

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**German Township Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Session**  
**September 12, 2017**

The German Township Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at the German Township Office, 3940 Lawrenceville Dr., Springfield, Ohio. Mr. Clark called the meeting to order.

Board of Trustees- Roll Call: Mr. Clark– present; Mr. Kaffenbarger – present; Mr. Metzger- present

Fiscal Officer: Angela Griest

Township Department Supervisors present: Mike Stitzel, Police Chief; Richard Craig, Fire Department; George Degenhart, Zoning Inspector; Mark Bevan, Road Supervisor; and Karina Emory, Secretary.

Other Township Personnel: Dave Brown & Linda Mader

Visitors: Beau Thompson, Clark County Prosecutor’s Office, James Clippinger, Tremont City Mayor, and Jacob Jefferies, legal counsel for Tremont City, and Ronnie Hudson, AT&T First Net

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Minutes**

A. Motion to approve the minutes for August 8, 2017

Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Metzger Ayes- All

**Hearing of the Public:**

**Reference Mount Calvary Cemetery:**

Mr. Thompson gave a brief overview of the issue concerning the Mount Calvary Cemetery – Old Section.

- German Township has been maintaining the Old Section of the cemetery against the ORC 759.08. The Township cannot expend funds for cemetery property located within a village corporation.
- The record of giving the Township the Old Section of the cemetery is not valid because it is in the Village.
- There has been a precedent concerning this topic from 1994 with the Ohio Attorney General – Lexis 59.

Mr. Jefferies: He will take this information under advisement. He would not like to take control until he has had a chance to research the information and talk with the Council.

Mr. Thompson suggested the Trustees set a deadline. Mr. Kaffenbarger stated that the Trustees have continued to care for this section of the cemetery because they feel an obligation or moral duty to continue the care until the situation has been resolved. Mr. Metzger stated that we need to have a decision concerning this matter by the next meeting, October 10, 2017. It was also stated that Church Hill Road is also part of the Village, although the Township does provide snow removal and some maintenance. Mrs. Emory gave Mr. Jefferies copies of cemetery information.

**Reference AT&T First Net**

Mr. Hudson is here as our local representative for the government side of AT&T. Please contact him for any questions concerning our AT&T government accounts. He is here today to discuss FirstNet (The First Responder Network Authority).

FirstNet recently choose AT&T to build a nationwide public safety broadband network to allow all first responders a way to communicate with one another during a crisis. They will be enhancing local networks, expanding radio frequencies used, upgrading towers, and increasing coverage areas, in order to make wireless communications more reliable. Mr. Hudson stated that there will be a lot of changes over the next few years with mobile and wireless communications.

There was discussion concerning the type of equipment, (towers, antennae, cell phones, landlines vs cellular etc..) how it’s used and the benefits to the township. During a disaster type of emergency, first responders would have priority on cell towers for communications. This would not replace the MARCS radio system the Township currently uses but would have been of help when the MARCS system went down.

The trustees received a proposal from Mr. Hudson for a current Mobility/Fleet solution versus the current Business Class rates we currently have contracted. The township would have no contracts. Flexible. Micro cells are available to help with indoor coverage or outside of building. Cell phones would have a push to talk type of feature. Discount on phones. Several other features as designated in the information provided. A pricing comparison on what we currently pay and the proposed cost for the Mobility/Fleet solution, could save the Township approximately \$76.38 a month.

#### **Fire Department:**

Captain Richard Craig presented the Fire Report:

- The painting of the Fire and Maintenance buildings is completed.
- Two new hires: Katy Finney and Nathan McClure.
- Need to replace the rear tires on Medic 1. Cost estimate is for \$150.00 per tire. Mr. Kaffenbarger requested to know the Company name where they are to purchase the tires and brand or make of the tires.
- Seven sets of fire turnout gear were damaged in a fire. Our insurance company has approved the replacement of the gear. Phoenix Fire has the best pricing at \$2,260 per set (after a 40% discount) (coats, pants, Nomex hood, gloves). Gloves are \$75.00 a pair. We will have loaner gear until the new gear arrives. Takes approximately 55 to 60 days to process the order.
- Assisted on a Grain Bin rescue last week. Took about 3 hours to free his foot. The gentleman is doing well.

#### **Rezoning Case – ZB-2017-01:**

Mr. Degenhart presented the following:

Mr. Chen, owner of the former Hunan East property on Upper Valley Pike had requested zoning change from B-1 Shopping Center District to B-3 General Business District. It went through both the County Planning and the Zoning Commission and was approved. At the time it was approved, it was being presented as a used car lot, and would have had outside storage. At this time, Mr. Degenhart has not heard anything more from the owner, or the person who was interested in operating the new car lot. Therefore, at this time he recommends to the Trustees, that the request be denied.

B. Motion to deny the request for rezoning in Case ZB-2017-01:

Motion: Mr. Metzger 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Clark Ayes: All

#### **Fiscal Officer Report:**

Mrs. Griest presented the following:

- Approval of payments from August 8, 2017 to September 09, 2017 \$192,411.89

C. Motion to approve the payments:

Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Metzger Ayes: All

D. Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor:

Motion: Mr. Metzger 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Kaffenbarger

Roll Call: Mr. Clark – Yes; Mr. Kaffenbarger - Yes; Mr. Metzger – Yes

E. Motion to receive the August 2017 monthly financial reports:

Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Metzger Ayes: All

Question from Mr. Kaffenbarger: He noticed some of the BC (blanket certificate) numbers were changed on the invoices when he was signing the checks and wanted to know why they were crossed out and changed. Mrs. Griest replied that some of the BC's were gone, no more money on that BC, others were changed in order to pay them from the correct line item.

#### **Zoning Department**

Mr. Degenhart reported the following:

- City sewer lines that go up Route 41 is affecting residents. Some are being told they have to hook in to the system. whether their systems are good or bad.
- Upper Valley Pike Annexation: The City of Springfield has been able to get several businesses who on the water/sewer lines on Upper Valley to sign the DIA (Development Incentive Agreement). Once that agreement is signed their annexation will become annexed into the City. Those who have signed the DIA's are: Pat Catan's, The Dentist Office, Abbey's Restaurant, and McDonald's. Those who did not sign are: The Vet Clinic, Urgent Care, Monroe's and the property owned by Lagos.
- A questions came up concerning whose responsibility is it to take care of the road? Creekwood Court will have business that are in the City and some in the Township. Is the City annexing the road? Need clarification on what services the township will provide. This question was given to Mr. Thompson, our legal counsel.

- A study was done prepared for the Greater Springfield Chamber & Convention & Visitors Bureau exploring options for Sports Tourism in the Clark County. As a result, the Upper Valley Mall property was designated as a possible location.
  - Would provide a large sports complex that could draw a lot of sport local and amateur sports activity.
  - Total costs including land acquisition would cost \$44 million dollars.
  - 10-year plan
  - Other additional funds would be needed for at least 2 more years
  - A copy of the report is in the Township Office.
- Other possible areas that are being considered for the Mall area is Whole Foods, Amazon, State of Ohio garage.
- The Mall is hosting a train show at the JC Penney area. Mr. Clark stated that the train show may be looking for involvement of the Police and Fire Departments.

### **Police Department**

Chief Stitzel presented the following:

- The door locks system has gone down on several doors. Had to break in to the attic door. Will be making repairs and replacing the door locks. Plan on switching to key locks. May go over \$550.00 so need approval.
- F. Motion to approve the changing of the locks:  
Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Metzger Ayes: All
- I have a letter stating if we want to continue to receive federal grant money, the Township must sign a letter concerning the illegal Immigration laws and stating we will cooperate with Homeland Security. If we do not sign by September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, we will not be considered for Federal Grant Funds. He currently has a grant under review. Chief Stitzel stated he can agree to the stipulation. Mr. Metzger stated he doesn't agree.
- G. Motion to approve signing the letter concerning Homeland Security:  
Motion: Mr. Clark 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Kaffenbarger  
Roll Call: Mr. Metzger – No; Mr. Kaffenbarger – Yes; Mr. Clark –Yes  
Motion Carried
- When the MARCS radio system went down (twice) the only way the police department could communicate was with their personal cell phones. To eliminate this problem, he would like to go back to having a radio frequency and use the VHF radios in each car. This will allow them to communicate with one another, the fire department, and the school. He has a quote for a unit with antennae in 4 cars at approximately \$3,000. To save cost they will install themselves.
- H. Motion to approve the costs of the VHF radio equipment:  
Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes: All
- Self Defense Class of How Not to Be a Victim for women will move forward. There is a 4-hour classroom course. The Police Department to cover the cost of \$300.00 from the training budget. Free for any German Township female resident. \$10.00 for female outside of German Township. The instructor will have general release forms, and we will get copy of her Liability Insurance. We may follow-up with a course on firearms.
- I. Motion to offer the self-defense class free to all German Township female residents, and restrict signup for out of township females to the last week of signup to fill any remaining openings:  
Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes: All

### **Maintenance Report:**

Mr. Bevan reported the following:

- Brookston Drive drainage repairs
  - Mr. Bevan presented a quote from Terry Hiles for \$1800.00 for Brookston Drive. Mr. Hiles felt an 18" pipe would not get enough cover and recommended a 12" pipe.
  - Mr. Kaffenbarger received a quote from Stevenson Utilities Construction for Brookston Dr. Cost \$3500. Stevenson's quote includes saw cut the asphalt, trenching for up to 15" pipe, laser grade checking, installation of pipe, gravel backfill and compaction. Includes a 5'x5' water dispersion mat on let side. No asphalt was figured in the cost, but could be added for \$1200.00.
  - Both quotes require dirt removal, gravel, and pipe by the Township. However, for the Hiles quote we would also need to have Concrete Coring to cut the road at approximately \$250.00, and the fire department could run over the are several times to compact the fill.
- J. Motion to approve the quote from Stevenson Utilities Construction for the work on Brookston:  
Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Metzger Ayes: All

K. Motion to approve the costs of \$1,100 to Terry Hiles for drainage work for Pinewood:  
Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes: All

- There is a bumper at City Wide Junk Yard that could replace the damaged bumper on the dump truck costs \$100.00.
- Tree Clearing is going on schedule.
- The Chevrons that were installed on the S curve on River Road seem to be doing their job.
- Need to have Mr. Bussert on Pinewood mark the area he would like the mailbox installed since work is completed on the drainage issue.
- The stop sign on County Line Road is now visible due to the grass being cut.
- Since the guardrail was installed on Eagle City Road - 2 vehicles have run through it. Need to call Dean Fenton to see what else can be done.

**New Business:**

- Township Association Quarterly meeting is September 21, 2017

**Old Business:**

- Reminder: The deadline to revoke our letter of cancellation with the OPEC insurance for next year is September 30, 2017

L. Motion to adjourn: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Metzger Ayes: All

Approved by:  
Board of German Township Trustees

Recorded in the  
Record of Proceedings  
September 12, 2017

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Angela D. Griest, Fiscal Officer

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Robert Clark, President

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Rodney Kaffenbarger, Vice President

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Charles Metzger, Member