

BOSTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

September 23, 2015

Present at this regular meeting of the Boston Township Trustees were Trustees Amy Anderson, Jerry Ritch and Randy Bergdorf; Fiscal Officer Joanne Noragon; and Legal Counsel Ed Pullekens. Trustee Chairperson Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Trustee Anderson expressed condolences to the family of Matthew Billings, the Akron Bicycle Club member killed in a collision during a ride, and to the Club members injured in the accident.

Police Protection Report: Trustee Anderson reported on a cemetery incident involving students and a teacher from Benedictine. The teacher has been conducting a class in the cemetery for more than thirty years, and was caught for the first time. He expressed his apologies.

Trustees Ritch and Anderson addressed the mayor of Peninsula concerning the request for a concession in the last year of the contract. Trustee Anderson said policing of the township has never been better. However, the township has made a reasonable request for a concession. Trustee Ritch added the request is reasonable and Peninsula should grant it or not; it has been under discussion in the village council for at least two months.

The Fiscal Officer made a statement to the *West Side Leader* reporter and to the room at large concerning the inaccurate statements made by members of council and the mayor concerning the township's finances and the police contract. To set the record straight, the Fiscal officer said:

At the last Peninsula Village council meeting the mayor stated granting the township a concession in the current police contract would make the village \$20,000 poorer now, and broke in four years, all the while the township would sit on a million two in investment.

Kathleen Collins of the West Side Leader called the township to confirm the 1.2 million dollar investment, as noted in the article. The township fiscal officer made an additional statement, not reported.

The fiscal officer stated that Village financial records were unauditable for four or more years. Village officials seem unaware of the source or use of public funds. The "million two" referenced represents the township investment in its future. The township, for example, spent in excess of fifty two thousand dollars to establish the Economic Activity District that is the Boston/Peninsula JEDD.

Of the million two, close to five hundred thousand represents tax collections in the Akron Cleveland Road business district, available to assist businesses with tap in fees when sewer and water are in place. Sewer and water from Seasons Road to the Suncrest Garden area will cost 1.574 million. Tap in fees will be about four thousand per property. Sewer to the rest of the business corridor will cost an additional million dollars. Water to the corridor will cost an additional million plus. The township actually is sitting on its down payment to the future. No prudent public entity would spend equity to meet current expense.

The fiscal officer also told the West Side Leader that the township contributes 49% of the annual Peninsula police expense. Their 2014 expense was \$466,000. The township contribution was \$229,300, or forty nine percent. For their \$236,700 expense, the businesses and citizens of Peninsula had full time police protection. For their \$229,300, Boston residents and businesses receive 14 hours of coverage for five days a week and 16 hours for the other two days.

The mayor's statement village will go broke in four years as a result of the twelve thousand dollar concession requested in the last year of the contract is nonsense. If the village goes broke, it will be for other reasons than the loss of \$12,000 in revenue.

In answer to Ms. Kramer, the current three year police contract began the same year as JEDD tax collection. The JEDD process began in 2010, and was approved by the voters in 2013. The main purpose of this JEDD was to fund police protection; its revenue was anticipated to begin during the first year of the police contract and the failure to collect a significant portion of the revenue is hindering funding of the police contract.

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Zoning: Zoning Inspector Mayer reported:

- He noted a fence violation at 2358 Boston Mills Road, and took the violation to the Board of Zoning Appeals, which advised the property owner apply for a permit, which must be denied; the property owner must pay his fine and apply for a variance.
- He met with the new owner of 25 Kendall Park and the adjoining Akron Cleveland Road property and instructed him the brush must be cleared from the intersection. Mr. Gaither, the owner, said he would take care of the problem in time.
- The Jacob Jones pole barn variance was approved.

There was discussion of a zoning workshop sponsored by APA/Cleveland on November 13th.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ritch to approve the attendance Trustee Anderson and Legal Counsel Pullekens. Voting: All Voting, YES. Motion passed. **[2015-0923-01]**

Correspondence: The Fiscal Officer reviewed the correspondence since the last meeting.

Approval of Minutes: After review, **Motion** by Bergdorf, seconded by Ritch to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2015 regular meeting. Voting: All Voting, YES. Motion passed. **[2015-0923-02]**

Township Buildings and Grounds: After repairs the basement office is ready to lease. Rent will be \$1,200.00 per month.

Boston/Cuyahoga JEDD and Future Planning: Trustee Ritch reported their October 9th presentation to the EPA is being finely tuned.

Boston/Peninsula JEDD: The Fiscal Officer reported no progress in getting information on the content of tax payments being made, either from Brian Thunburg or Peninsula Fiscal Officer John Stiegel. Only three tax payments have been recorded from 2014 Park employee, and two of them are substantial credits deducted from us. The fiscal officer has asked how there can be a credit against a local tax collected for one year. No answer.

Valley Fire District: Trustee Anderson reported Boston Heights will hold its Fall Fest on Saturday, the 26th. ARHaus, being constructed in the Marketplace development in Boston Heights will have 20 acres under one roof. When ground is broken for Costco, it will be 110 days to finish.

She further reported the district has responded to four overdoses in Boston Heights hotels. The district is still looking at ISO ratings. There will be a clambake for employees, but no steak dinner.

Road Department: Road superintendent Tim Tesmer said Major Projects contacted him with a request to pave 60' of Major Road, at their expense. **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Ritch to approve the project after it is approved by the county engineer. All work must be supervised and signed off on by the enginner and the road superintendent. Voting: All Voting, YES. Motion passed. **[2015-0923-03]**

Other Business: Mr. Pullekens said the Simple Recycling contract should be ready for the next meeting.

After discussion, **Motion** by Bergdorf, seconded by Ritch to approve repair of the Fiscal Office door lock at the cost of about \$215. Voting: All Voting, YES. Motion passed. **[2015-0923-04]**

Motion by Bergdorf, seconded by Ritch to approve the rates and amounts of the current real estate tax levies, as calculated by the Budget Commission. Voting: All Voting, YES. Motion passed. **[2015-0923-05]**

In discussion of the Summit County intergovernmental memorandum being circulated, Mr. Pullekens explained it is a reciprocal agreement between signatory communities if a business moves between jurisdictions. The only area affected in the township would be the business corridor. We signed the agreement last year. Trustee Ritch will contact the Cuyahoga Falls

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Financial Director for their stand on the current agreement, as the Fallis is the tax administrator for the business corridor.

All is in place for the Towpath Marathon on October 11th. Towpath officials will hand deliver a letter explaining the duration of road blockages to local residents. Peninsula police will direct traffic.

The Turnpike commission is holding a celebration on October 1st in Berea, Ohio commemorating the 60th anniversary of the turnpike. Trustees Anderson and Ritch will attend.

Appointments: Trustee Bergdorf reported speaking with Jacob Jones, who had his fence adjudicated by the BZA. Mr. Jones expressed interest in serving on a zoning board. Trustee Bergdorf will speak further with him.

Approval of Payroll: Motion by Bergdorf, seconded by Ritch, to approve the current payroll. Voting: All voting, YES. Motion passed. **[2015-0924-06]**

Approval for Payment of Bills: Motion by Bergdorf, seconded by Ritch, to pay the bills prepared by the Fiscal Officer. Voting: All voting, YES. Motion passed. **[2015-0924-07]**

Executive Session: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ritch, to enter executive session for personnel discussion. All voting, YES. Motion passed. **[2015-0924-08]**

The Trustees entered Executive Session at 7:45 pm. The Trustees reconvened at 8:30 pm. **Motion** by Bergdorf, seconded by Ritch to also advertise the Road Superintendent position in the *Plain Dealer* and the *Beacon Journal*. **[2015-0924-09]**

Motion by Bergdorf, seconded by Ritch, to adjourn. All voting yes. Meeting duly adjourned. **[2015-0924-10]**

CHAIRMAN

FISCAL OFFICER