CLAY TOWNSHIP
Board of Trustees Meeting

January 15, 2017

The regular meeting of Clay Township Trustees was called to order by Trustee President Dave Vore at 5:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a moment of silence was observed for our veterans and first responders serving our community and country.

Roll call:
Requarth, present    Woolf, present    Vore, present

Trustee Requarth moved to approve the minutes from the December 28, 2017 Special Year-end Closing meeting as presented; seconded by Trustee Woolf.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes    Woolf – Yes    Vore – yes

Trustee Woolf moved to approve the minutes from the January 2, 2018 Opening Trustee meeting; seconded by Trustee Requarth.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes    Woolf – Yes    Vore – yes

Hearing from the Public:

Gary Horstman, President of Clay Township Historical, thanked the Township for their membership with the Clay Township Historical Society.

Cheryl Crabtree, Mayor of the Village of Phillipsburg, was interested on the Township’s plans for another attempt on a joint effort for a Fire/EMS levy. The monies are badly needed by the Phillipsburg Fire/EMS department and she wanted to find out what is going on this issue.

Chief Rayburg, Village of Verona, was also concerned with the recent Fire/EMS Levy that had failed and shared the need for the levy for the Village of Verona and he wanted to request putting the levy back on for the next election.

Chief Fletcher, City of Brookville, shared the additional money needs are there for all Fire/EMS departments and encouraged the Trustees for placing the levy again on an
upcoming ballot. He also shared that the Brookville City Council was planning at their next meeting either to pass a resolution either for the support of a levy or a resolution requesting Clay Township consider a levy for the area’s Fire/EMS departments, depending on the action of the Trustees at this meeting.

Department Reports:

Police – Chief VanGundy not present, nothing to report.

Road & Cemetery - Chris Maleski, Road/Cemetery Superintendent not present. Trustee Woolf gave an update on the snow/road situation and scheduled burials in the past week.

Fiscal Officer Limbert presented a Cemetery Deed for the Trustees approval. Trustee Woolf moved to approve the issuance of the presented deed; Trustee Requarth seconded the motion. Trustees Requarth inquired if the Township has every denied issuing a cemetery. There was general discussion and Trustee Woolf shared there has been some unusual/legal situations that deeds were not issued.

Roll call:

Requarth – Yes         Woolf – Yes         Vore – Yes

Zoning Report – Zoning Enforcement (ZEO) Justin Brown was not present. Trustee Vore gave an update on the draft of the property maintenance code that the Township’s previous Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Jonathan Ketter’s review of the document and comments from our current Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Alex Hale. Trustee Requarth had obtained a copy of the draft from Mr. Argast and Trustee Requarth also obtained a copy of Butler Township property maintenance code. After review of the documents, Trustee Requarth was not sure if the Township can or cannot enforce items in the proposed property maintenance code. Trustee Vore indicated that enforcement is allowed on the items that the Township Zoning has and items in the ORC. The additional restriction placed in the draft had created some issues as well as implementing fines. There was general discussion on what can be done with the property in question presented by Mr. Agast last meeting. Zoning Board member Gary Horstman indicated the Zoning Board had used Washington Township and Butler Township plans as guides in developing Clay Township proposed plan. Trustee Vore will check with our current Assistance Prosecuting Attorney Alex Hale why items in Butler Township’s property maintenance code is “ok” to enforce and items in our proposed plan is not. There was general discussion. Trustee Woolf would like to “re-form” the committee to contact the Columbus attorney that provided procedures and guidance to
a successful property maintenance code, obtain a definition of Zoning Code vs Property Maintenance Code and inquire with the other Townships on how well their property maintenance code is working for them. Trustee Vore will check with Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Alex Hale for what issues presented by Butler County that have taken legal action. The Trustees will follow up on this issue at the next Township meeting.

**Fiscal Officer:**

Fiscal Officer Limbert presented Appropriation Reallocations to allow for payment of bills. Trustee Requarth moved to approve the Appropriation Reallocations; Trustee Woolf seconded the motion. 

