

**BOSTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

June 22, 2005

Present at this regular meeting of the Boston Township Trustees were Randy Bergdorf, Amy Anderson, John Puchalsky, and legal counsel, Edward C. Pullekens and Clerk Joanne Noragon. Trustee Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The trustees asked that Edward C. Pullekens take the minutes of the meeting.

Correspondences. Clerk Noragon reviewed the various correspondences received by the Township.

Approval of Minutes: The trustees reviewed the minutes of the June 8, 2005 meeting submitted by the clerk. **Motion** by Puchalsky, seconded by Bergdorf to approve the minutes as submitted. All Voting, Yes.

Township Buildings and Grounds. Mr. Pullekens gave an update in regard to the situation with the adjacent property owner in the rear of the property. A tentative meeting has been set for Tuesday, June 28, 2005 between the landowner, John Lahoski of the BTHC, legal counsel for the township and the property owner. At that time, hopefully, the parties can work through the issues.

Police Protection Report. The Peninsula Police submitted a written report. Chief McCue and 2 officers were present at the meeting and addressed all questions in regard to police protection in the township. Chief McCue indicated that his department is working with the Valley Fire Department in regard to the grants available for a new digital radio system. Chief McCue reported that his department is prepared for the Harry Potter event scheduled for July 15-16, 2005. Finally, Chief McCue reported that the police department would host a spaghetti dinner for senior citizens who live in Peninsula or Boston Township July 23, 2005 from 4:20 to 7 PM. The dinner will take place at the Boston Township Hall, and arrangements are being made to provide transportation for the seniors. If anyone needs information, the police department can be contacted.

Valley Fire District Update. Trustee John Puchalsky reported on the activities of the fire department. Mr. Puchalsky reported that the next regular meeting of the Valley Fire District would be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend. The fire district is still working on various grant applications, including the possibility of applying for a grant for the new radios being proposed for the area, including those from FEMA. The fire district is prepared for the Harry Potter event. Mr. Puchalsky reported that Brian Holb resigned as a member of the department. He has taken a job elsewhere. Mr. Puchalsky indicated that the EMS billings are down, although the number of runs is steady. Most of the EMS runs are for residents. This has affected the operating budget of the fire district. The Fire Board is looking into ways to increase revenue including the possibility of "soft billing" the residents. Everything is now in the exploratory stages and Mr. Puchalsky will keep the trustees advised of all developments.

Road Department. Mr. Puchalsky reported that he would not be able to attend the ODOT meeting on Friday, June 24, 2005. Tim Tesmer will attend the meeting. The road department is on schedule for the mowing of the roads. It was reported that there is road damage on Woodland caused by county trucks dumping on a lot in the area. Paul Kaczmariski, zoning inspector, will look into the matter. The trustees reviewed the application for the 2006 CDBG funds. **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Bergdorf to authorize Mr. Bergdorf to file an application on behalf of the township for CDBG monies for the purpose of providing road work (chip & seal) for Barlow, Geoppert, Keenan and Whaley road, with the township contributing the sum of \$3000.00 for the project. All voting, YES. Mr. Bergdorf will submit the grant with the supporting documentation, including the estimate prepared by Lytle Construction.

Future Planning.

Ms. Anderson indicated that the City of Cuyahoga Falls has agreed to prepare cost estimates, etc. in regard to water/sewer fees in the JEDD. There is still ongoing discussion with Cuyahoga Falls in regard to various matters in regard to the JEDD. The matter may have to be placed on the ballot for a vote of the electors of Boston Township.

Zoning

The zoning matter with the Stillwell/Blumenthal property is still being reviewed by the BZA. There have been new developments in regard to the zoning requests by the Everett Church. The matter will be reviewed by the BZA as a possible hardship matter. Mr. Kaczmariski, zoning inspector, gave an update on zoning matters including the issuance of notices to unlicensed vehicles. A recent letter he sent out is producing noticeable results. Mr. Wes Bergdorf handed out the minutes of the last few meeting of the zoning commission and the BZA.

Other Business:

Clerk Noragon indicated that she is still following through with the questions posed about the salt and snow removal bill submitted by the Summit County Engineer.

The trustees indicated that the health department has followed up on the complaint in regard to property located at 4592 Northampton Road. The property owner has been asked to take corrective measures.

Amy Anderson indicted that the Summit County Health District has begun mosquito spraying in the township.

The trustees discussed the letter from the Cuyahoga Valley Communities Council for the request for dues. Dues are optional. It was agreed that the Township would not pay dues at the present time, and would continue to monitor whether it is in the best interests of the township to remain a member of the group.

Motion by Puchalsky, seconded by Anderson to have the township remain a member of the Cuyahoga Valley Communities Council, subject to further study, and to withhold paying dues for the current year. All voting, YES.

Clerk Noragon reported that \$35,005.00 has been transferred from Star Ohio to First Merit by Star Ohio account check 5001, signed by Clerk Noragon and Trustee Puchalsky. The quarterly payment for the police protection contract is included in the current bills to be approved for payment.

Clerk Noragon reported that Summit County Emergency Management called to confirm that the township received the new grant application notice and offered their services in completing it. The contact person is Annette, 330-643-2558.

The trustees discussed in detail the proposed guidelines in handling requests for information from news sources. Upon review and discussion, **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Bergdorf to adopt the following policy:

There are times when individual trustees and township officials are contacted by the press and other news organizations in regard to making a comment or answering a question(s). The trustees respect the right and necessity of free dialogue with the news organizations.

However, at times the news organizations have requested from individual trustees a full story and summary of a meeting or an event, with the intent of using the information as the basis of reporting the summary as a factual account of what occurred at the meeting. This practice has caused concern among the trustees inasmuch as the requests encompass an individual interpretation of what occurred at the meeting. The trustees reiterate that the township speaks through its minutes approved by the board at a public meeting after public review of the minutes. The minutes are prepared under the direction of the township clerk, subject to the review and approval of the trustees. The minutes represent the actions taken by the trustees.

Thus, in regard to summarizing any events of a meeting for which minutes have not been prepared and/or approved, any comment as to the events and transactions are merely based upon the individual recollection of the

trustee making the summation. The trustees have no problem answering specific questions posed to them by the press, but the trustees are reluctant to report the entire summary of a meeting, especially if all of the trustees and the clerk are not involved in the inquiry. By limiting comment to individual specific recollection and summary hopefully misunderstandings and misstatements can be limited with no burden on the requests of the press and other news organizations.

All Voting, YES.

CONTRACTS AND APPOINTMENTS: None

APPROPRIATIONS: None.

TRANSFERS/ADVANCES None

PURCHASE ORDERS: **MOTION** by Puchalsky, seconded by Bergdorf to approve the following purchase order submitted by the clerk:

SBC 27-2005 2181-130-345 Zoning Advertising \$1,000.00.

All voting, YES.

BANK RECONCILIATION; **None**

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL: **MOTION** by Puchalsky, seconded by Bergdorf to accept the payroll as prepared by Clerk Noragon. All voting yes.

APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS: **MOTION** by Puchalsky seconded by Bergdorf to pay the bills prepared by Clerk Noragon. All voting yes.

MOTION by Anderson, Seconded by Bergdorf to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Voting yes, Anderson, Bergdorf and Puchalsky. The executive session began at 8:30 PM and ended at 8:40 PM. The trustees returned to regular session and reported that no official actions were taken in the executive session.

MOTION by Randy Bergdorf, seconded by John Puchalsky to adjourn. All voting yes. Meeting duly adjourned.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK