with Mr. Thorne in the Prosecutor's Office.

Cost Recovery Corporation (CRC) – Ms. Shanley reported that the Board has been working on the concept of cost recovery for fire services like we currently have for EMS runs where the insurance company is billed. Fire services are more costly than the EMS runs. An alternative to going to the taxpayers for more and more levy money is to have a billing company pursue reimbursement for these services. Most insurance companies do expect to receive a bill for these services. This would help to recoup the costs for sending out the apparatus, buying the apparatus, maintaining the apparatus, the equipment used and the manpower costs. Westfield Township uses this same company. The Chief and Assistant Chief feel that billing should be done for all services. Billing will be made to the insurance company. If the insurance company does not pay, the township residents will not be expected to pay. Those who willfully disobey road signs may receive a bill that they would be expected to pay. The Board will have to make a decision on these details. CRC prepared some sample reimbursements from actual fire reports. A recent MVA could have been billed for \$6,174.00; another MVA could have billed \$2,600.00. These reimbursements are based on the apparatus on the call, the equipment used, and the different personnel who responded to the call.

Mr. Macron stated that currently if there is a motor vehicle accident we are paid to transport the person to the hospital but receive nothing for the time it takes to free that person from their vehicle. This program would be for reimbursement of services and also to fine those that willfully disobey. This would be a win/win situation for the residents of Lafayette Township. Without something like this the Board will be forced to put a levy on the ballot.

Ms. Shanley stated that another decision to be made would regard false alarm calls at commercial businesses and residents. The concern is to not have people disarm their alarms. This would also force people to maintain their systems to make sure they are working properly.

Ms. Bowers stated that the Board has been looking at this for some time and meetings have taken place. The situation is that in the near future the Township is going to either be looking at a levy or another way needs to be found to offset the costs for the Fire Department. It is not fair when the majority of the MVAs are not by residents but the residents are bearing the costs and there is remuneration available through insurance companies. The Board would like to try this avenue first. After the resolution a policy procedure will need to follow and be developed. Discussion was held as to which resolution copy the Board would consider.

RESOLUTION 26-2011 IS A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING A PROGRAM TO RECOVER USER FEES FOR THE DELIVERY OF EMERGENCY FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICES FOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS, STRUCTURE FIRES AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Gary Kiszak asked for clarification regarding billing of residents and non-residents. Mr. Dave Hollish stated that his research with his insurance agent is that the more that is heaped on to the insurance the higher his premiums will go. Ms. Bowers replied that Westfield Insurance and Nationwide Insurance have told her no, that is not the case. The township receives phone calls from insurance companies asking how much they should set aside for claims. When the insurance

is not collected there is no break received by the policy holder. Mr. Macron explained that residents are paying to have the department respond to calls. Anything above and beyond that is running in the red. The resolution and policy has to be equitable for billing for residents and non-residents. Mr. Hollish asked if there was a surplus of money generated from this policy in five years if that would reduce his taxes. Ms. Shanley explained that the Board has done a five year forecast that includes proper replacement schedule of equipment and we are looking at either going back on the ballot for more money or this policy. Mr. Macron explained that the money received from the billing will only be reimbursement money for the services. Ms. Bowers stated that if the scenario presented itself where there was more revenue than the fire department needs, the township has a history of doing that with the police levy and twice with the fire levy already.

Mr. Macron motioned to accept Resolution 26-2011, seconded by Ms. Shanley. All voting in favor.

Ms. Bowers moved to authorize Ms. Shanley to do all things necessary and sign to enter into the contract with CRC. Mr. Macron seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Zoning – Ms. Bowers reported that the Zoning Commission is moving through the tweaks to the zoning code. She will share a rating sheet to score the RFQ submissions. Ms. Karen Schoonover asked if the Trustees had all received a copy of the RFQs. She also thanked the Trustees for allowing members to attend the class offered at Akron University. Four members attended and it was very informative. The five year forecast for Zoning will be done when Ms. Schoonover will have the ability to attend.

Police – Mr. Macron had no formal report. The current levy will expire December 31, 2012. The Board needs to decide which election to consider and what millage to consider. He is considering a renewal with a reduction which could be on the March ballot. Certification would need to be completed prior to December 7, 2011. The Board would need to pass a resolution in open meeting asking for the certification of millage, accept it back in an open meeting, a resolution has to be passed to put the ballot language on the ballot and this has to be deposited with the Board of Elections on or before December 7th for the March ballot. The June ballot is questionable and the only other election would be the general election in November.

RESOLUTION 27-2011 – A RESOLUTION REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF ESTIMATED PROPERTY TAX REVENUE FROM THE MEDINA COUNTY AUDITOR. The Board discussed what millage to consider. A renewal cannot go on a special ballot (March). We can do a replacement with a reduction at 2.4 mills in March. **Mr. Macron motioned to accept Resolution 27-2011, seconded by Ms. Shanley. All voting in favor.**

Deputies Rohr & Gerard have been asked by Lt. Linscott to be part of the rotation with the Sheriff's Department. Two other officers would be rotated into the township for a four month period.

Old Business:

Cooperative Services Feasibility Study – defer to later date

CDBG Grand Update – Chris Jakob has sent a letter stating that the project is approved and ready to go. Construction is expected to occur in the spring.

New Business:

2012 Procedures for Ballot Issues – Ms. Bowers clarified with the Board that they would give the soft billing a chance before putting an equipment levy on the ballot.

Emergency Notification Working Group – This is a system that can be activated to call households in an identified jurisdiction immediately for an emergency situation. The perimeters would be determined by the township Board of Trustees. The cost for the service is based on population. Our cost would be \$991.60 for the year. This would come out of General Fund. Cell phones can be registered to receive the call. Special medical conditions can also be registered on 911. This information will be updated on the website. The County is asking for a commitment from the various entities. **Ms. Bowers motioned TO APPROVE LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP’S PARTICIPATION IN THE FUNDING FOR A COUNTYWIDE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM, RESOLUTION 28-2011. Mr. Macron seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

Public Participation:

Mr. Bret Savage, Capok Drive – Concern about amount of racing occurring at the Smith Road Raceway. Used to race on Wednesdays and holidays, this was tolerable. Now the track has changed owners and they are racing just about every day. It is so loud he cannot turn his T.V. loud enough. Asks what his course of action may be.

Ms. Bowers explained that in 1998 the Prosecutor had stated that the racetrack had existed prior to the township enacting any zoning. A meeting has recently been held with herself, Colleen Conley- Trustee of York Township, Alliss Stogin – Zoning Inspector, York Township Zoning Inspector and the Medina County Prosecutor. There is not much new information. The Prosecutor is going to research to see if a more intense use would constitute a change of use. Private residents have a course of action by filing a civil suit for a nuisance.

Mr. Parker Daly, Ballash Road – Has a petition to have Time Warner bring a cable line down to his area. It stops about eleven houses away. Ms. Bowers will pass along a copy of this petition to the company. Many excuses have been received from the various companies and the reality is that they don’t want to be close enough to provide competition for each other. Lafayette residents are paying \$25.25 a month more for the same service than the residents of Wadsworth, where there is a choice of service. Frontier offers a high speed DSL service.

Items for Disposal – Ms. Bowers motioned to deem the following items have no public purpose or public value and can be disposed of in the trash: non-working adding machine, 2 old computer keyboards, 2 old computer mice, 1 old GTE phone. Mr. Macron and Ms. Shanley seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Ms. Karen Schoonover – Asked about the newsletter progress. The Board responded that this is in the works. The goal would be to have it out in time to let residents know about the secret Santa program. Ms. Bowers has been trying to acquire a listing of household addresses for the township from the Auditor’s Office. Ms. Schoonover suggests an e-newsletter.

Ms. Schoonover asks if there is a cost benefit for the employees to still be taking the Drug Free Workplace training. The township is a reimbursing employer and so there is a benefit. We

receive a 15% reduction on our worker's comp rate. The Worker's Comp rate is determined by the payroll amount. Ms. Bailey estimates we receive a reduction of approximately \$3,000 - \$4,000.

Ms. Bowers motioned to pay the warrants of the township. Mr. Macron seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Approved: _____

Lynda Bowers, Trustee

Nanci Shanley, Trustee

Bryon Macron, Trustee

Shirley Bailey, Fiscal Officer