

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**German Township Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Session**  
**August 9, 2016**

The German Township Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, August 9th, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at the German Township Office, 3940 Lawrenceville Dr., Springfield, Ohio. Mr. Clark called the meeting to order.

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

Other Township Department Supervisors present: Angela Griest, Fiscal Officer; Mike Stitzel, Police Chief; Karina Emory, Secretary; George Degenhart, Zoning Inspector; & Mark Bevan, Maintenance Supervisor

Other Employees Present: Dave Brown, Linda Mader, Scott Connor

Visitors: Renee Turner, Phil Brown, and Bill Wolfarth

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Minutes**

A. Motion to approve the Minutes of July 12, 2016:

Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Clark

Roll Call: Mr. Metzger – yes; Mr. Clark – yes; Mr. Kaffenbarger – abstain

**Hearing of the Public**

- Renee Turner, Cannabis for Cures: Ms. Turner presented information concerning the possibility of her becoming licensed to operate a medical marijuana facility at the Upper Valley Mall, or other location within German Township. House Bill 523 is being considered and will regulate the growing, processing and distribution of medical marijuana in the State of Ohio. Mr. Clark referred her to Mr. Degenhart, Zoning Inspector, and suggested she come back to another meeting to provide further information concerning the issue.
- Phil Brown, of 3300 Baker Road: Mr. Brown is concerned with a drainage situation that is causing water and sewage to flow down the road and across to his yard. After discussion, it was recommended that the maintenance department will take a look at the drainage area, and that the County Health Department needs to be contacted concerning the flow of sewage.

**Fiscal Officer Report**

Mrs. Griest presented the following:

- The July 2016 Financial Reports have been given to the trustees
- Need approval of payments from July 12, 2016 to August 09, 2016
- B. Motion to accept the financial reports and to approve the payments:
  - Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Clark
  - Roll Call: Mr. Metzger – yes; Mr. Clark – yes; Mr. Kaffenbarger – abstain
- The levy information has been approved to form by the State of Ohio, ballot language from the board of Elections will need approved, and then it will be set for the November election.
- The Audit has been completed and is being reviewed by the State of Ohio. Once it is approved, it can be made public.
- The change from Key Bank to Wesbanco is almost completed. Keeping a minimal amount at Key Bank to be sure all automatic with draws and deposits have been changed before closing the account. The change in banks will save the Township \$3-4,000.00 a year in bank fees. To date bank fees were over \$1800.00. There were no bank fees this past month from Wesbanco. Some funds have been transferred to an account earning interest.
- Renegotiated the AT&T contract, saving the Township approximately \$126.00 per month (\$1500.00 per year savings) and giving all departments unlimited long distance.

**Zoning Department**

Mr. Degenhart reported the following:

- There is a trucking company coming to the Upper Valley Mall. He has had an increase in the interest in the mall area. There have been several requests concerning the outsourcing use of the parking lot around the mall. CVS is one looking to build. Several restaurants have shown interest.

- In connection to the Mosquito Abatement Program, he has talked with Waste Management concerning the possibility of the Township having a Tire Pickup day. We would need to set up a date and time, location, and work with the County Sheriff to provide the prisoner work program to help supply a work force. We could Contact Bethel Township for information on how they planned and advertised their tire pickup day.
- He has received two separate letters concerning the building of cell tower at 6320 Troy Road. He does not support the tower location due to the area already has sufficient service. The area of the township that does need help with service, (Snyder Domer, low areas) will not benefit from this tower. Township zoning cannot control the locations of cell towers.

### **Fire Department**

Chief Holman presented the following;

- The Northwestern Bus radios system used a tower belonging to Robinson's Communications. They are now looking to move their system to a new location. They are asking if they could use the Fire Departments tower and building. They are on a narrow band and should not interfere with the Fire radio frequency, and there is plenty of room in the building for their additional equipment.
- C. Motion to allow the school bus garage to use the Township tower and building for their radio system provided it does not interfere with the Fire Department radio system:  
Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes: All
- The Fire Department provided CPR and First Aid instruction to the Northwestern Bus Garage at no cost. Over 600 people have been provided CPR and First Aid training by the Fire Department at no cost.
- The AED has been purchased for the Township meeting room. It will be installed on the wall close to the fire extinguisher.
- Run volumes are way up. Already at over 1000 calls year to date. Many are critical patients.
- There was a fatal fire at the trailer park on Baker Road. Our response time was very good, but it was too late. The fire already had gone through the trailer.

### **Police Department**

Chief Stitzel presented the following:

- Requested that Scott Conner be brought back onto the Police Department as an auxiliary officer with the possibility to progressive to a part time position.
- D. Motion to hire Scott Connor as an auxiliary officer:  
Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Clark Ayes: All  
Chief Stitzel administered the Oath of Office.
- The Rapid Response Tactical Vest that were purchased by the officers were requesting that they be able to use their uniform expense to purchase them and any amount over their uniform expense allotment be payroll deducted:
- E. Motion to allow the vests be purchase through the uniform expense and to allow payroll deductions for any amounts over the uniform expense allotment:  
Motion: Mr. Metzger 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes: All
- The Police Department applied for the Bullet Proof Vest Grant. In October the awards for the grant will be made. However, it has come to our attention that everyone's vest life has expired. I would like to have approval to replace the vests for approximately \$800.00 per vest for a total of \$8000.00. If we get the grant, those funds would go toward those vests. We need to check the date that the grant goes through to be sure any vest purchased would be available to go towards the grant. When asked if there was enough in his budget to cover the costs, he stated no. Mrs. Griest stated that there was not enough funds already budgeted, but we could possibly amend the budget, which would reduce his carryover estimate for next year, but that there should still be sufficient carry over.
- F. Motion to replace the bullet proof vest:  
Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Metzger Ayes: All
- There has been a big increase in burglaries in German Township. They have hit Beechwood Hills, Snyder Domer and Saint Paris Pike.
- Chief Stitzel would like the trustees to consider requiring a permit to be able to solicit in the Township. The fee could be minimal, and would provide the Police Department a way to know who is out there knocking on doors. He believes there are a lot of people out there knocking on doors that are casing places.
- The Police Department will be painting the Humvee themselves instead of taking it somewhere for painting in order to save on expenditures.

### Road Maintenance Department

- Mr. Metzger stated the County Engineer is getting rid of a GALE skid steer. It will include the skid steer, bucket, fork, rock hound, and trailer. There is a possibility of also getting a post-hole digger. It is 80 horsepower. The cost to the Township is \$7,000.00. Mr. Kaffenbarger asked the Maintenance Department what they could do with the skid steer. They replied: to work on graves in the cemeteries, load culverts using the forks to lift, move small amounts of gravel, berm roads, load or unload items. Mr. Brown stated that several times he has brought his from home to use. Mr. Metzger stated that he funds could come from the gasoline fund. After some consideration, Mrs. Griest suggested using the new township permissive fund tax for the expense. Mr. Kaffenbarger also asked about what we were doing with the old slat shed, and the old small truck. Mr. Bevan stated they have been able to keep the little truck going so far.
- G. Motion to purchase the Gale skid steer with all the attachments mentioned, from Clark County Engineers Department:

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

- The gravel chute is being made by Mr. Dillon Summers and should be ready by Friday. He still has the County's as a model.
- Mr. Kaffenbarger would like to see the weeds around the maintenance building to be sprayed and cut down.
- Mr. Metzger would like to see the roads mowed again.
- Mr. Bealert on Deer Run Road has complained the maintenance department has caused his concrete driveway to heave up and break apart in one area. The maintenance workers believe it is due to the drainage problem on the property.. The maintenance department has helped in the past with cleaning out the culvert; however, there will always be a problem due to nearby trees. Mr. Bealert had stated verbally that he would agree to remove the trees.

### New Business

- The September Trustee meeting needs to be changed due to the Board of Elections using the meeting room for a special election.
- H. Motion to change the September Board of Trustees meeting to Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. :

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

Mr. Clark asked Mr. Metzger to please excuse himself from the next portion of the meeting. Mr. Metzger stepped outside.

Andrew Pickering, Clark County Prosecutors Office, representing the Board of Trustees, presented the remaining Board with a Release and Settlement Agreement between the Board and Mr. Metzger as a settlement for a dispute between the Township and Mr. Metzger regarding the provision of health insurance coverage and the reimbursement for health insurance premiums for and concerning events that occurred in calendar year 2013. The settlement which once agreed upon by both parties includes payment to Mr. Metzger for \$790.00, and releases the Board of Trustees and any other Township official or employee for any further claims concerning this matter.

- I. Motion to accept and approve the Release and Settlement Agreement between the Board of Trustees and Mr. Metzger:

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

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

Mr. Metzger was called back into the meeting.

Mr. Pickering stated that the Ohio Supreme court has a mediation program that is offered to other government entities to mediate any type of problem including inner- relations. This program came to his attention recently and he wanted to share this resource with the Township.

### Old Business

- Cell Phone Reimbursement:
  - J. Motion to provide cell phone reimbursement from December 2015 through December 31, 2016 for all full time police officers, Chief Mike Stitzel and Chief Tim Holman at a the same rate as previous year( \$44.00):
- Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Metzger Ayes: All
- Health Insurance: At this time the township trustees have not made a decision concerning Health Insurance for 2017.

K. Motion to adjourn: Mr. Kaffenbarger    Seconded: Mr. Clark    Ayes: All

Approved by:    Board of German Township Trustees:

Recorded in the  
Record of Proceedings  
August 09, 2016

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Angela D. Griest, Fiscal Officer

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Robert Clark, President

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Charles Metzger, Vice President

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Rodney Kaffenbarger, Member