

German Township Meeting Minutes April 8, 2014

The German Township Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the German Township Office at 3940 Lawrenceville Drive, Springfield, Ohio. The meeting is called into order by Mr. Rodney Kaffenbarger, President.

Roll Call: Mr. Clark – present; Mr. Metzger – present; Mr. Kaffenbarger – present. Other Township Department personnel present: Tim Holman, Fire Chief; Mike Stitzel, Police Chief; George Degenhart, Zoning; and Angela Griest, Fiscal Officer.

Guests: Mr. Joe McMahon, consultant for USEPA; Staff member for US Representative John Boehner; Mr. Gerald Sheets; Mr. Steve Bevan; Mr. Stan Studebaker; Mr. Ron Dersch, Corner Market; Mr. Bruce Williams, Auto Doctor; and Mrs. Jackie Clark.

Pledge of Allegiance

Fiscal Officer Report:

Motion to approve the minutes of March 11 and March 28, 2014:

Motion: Mr. Clark 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Roll Call: Mr. Clark & Mr. Kaffenbarger - Aye;
Mr. Metzger – Abstained

Motion to approve the checks & EFT's March 11th through April 8, 2014:

Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Clark Roll Call: Ayes – all

Motion to receive the March financial reports:

Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Clark Roll Call: Ayes – all

Hearing of the Public:

Mr. Sheets addressed the Board concerning an accident involving North Hampton Police while responding to an accident scene. The North Hampton Officer was not dispatched by the Sherriff's department to this scene. The officer responded solely by his discretion. He traveled at an excessive high rate of speed, and lost control of his vehicle in Mr. Sheets front yard while in route to the scene.

Mr. Sheets felt since this officer was not dispatched to the accident, he should not have responded, and certainly not at such a high rate of speed. Mr. Sheets has spoken with the Sheriff, German Township Police Chief, and North Hampton's Police Chief and Council, and no one seems to be able or willing to deal with this officer's behavior. Mr. Sheets did go to small claims court, but the judge threw it out due to an Ohio Revised Code that does not hold them liable while responding to an emergency. North Hampton did offer to cover the costs of replacing his mailbox. Mr. Sheets would like to do more, but he will first talk with an attorney. He just feels that something needs to be done to keep officers from running at such a high speed and so reckless.

Mr. Joe McMahon from Collaborative Processes: Mr. McMahon was hired by the EPA to do an assessment concerning the relationships between those with an interest in the Tremont City Barrel Landfill and the EPA. He is asking questions of the parties involved concerning issues of the site, ways communications have been handled, how the EPA is being perceived, and how the relationship between parties can be improved in order to move forward. The following is a summary of the discussion:

- The barrel field site sitting above the aquifer presents a dangerous risk to the water supply of not only this community but far reaching to the City of Springfield and beyond.
- Wastes should not be redeposited back into the ground above this aquifer. It still leaves potential danger for contaminations.
- The Trustees are not technical experts, but the cleanup needs to be done soon, and done correctly to prevent any possible contamination.
- Many government entities, the water group, and community and business interests, had all agreed on a previous proposed clean up Option 4a, where waste was permanently removed.
- The EPA is more worried about costs than doing the cleanup correctly.
- The notices and information about the new changes were not done with as much advertising, meetings, or community involvement.
- In order to regain the trust, the EPA needs to do what everyone had agreed to do – option 4A – remove the waste.

Mr. Jerry Strozdas from the City of Springfield had asked to speak with the Trustees about developing a relationship with the City. We believe it has to do with the annexation the City would like to do on Upper Valley Pike. However, Mr. Strozdas is not here this evening.

Zoning:

Mr. Degenhart had nothing to report.

Mr. Bruce Williams from Auto Doctor and Mr. Ron Dersch from Corner Market were here to discuss their sign along State Route 41. They are concerned because someone else had put a sign in that area and they had been told that they could not put a new sign in that area. The original sign was put up when there was still a Village of

Lawrenceville. They paid the Village to put in the sign. Now that the Village has dissolved, and the Township absorbed the area, they have been told that the Township cannot authorize any sign or changes to the sign due to the fact that it is in the State right-of-way. They have called Bob Brown from the ODOT in Columbus and he is going to come out to inspect the sign. Mr. Degenhart stated that since it is believed to be in the State right-of-way that the Township Zoning cannot regulate signs for that area. Mr. Kaffenbarger stated that we will wait to see what Mr. Brown from the ODOT reports.

Fire Department:

Motion to approve the following expenses:

- o Image Trend EMS Manager Software annual fee - \$2000.00
- o Fire Department Banquet Expenses - \$2615.00
- o 600 feet of fire hose to replace hose that has wear damage - \$2300.00

Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Clark Roll Call: Ayes – all

Chief Holman would like to see if the Fire Department could be put onto bi-weekly payroll instead of being paid once a month. We will see if we can switch it, but not before June.

Police Report:

Motion to purchase a HDMI receiver transmitter and SD cards for use in ALICE Training:

Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Clark Roll Call: Ayes – all

Chief Stitzel is putting a hold on the purchase of the new cruiser until a review of finances in June.

Maintenance Department:

Motion to approve the purchase of a new dump truck for the Maintenance Department:

- o IH Cab & Chassis - Rush Truck Centers: State Bid: 2015 7400 SFA 4x2(SA525) \$81,405.00
- o 2014 Single Axle snow & Ice Truck Package: The Gledhill Road Machinery Co.: STS# 800008 Index # STS515-Installed: \$48,541,87 less 2% \$970.84 if paid within 15 days of invoice.

Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Clark Roll Call: Ayes – all

Kingsreach Road is in need of repair. Need to check if this is a public road or a private road.

Old Business:

Reminder, the Trustees would like any information for the agenda to be given to Angela or Rosemary one week prior to the meeting date.

Reminder, any invoice over \$500.00 needs to be approved by two trustees prior to the purchase/repair.

New Business:

Motion to approve costs for Ms. Naulty to attend a two day seminar on Excel - \$128:

Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Roll Call: Ayes – all

Mr. Studebaker stated that he was not against the Police Department, but was concerned about how it was being used. First, he is concerned about the time they spend sitting in the middle of St. Rt. 41 at Upper Valley; and second, why do they sit on 334. Chief Stitzel responded that speeding is a violation of the law. They are on 334 because that area, including the clover leaf is in German Township. Their job is to make the roads safer to travel. Chief Holman stated that the total number of severe bodily injury and fatal crashes are down in our Township. Mr. Studebaker was also concerned that police officers are not following the laws or using their turn signals. Chief Stitzel stated there are some laws that they do not have to follow while on pursuits or executing official duties. However, he will remind officer's about turn signals and not following too closely, because officers are to drive in a safe manner at all times.

Mr. Bevan would like to see a speed sign displaying traffic speed put up in the Township.

Motion to adjourn: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Clark Ayes: All

Approved by:

Board of German Township Trustees

Rodney Kaffenbarger, President

Mr. Metzger, Vice President

Robert Clark, Member

Recorded in the
Record of Proceedings
April 8, 2014

Angela D. Griest, Fiscal Officer