Roll call:

Requarth – Yes     Woolf – Yes     Vore – Yes

Fiscal Officer Limbert presented Blanket Certificates and Purchase Orders for the payment of bills. Trustee Requarth moved to approve the Blanket Certificates and Purchase Orders as presented; Trustee Woolf seconded the motion. 

Roll call:

Requarth – Yes     Woolf – Yes     Vore – Yes

Fiscal Officer Limbert presented warrants, electronic payments and payroll vouchers/warrants for approval. Trustee Woolf moved to approve warrants and electronic vouchers as presented; Trustee Requarth seconded the motion. 

Roll call:

Requarth – Yes     Woolf – Yes     Vore – Yes

**Unfinished Business:**

Trustee Woolf gave an update on the fire contract renewals. Village of Verona has provided a signed copy of their contract, Village of Phillipsburg has been sent a contract to be signed and we have the signed City of Brookville contract. All contracts expire December 2019.

**New Business:**

Fiscal Officer Limbert has received a request for affirmation on continuing the Issue II applications for Upper Lewisburg-Salem Road and Wengerlawn Road applications. After general discussion, the Trustees affirmed to have the application process continue for those two projects.
Fiscal Officer Limbert presented Resolution 2018-001 for presenting Estimated Revenue for 2018 as presented based upon completing the December 2017 bank reconciliation, utilizing the County’s projected tax revenues provided and the 2018 budgeted income that been worked on late 2017. Trustee Woolf moved to approve Resolution 2018-001; Trustee Requarth seconded the motion.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes  Woolf – Yes  Vore – Yes

Fiscal Officer Limbert presented Resolution 2018-002 for the Assessment of Fourth Quarter Delinquent Trash Bills totaling $6,009.51 for Trustee approval. Trustee Requarth moved to accept Resolution 2018-002; Trustee Woolf seconded the motion.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes  Woolf – Yes  Vore – Yes

Fiscal Officer Limbert presented Resolution 2018-003 for the Method of Compensation for the Trustees for the annual salary method. After general discussion, Trustee Requarth moved to accept Resolutions 2018-003; Trustee Woolf seconded the motion.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes  Woolf – Yes  Vore – Yes

Trustee Woolf presented information concerning “Keep Montgomery County Beautiful” and a request to approve the 2018 Roadside Litter Collection schedule as prepared by the county. Trustee Vore moved to accept the 2018 Roadside Litter Collection Schedules. Trustee Woolf seconded the motion.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes  Woolf – Yes  Vore – Yes

Fiscal Officer Limbert presented the recently received “Levy Process Quick Reference Guide” to help entities in Montgomery County in getting their levies on upcoming ballots.

Trustee Woolf shared he had an Overtime issue that he wanted to discuss in executive session later on in the meeting.

Trustee Vore gave a general overview on forming a committee to formulate the need of a Fire/EMS levy. That committee would consist of a Clay Township Trustee, the three Fire/EMS chiefs of the districts providing Fire/EMS services and two residents from
each jurisdiction in determining what is needed to continue providing quality Fire/EMS services to Clay Township businesses and residents. Trustee Vore expressed a concern with the “high” taxes on the Township’s residents. Trustee Requarth inquired about when the last “new” levy was placed on the ballot — 10.5 years ago. There was general discussion on the Fire/EMS levy in which included the need to do a better job on presentation and to work around the “unrest” in Brookville concerning tax issues being on the ballot. Trustee Woolf indicated the need to communicate that the levy would continue to provide quality safety for the residents. Trustee Woolf shared that our responsibility is to provide safety services to our residents and acknowledging that the Township has been working with flat revenue over the past several years. Trustee Woolf noted that currently no other levies are scheduled to be on the upcoming spring ballot. Trustee Requarth moved to place the levy for the same millage 3.5 continuous on the May ballot Resolution 2018-004. Trustee Woolf seconded the motion.

