

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
German Township Board of Trustees
Regular Session
March 10, 2020

The German Township Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the German Township Office, 3940 Lawrenceville Dr., Springfield, Ohio. Mr. Metzger called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Mr. Metzger - present; Mr. Kaffenbarger – present; Mr. Clark- present
Fiscal Officer: Angela Griest - present

Township Personnel present: Tim Holman, Fire Chief; Mike Stitzel, Police Chief; George Degenhart, Zoning; Mark Bevan, Maintenance Supervisor; Jon Wilson, Maintenance; and Karina Emory, Secretary.

Visitors: Andrew Pickering, Clark County Prosecutors Office; Kariann Marquis; Jill Acuff; Robin Hensley; Kim Northup; and Stan Studebaker.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes

A. Motion to approve the minutes for February 11, 2020:

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

Hearing of the Public

- Kariann Marquis: Complaint - dogs barking during the night, loud music
 - Lives at 3232 Upper Valley Pike. Zoned industrial. The neighbor goes out late at night to feed their chickens, and their dogs start barking. The dogs bark every night. Have also had trouble with the loud music that they play at night. Requesting the Trustees to consider a noise ordinance to help control the dog barking and loud music.
 - Mr. Pickering: Zoning has a current nuisance policy; however, it only applies to junk motor vehicles, liquor permit considerations, and only applies to residential zoning.
 - After further discussion, the Trustees stated they would have a letter sent to the neighbor requesting they be considerate of neighbors concerning the dog barking and loud music late at night.
- Andrew Pickering, Clark County Prosecutor's Office:
Nuisance Regulations – Hearing
 - You have requested help with a property of Rt 41 with the zoning nuisance regulations.
 - The owner does have Mr. Heath as his lawyer. The Township will need to follow the zoning nuisance regulations carefully. Must meet the definitions, provide evidence, call upon witnesses, requires hearing, and proper notices.
 - If the Township has to clean up the property, the Township fronts the cost. The costs can be added to the property taxes to be collected.
 - You may not cross onto the property, drones may be used but may not cross the property line.
 - The junk motor vehicle regulations do not include trailers or wagons, but only motor vehicles that are 3 years old or older, inoperable, and intensively damaged.

Tremont City Cemetery

- The proposed agreement was given to the Village of Tremont's attorney. I have not received a response.
- For your information, there was someone speaking with the Board of Elections concerning how to dissolve a village.

Ballentine Pike

- Update on the property on Ballentine.
- Sent notifications, have had the Sheriffs try to deliver, next will be publications by newspaper. They have attempted again to ask the County Clerk to serve, but they have not filed.
- On Monday, filed with Judge Rastatter to order to have it done. They have 28 days to file it to the courts.

- Jill Acuff:

Northwestern School Levy

- It is a Substitute Levy, not a new. It will not raise your taxes
- It will preserve the Rollback and Homestead Exemptions for taxpayers in the district.
- For more information contact Northwestern Superintendent Jesse Steiner or Treasurer Julie Gibson, or the Levy committees FaceBook page.

- Robin Hensley:
Speed limits, sewer line on Rt. 41
 - I would like to see the speed limit changed on St. Rt. 41. When people come up the hill from Upper Valley Pike, they top the hill at 50 mph then it changes very quickly to 55mph. This causes a safety concern at Mader's Market, and Jacksonville Road where people are trying to get in and out. There are many homes in that area and it is dangerous trying to turn into driveways.
 - I have contacted the local ODOT office. The man I spoke with stated he has received other complaints.
 - Mr. Metzger stated that the Township does not have control of the speed limits on St. Rt. 41.
 - Chief Stitzel stated that slowing the speed down would help. It is bad all the way to Fox Hollow.
 - Need more letters from residents about the complaints on RT 41 sent to ODOT.

Sewer line on Rt. 41

- Purchased property on St. Rt. 41.
- Had to sign the Development Incentive Agreement (DIA) to be able to tie into the City sewer. Could not use the septic, and if it goes bad, you cannot repair it. You have to tie in to the City. So had no choice but to sign the agreement.
- In 2006, cost was \$57 month. In 2020, the cost was \$103.44 month. In addition, there is an annual maintenance fee of \$250.00.
- Mr. Metzger stated the City brought the line up through the State right-of-way. We had no say in the sewer coming through our Township.
- Mr. Kaffenbarger asked if he had been to a City Commission meeting concerning the matter. Also suggested he speak with the State Representative Kyle Koehler. Mr. Kaffenbarger will give Mr. Hensley's contact information to Rep Koehler, and they can set up a discussion.
- Let us know if we can help with the situation.

Fiscal Officer:

- B. Motion to receive the February 2020 management reports:
 Motion: Mr. Clark 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes- All
- C. Motion to approve payments issued February 12, 2020 through March 08, 2020 \$118,092.96
 Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Clark Ayes: All
- D. Mr. Clark moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of German Township, Clark County, Ohio that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said Board of Trustees, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020, the following sums be and the same are hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made for and during said fiscal year as follows; (see 2020 permanent Budget)

Mr. Kaffenbarger seconded the Resolution and the roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Metzger – yes; Mr. Kaffenbarger – Yes; Mr. Clark – Yes
 Motion carried.

