

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
German Township Board of Trustees
Regular Session
September 9, 2014

The German Township Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. at the German Township Office, 3940 Lawrenceville Drive, Springfield, Ohio. The session is called into order by Mr. Rodney Kaffenbarger, President.

Roll Call: Mr. Clark – present; Mr. Metzger – present; Mr. Kaffenbarger – present

Other Township Personnel present: Angela Griest, Fiscal Officer; Tim Holman, Fire Chief; Mike Stitzel, Police Chief; George Degenhart, Zoning Inspector; Dave Brown, Maintenance Department; Erica Barger, Jeremy Kidder, Julien Swartz & Joshua Elliott, for the Police Department;

Visitors: Megan Toitch; Ken Seelig

Pledge of Allegiance

Fiscal Officer Report:

Motion to approve the minutes of August 12, 2014:

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

Motion to approve checks issued: August 12 through September 9, 2014:

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

Motion to receive the July 2014 financial reports from the fiscal officer:

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

Motion for Bid Opening for Fire Department sealed bid request for 18 Complete Sets of structural firefighting turnout gear, and to have Chief Holman examine each bid and make a recommendation to the trustee's at the next regular meeting:

1. Chief Supply - \$43,639.60
2. Finley Fire Equipment - \$42,408.00
3. Warren Fire Equipment Prices are listed separately per item with style options

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

Motion to approve moving funds from 2081-210-240-0000 unemployment compensation to 2081-210-213-000 Medicare- \$300.00:

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

Motion to approve moving funds from 1000-410-323-000 cemetery repair to 1000-130-211-0000 OPERS - \$500.00:

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

Checked on the Provident Insurance: it was originally was taken out to cover the Fire Department. It covers everyone except the Police Department, because they are in a separate rate category due to their line of work. At the time this policy was taken out there was no police department. In order to add the Police Department, it will cost an additional \$3729.00, for a total yearly fee of \$7091.00. Chief Stitzel stated that even though he thinks this insurance would provide a good benefit to the police officer, at this time the budget cannot sustain the extra costs.

Hearing of the Public:

Megan Toitch of the Ohio Insurance Services Agency is here today to provide the Trustees with an insurance update. Due to changes in Health Care Reform, we formed a Healthcare Cooperative, of which you and other public entities are a member. We partnered with Jefferson Insurance who covers a lot of school districts. They have been around for about 30 years. The advantages of the cooperative are:

- Exempt from the 3.34% market share tax
- Benefit structure is flexible
- CVS/Caremark saving
- Level of benefits did not change
- Rate reduction
- Renewal date of Jan 1 2016
- Wellness fund

Mr. Ken Selig, resident of German Township, is here today with a complaint against Chief Stitzel for harassment. Chief Stitzel and his police officers have pulled weapons on him, sent a cruiser by to video tape his property and someone is going by there watching every day. He owned B&S services but since has changed to a tattoo parlor, and a club for bikers. They hold conceal carry courses and have built a shooting range. The NRA was contacted and there was a NRA safety person at shooting range that day. Mr. Selig stated he did not believe there were any stray bullets during the shooting, although he was not at the property at that time. He stated that the shooting range backstop was built over and beyond what was needed by what the NRA suggested. No bullets strayed beyond the backstop. He had talked to Mr. Clark (who farms the ground behind the area) and other neighbors concerning the shooting. There have been no problems with the neighbors. He respects the police department. He stated he is not a drug dealer and not a firearms dealer. He has had problems with Chief Stitzel that goes back to a burglary of his property, and because of a previous relationship with his wife. Mr. Selig does not want the police cruiser on his property, and has a problem with the harassment from Chief Stitzel and the police videotaping his property. Mr. Selig requested a copy of the minutes

In response, Chief Stitzel stated he had witnessed a group of people with guns standing close to the road shooting at a backstop. Pictures were taken of the backstop to try to determine if it was up to standards for a shooting range. He stated that at minimum the dirt must be completely covering the shooting area and be packed down. When looking at the backstop, he could see holes and gaps in the railroad ties. This would not be compliant with shooting range regulations, and poses a safety issue. Yes, I have responded to Mr. Selig's property in the past due to him carrying a shotgun and going after a dog. Yes, at that time we did pull our weapons on him. Whenever we have been there, he is confrontational. The fact that it is now a motorcycle club is not a problem.

