

Perry Township Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

February 21, 2017 7:00 pm

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

Excused absence:

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

Public Hearings/Invited Guests:

Ohio North Youth Soccer ~ Coach John Burnworth and Team

Trustee Haines stated that he would like Joe Newsome, President of Perry Youth Soccer to please step forward as well as Coach John Burnworth.

Trustee Haines stated that it was a great honor to recognize the young men here this evening that have played in the Ohio North Youth Soccer Association Bothwell Cup Tournament and gave some brief highlights of the soccer tournament held back in October.

Trustee Haines invited the youth soccer players to please step forward and stated that he wanted to present Certificates to each of them that read: *Presented this 21st Day of February 2017, In Recognition of the Ohio North Youth Soccer Association~2016 Sam Bothwell Presidents Cup, Division Champions U 10 Boys, Presented by the Perry Township Board of Trustees.*

Trustee Haines recognized and congratulated each of the eleven (11) soccer teammates as well as Coach John Burnworth. Coach Burnworth thanked the Board for recognizing them this evening and also extended his thanks to the soccer athletes' parents.

Youth Soccer President Joe Newsome also thanked the Board very much and relayed that this tournament is one of the largest in Northeast Ohio. Mr. Newsome thanked the parents and coaches for all the time they put into training these young men and added that there surely would be more to come for them.

Communications:

Schedule Step II Police Department Grievance for March 1

Trustee Chessler stated that the Board has received a grievance from the Police Department on February 8, 2017; at this point, the next step in the process is to schedule this for a hearing before the Board.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board schedule this special duty grievance for Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at the next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Law Director Hall indicated that he and Police Chief Pomesky would notify the union of this grievance matter.

Public Speaks on items up for Board Approval: None.

Township Business requiring Board Action: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Trustee Chessler made a motion to approve bills in the amount of \$61,550.45 for the week ending February 14, 2017 and bills and payroll in the amount of \$353,330.85 for the week ending February 21, 2017 for a combined total of \$414,881.30; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Fiscal Officer:

Consider Accepting the January 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board approve the January 24, 2017 meeting minutes; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines.

Administration:

Consider Indigent Burial

Trustee Chessler indicated that as Law Director Hall had alluded to in our last meeting, the Board has received a noted request for indigent burial regarding decedent Neil E. Mercier II. Trustee Chessler stated that we have gone through this same process with Lamiell Funeral Home who, pursuant to our policy, has agreed to perform the cremation for the decedent. Trustee Chessler stated in addition and pursuant to policy, the Board has authorized to pay for the cremation services in the amount of \$595.00 and a modest 12' x 8' granite grave marker from Family Memorials in the amount of \$280.00; this is before the Board for consideration tonight. Trustee Chessler verified of Law Director Hall regarding the confirmation of the indigent application to determine that the decedent qualifies as being an indigent status as well as being a Perry Township resident. Law Director Hall confirmed this was correct.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board approve the costs of the cremation and the marker for Neil E. Mercier II; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Fire Department:

Discuss Staffing Issues

Trustee Chessler indicated that Trustee DeChiara had submitted a memo to the Board dated February 14, 2017.

Trustee DeChiara read aloud the email that he forwarded to Chief Martin several weeks ago that detailed his thoughts on a Plan A and Plan B to achieve additional staffing in the Fire Department.

Trustee Haines relayed to Trustee DeChiara that he had responded to his email through Law Director Hall with his recommendation of putting some numbers to this additional staffing plan. Trustee Haines inquired if he had the opportunity to do this. Trustee DeChiara indicated that he had not and added that he had not heard back from Chief regarding this.

Trustee Chessler inquired where we were right now staff-wise. Fire Chief Martin stated that we need two (2) hires to fill the Hafer and DeLuca spots and added that several have already gone to their polygraphs and have gone forward with their psychological and then once the additions are completed, we will hire three (3) more people which would give us five (5) full timers per shift which would give us one (1) full timer at each station along with one (1) part time person. Trustee Chessler inquired 24; Chief Martin confirmed yes.

Trustee Haines verified of Chief Martin that regarding the number of part timers that were hired last year in two different sessions, we have lost some since then and inquired where we were with the part time firefighters right now.

Fire Chief Martin indicated that we have one group that is currently finishing their session and we have a group that will need to be interviewed; Chief stated that some of this is dependent upon Matt (Gatchell) since Matt does a lot of the training for part timers.

Trustee Haines inquired if we could potentially have a dozen plus ready in the next couple of months. Chief Martin indicated that when you put a group of part time people in the play, six months is a fair amount of time for them to work their way through the skills that they need to go through, learn the operation and to be comfortable with what we need them to do.

Trustee Haines also inquired of Chief Martin if by the time the two station remodels were completed; we would be ready to staff them. Chief Martin confirmed yes and added that he suspected that Station 3 would most likely be a good month ahead of Station 2 in regard to the weather and other logistics, but that we will be able to hire enough people to staff them with five (5) on each shift.

Trustee Haines stated that he wanted to briefly indicate, for the benefit of those in the audience tonight, regarding what the passage of the fire levy has allowed us to do regarding the Fire Station additions and staffing.

Trustee DeChiara gave brief details regarding his thoughts on sufficiently staffing the three fire stations and indicated that he wasn't sure we would have the finances to do it, but relayed that the one constant that remains is our responsibility and obligation to adequately protect the residents.

Fire Chief Martin gave response as to Trustee DeChiara's remarks. Trustee Chessler also stated that it was good to have this discussion in February, but relayed that the elephant in the room is money. Trustee Chessler stated that we can only do what we have the money to do and added that we have to best use the money that we have for personnel costs.