There was general discussion concerning the levy. Trustee Vore thinks a committee presenting the need for community buy-in is critical. Trustee Requarth has shared with the residents that the levy is a service and the message needs to be consistent from all parties to the community. Trustee Vore believes the resident committee is a good thing for a successful passage. The 7th of February is the due date to get the Fire/EMS levy on the ballot. Chief Fletcher reiterated that the Fire/EMS department “needs” have to be communicated and the newly formed committee makes sure issues being addressed are communicated. Trustee Requarth inquired on the amount/rate of the levy which is for 3.5 mils again.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes    Woolf – Yes    Vore – Yes

Trustee Vore moved to form a levy committee consisting of Jeff Requarth, Clay Township Trustee, an elected official/representative from each of the three Fire/EMS districts, the three Fire/EMS chiefs, and two citizens form each of the three jurisdictions of coverage for a total of 13 individuals. After general discussion and input, Trustee Vore amended his motion for the committee to consist of Clay Township Trustee Jeff Requarth, an elected official/representative from each of the three Fire/EMS districts and 2 citizens from each of the jurisdictions for a total of 10 members and the three fire chiefs would be available for “technical” support. Trustee Woolf seconded the motion.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes    Woolf – Yes    Vore – Yes
Trustee Reports:

Trustee Woolf handed in his I-9 for payroll purposes to Fiscal Officer Limbert.

Trustee Woolf reported that the Clayton/Clay Township siren is up but needs to be tested; the siren at the Clay Township building is scheduled to be installed in the next 14 days. City of Brookville will have 2 sirens to be added. The two existing sirens will be relocated and the two new ones will be installed on the outer edges of the city limits expected to be done by July. The Village of Phillipsburg/Clay Township siren is scheduled to be installed “anytime” at the community center.

Trustee Woolf presented setting up a health care meeting for the employees with the Medical Mutual representative Sean Sprouse on January 25th to go over the health care plan; if health plan numbers are obtained before then, they will be distributed to all. Trustee Woolf is having Ass’t Prosecuting Attorney Alex Hale to review the agreement that Trustee Requarth had provided addressing the treatment of HRA monies should an employee leave mid –year. The suggested time is 3:00pm. No objections to the proposed employee meeting.

Trustee Woolf reported that he had requested the Township receive the most recent minutes for the JEDD and be provided minutes for all future meetings. The JEDD inquired if the Township is considering updating its land use study. Gary Horstman, Zoning Board, thought is has been 8-10 years. The Township’s Zoning Officer has changed five times since the plan had done. The Miami Valley Planning Conference recommends the plan should be “refreshed” every five years. The JEDD is inquiring if the Trustees would consider updating the land use plan. This item is to be scheduled for discussion at our next Trustee meeting.

Trustee Requarth – Brookville Chamber has a quarterly event and everyone is invited. This quarterly meeting is a breakfast at Rob’s.

Trustee Requarth shared another truck attempted to go down Dodson Road going to Kellers which the truck driver indicated that his GPS took him that way. As a result, the truck did not make a turn and tore up the yard on the corner. Residents are asking for additional signage for ‘No Outlet’ to attempt to stop this from happening again. Trustee Woolf will work with the Road Department in getting signs up.
Trustee Vore moved for the Trustees, including Fiscal Officer Limbert, to go into executive session for personnel issues at 6:17pm. Trustee Requarth seconded the motion.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes    Woolf – Yes    Vore – Yes

The Trustees went into Executive Session at 6:17pm.

The Trustees came out of executive session at 6:39pm. Trustee Vore indicated no decisions were made. Trustee Requarth moved to come out of executive session; Trustee Vore seconded the motion.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes    Woolf – Yes    Vore – Yes

Trustee Vore moved to adjourn the meeting; Trustee Requarth seconded the motion.

Roll call:
Requarth – Yes    Woolf – Yes    Vore – Yes

Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm.

Jeff Requarth, Trustee

Steve Woolf, Trustee

Dave Vore, Trustee

Bradley E. Limbert, Fiscal Officer