Tim Holman, Fire Chief, stated that with a business at that location, he will need to have a fire inspection. Mr. Selig responded – fine, be there whenever you want to do the inspection.

Zoning Inspector, Georg Degenhart, stated he supports Mr. Selig's rights. His property is zoned for business. However, when the Sportsman's Club tried to do a firing range, they decided against it due to the fact it was hard to satisfy all the safety regulations.

Mr. Clark stated that in respect to the safety issue his son called him concerning the shooting coming from Mr. Selig's property. He (the son) heard "ZINGS" of a projectile and was concerned for the safety of family and workers on the property.

Zoning Report: None

Fire Report:

Chief Holman requested a new hire, all background and employment requirements are okay – Josh Neuhardt. Motion to approve the new hire:

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

The concrete apron needs repaired. Motion to repair the concrete apron on the backside of Station 78 at a cost of \$3100.00:

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

Thanks to Richard Craig and Karina Emory for the painting of the radio tower. We saved money by doing the work ourselves.

The parking lot behind the buildings is getting worse. We have talked to Riley's Paving concerning filling the cracks; however the lot needs to be resurfaced with chip and seal. Mr. Metzger to ask the County Engineer's for a quote.

In order to help fulfill safety training for our Workers Compensation program, the Maintenance workers need to attend a couple of safety seminars. Motion to send Mr. Bevan and Mr. Brown to a safety seminar concerning proper procedures in chain saw use and also snow plowing:

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

Chief Holman suggested the township may want to look into starting a compost area. Mr. Kaffenbarger is to check with Springfield Township because they already have a compost program. Mr. Brown stated that a compost area would be a lot of work, but thought there would be an interest from the residents.

Pike Township would like to meet with the Trustees to discuss the possibility of an EMS District. Chief Holman has given the Trustees several recommendations. There will be a joint meeting with Pike Township Trustees on Thursday, September 11th at 6:30 p.m. here at the Township Office.

The German Township Fire Association will be selling Cancer Awareness t-shirts again this year – cost \$15.00. Last year they donated \$1000.

Chief Holman requested an executive session to discuss EMS personnel. The Trustees will have the executive session at the end of the meeting.

Police Report:

Chief Stitzel reported the year to date summary of Dispatched Calls. Call volume has increased this year.

Motion to approve ALICE training for Officer Perry:

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

Officer Hiles has resigned. This leaves us with only 8 officers. I would like to hire several new auxiliary officers.

Motion to hire 4 auxiliary police officers: Erica Barger, Jeremy Kidder, Julie Swartz, Joshua Elliott:

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

Chief Stitzel administered the Oath of Office to all the new officers.

The Police Department will now be handling all sporting events at the Northwestern Schools, and will continue to work with the schools to provide services as needed.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is October. The Police Department will be wearing their approved pink shirts and will be volunteering at the Upper Valley Mall to "pass the hat" for donations for the cancer fund.

Chief Stitzel has been asked to be a judge at the Springfield's Got Talent which is held at the Upper Valley Mall.

The Police and Fire Department are continuing the training for the Active Shooter.

The paperwork concerning the 4-wheeler from the insurance company has been received and the 4-wheeler is now our property.

Maintenance Report:

Quotes for sign replacements:

Newman Signs	\$2795.59
Hall Signs	\$3752.12
Kleem Signs	\$3859.35

Motion to approve the purchase of the signs for the retro-reflectivity sign replacement for this year from Newman Signs for \$2795.59:

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

New Business:

Trustees feel it is important to send out a newsletter this fall, and to inform the residents of the why the levy is needed.

A community group has formed a "Committee to Support German Township". They will be sending out informational post cards concerning the township levy.

Motion to change the outdated job title of township secretary to Office Manager:

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

Motion to go into executive session at 9:50 a.m. to discuss the hiring of personnel:

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

Mr. Kaffenbarger brought the meeting back into regular session at 10:07 a.m.

Motion to adjourn: Mr. Kaffenbarger 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
September 9, 2013

Angela D. Griest, Fiscal Officer