- E. Motion to approve Careworks as the Workers Comp Administrator for a yearly costs of \$1351.00:
 Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Clark Ayes- All
- F. Motion to the change the mileage reimbursement costs for 2020 to 57.5 cents per mile; per the IRS 2020 mileage rate:
 Motion: Mr. Clark 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes- All
- Clark County Official's Training Questionnaire: The Clark County Prosecutor's Office is surveying Townships to see if they would be interested in attending a training session, similar to what they have held in the past, for elected officials. Trustees stated yes, preferred evenings, weekends and after harvest season.
- G. Motion to approve Mrs. Griest to attend the Local Government Officials Conference by the State Auditor's Office. April 7-9.
 Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Clark Ayes- All
- H. Indigent Burial Application for Charles Newman: Trustees have reviewed the application. Motion to deny the request due to statement on application that lead them to believe not indigent.
 Motion: Mr. Clark 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes- All

Zoning Department:

None

Fire Department

Chief Holman presented the following:

- Submitted a grant for \$298,000 for fire truck. Know by July whether we receive the grant or not.
- Working on a block grant.
- I. Lights on Engine 1 – can no longer get parts to repair the lights. Will have to replace the lights at a cost of \$1200.00: Motion to approve the purchase of new lights for Engine 1 at \$1200.00:
Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Clark Ayes- All

Police Department:

Chief Stitzel presented the following:

- Purchased a 2015 Ford Explorer police cruiser for \$6,500.00 from the City of Harrison. The car drives nice, and is fully equipped. I had previously gotten verbal permission from the Trustees to purchase the vehicle, but would like it to go through the meeting to make it official.
- J. Motion to approve the purchase of a 2015 Ford Explorer for \$6,500.00 from the City of Harrison:
Motion: Mr. Clark 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes- All
- The City of Harrison also has a 2016 Ford Interceptor with eco-turbo, all-wheel drive, fully equipped with 78,000 miles for \$9,500.00. I would like to purchase this vehicle also. Our 2011 Dodge car is currently out of service. I would like to sell both our Tahoe and the 2011 Dodge. Should get between \$4,000 to \$6,000 for the Tahoe and \$600 to \$2000 for the Dodge. This will help offset some of the costs for the purchase of vehicles.
- K. Motion to approve the purchase of the 2016 Ford Interceptor from the City of Harrison for \$9,500.00, and the sale of the other two police vehicles:
Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Clark Ayes: All
- The City of Harrison may be selling additional vehicles in a couple of years through LEASO. I asked if they could let me know, that we may be interested.
- Looking at marking the Police Cruisers differently so that they will be easier to differentiate from the Tremont Police and North Hampton Police. Trustees have proofs of three designs. I recommend the proof number three; it has bold blue and yellow design, a simple design that is easy to read.
- L. Motion to approve proof number three with the Blue and Yellow design;
Motion: Mr. Kaffenbarger 2nd: Mr. Clark Ayes- All
- Officer Reynolds is working on a grant for \$180,000 for hiring officers. Should know by August if we approved for the grant.
- Received the tasers we purchased. They are better than we expected. We spent \$2,000 for about \$13,000 worth of equipment.

Maintenance Department:

Mr. Bevan presented the following:

- In Westridge, where we are going to be paving at Covina & Anita, some ditches and culverts may need to be cleanout or replaced before the paving is done. Some are 30-40 years old. Trustees will get with Maintenance to look and decide. Also, need to check the same on Baker Road, and Wildflower, and County Line Road. Need to replace and repair before paving begins.
- County is supposed to go to bid for paving next week.

New Business:

- Water tap in fees.
 - Current rate for German Township is \$750.00 per residential tap. There may be additional charges by the County, or Village of North Hampton.
 - There has been information that the trailer park, Springfield Meadows, will be adding an additional 300 mobile homes to their park.
 - The water comes down from North Hampton and was intended to help the school with their water issues, and to help the residents of the former Village of Lawrenceville.
 - German Township is, by law, not able to have a water system. North Hampton handles the water from there to where it connects to the County, and the Clark County Utilities Department handles all of the Lawrenceville area. They, not the Township, handle all billings and maintenance for the water system.
 - Homes on Rt. 41 can tap into the water line if they choose (paying applicable fees),
 - Trustees are concerned North Hampton cannot handle this additional large amount.
 - Also, concerned about the additional load to the school system for such a large increase of population.
 - Mr. Clark is to look into the information concerning the water.

Old Business:

- M. Motion to lease a lawnmower, comparable to last year's model, through Koenig Equipment again this year with a contract similar to what we had last year – Cost approximately \$1600.00.
Motion: Mr. Clark 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes- All
- N. Motion to retain New View Property for mowing the Cemeteries:
Motion: Mr. Clark 2nd: Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes- All
- Trustees had talked about putting a new road levy on the ballot in November. Mrs. Griest stated that there would be three renewal levies put on the ballot in November 2020. Must decide whether you still want an additional levy put on at the same time.
- O. Motion to adjourn by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Kaffenbarger Ayes: All

Approved by:
Board of German Township Trustees

Recorded in the
Record of Proceedings
March 10, 2020

Charles Metzger, President

Rodney Kaffenbarger, Vice President

Angela D. Griest, Fiscal Officer

Robert Clark, Member