Trustee DeChiara relayed the possible idea of taking resident surveys to see what residents would be willing to support; fire department staffing, police department staffing, Road Department financial backing.

Fire Chief Martin indicated the great amount of time that he and Fiscal Officer Schlegel spent when getting ready to propose the now passed fire levy and relayed their anticipated hope to be able to get seven years out of the levy from a fiscal standpoint. Fiscal Officer Schlegel confirmed this and indicated that the plan at the time the levy was proposed and passed was to be able to allow the Fire Department to designate more personnel to man more stations as well as equipment and other purchases that would come up.

Consider Resignation of Part-Time Firefighter, Ben Lasure

Trustee Chessler stated that the Board has received a letter from Ben Lasure dated February 6, 2017 to Chief Martin and the Trustees; it is a written notice of resignation as a part-time firefighter due to full-time employment. Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board accept that letter effective today, February 21, 2017; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Consider Resignation of Part-Time Firefighter, Mike Cameron

Trustee Chessler indicated that similarly, Mike Cameron has submitted a letter dated February 2, 2017 stating his resignation from the Perry Township Fire Department and has requested that his resignation be effective today, Tuesday, February 21, 2017. Trustee Chessler makes a motion that the Board accept Mike Cameron's resignation from the Perry Township Fire Department as a part-time firefighter effective today; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Consider Resignation of Part-Time Firefighter, Glen Schering

Trustee Chessler has submitted a letter without a date notifying the Board, due to a conflict of a work schedule, he is resigning his position effective February 14, 2017. Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board accept Glen Schering's letter of resignation effective as of February 14, 2017; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Consider Advertising to Sell 1988 Pierce Fire Engine

Trustee Chessler stated that Chief Martin has submitted a memo to the Board requesting to authorize the advertisement of bids to sell a 1988 Pierce Lance Fire Engine.

Fire Chief Martin stated that they have had some renewed interest regarding the sale of this fire engine and indicated that it did pass its pump test; it can still pump the amount of water the pump is certified to pump. Chief Martin indicated that should this engine fail a pump test, the re-sale value of the apparatus will drop automatically. Chief Martin stated that he would like to work with the Law Director and draw up the advertisement to put in the proper publications to solicit any bids on it.

Trustee Chessler verified of Fire Chief Martin that given its condition and the other apparatus available, this fire engine is no longer of use or benefit to the Township. Chief Martin briefly indicated that the Fire Department currently has back-up apparatus to use and added that now may be the time that if there is interest to purchase it, we find a buyer that is willing to pay the amount of money that we believe that it's worth.

Trustee Chessler inquired of Law Director Hall if we would do this with reserve so that if all the bids submitted would be ridiculously low, we could pull it back. Mr. Hall stated that we can always reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that based on the request of the Fire Chief, the Board will authorize the Law Director working with the Fire Chief to solicit bids to sell the 1988 Pierce Lance Fire Engine for an acceptable and appropriate price; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Consider Executive Session ORC 121.22(G)(1) to include the Board, Law Director and Fire Chief

Trustee Chessler stated that as he has noted, we have a request tonight for an Executive Session but we will first move onto Public Speaks.

Trustee Chessler stated that he will add on and make a motion that we received late today a request from Father Kaylor for a sign permit waiver. Trustee Chessler stated that the Board has authorized this in the past regarding the use of a temporary portable sign to advertise the bingo nights at Central Catholic High School.

Trustee Chessler made a motion to add this matter to the Agenda for the Board's consideration; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Trustee Chessler stated that based on the letter dated February 8, 2017 from Father Kaylor of Central Catholic High School requesting the Board's approval to waive the permit fee charge to Central Catholic

for a portable sign to be used at the McKinley Eagles on Monticello to advertise the bingo night; it would be placed on Perry Drive upon the Board's approval; makes a motion to approve that waiver; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Police Department:

Road and Park Department:

Consider Alley Vacation North of Orville

Trustee Chessler stated that we have a request that was received through Scott Oster of Oster Enterprises made to the Stark County Engineer's Office to vacate a certain alley that is located in the Township. Trustee Chessler inquired of Law Director Hall if he would detail the Board regarding this matter.

Law Director Hall indicated that this matter is in regard to an alley that is surrounded by Oster Sand and Gravel based on a survey through the County Engineer's Office. Mr. Hall verified that both our Fire Chief and Police Chief have indicated that safety services or emergency response services would not be affected if that alley is vacated.

Trustee Chessler stated that as we are all aware, the act of vacating an alley is done by the Stark County Commissioners and our role is to make a recommendation.

Road Superintendent Masalko stated that he wanted to recommend that the north south alley south of State Route 21 to the south termini and the southeast alley from the southeast termini to Orrville Avenue be vacated per Scott Oster's request.

Trustee Chessler indicated that this is among the documents that the Board has received, a vacation plat which depicts their lands and highlights this portion which is proposed for vacation so that we know exactly what it is that we're talking about. Road Superintendent confirmed that was correct.

Trustee Chessler stated that based on the information that we have received from the County Engineer's Office and the request, along with the written legal description and the plat which depicts the area to be vacated, makes a motion that the Board of Trustees send to the Stark County Commissioners our recommendation that this alley vacation be approved; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Law Director: None.

Zoning:

Problem Properties

Department Matters Not Requiring Board Action:

Administration: None.

Fire Department: None.

Police Department: None.

Road Department: None.

Parks/Recycling: None.

Zoning: None.

Law Director: None.

Upcoming Events:

Public Speaks-Open Forum:

Trustee Chessler stated that this is the portion of the meeting where if you would like to address a matter of Township concern before the Board, we ask that you give us your name and address and proceed to the lectern.

Timothy Blythe, 2956 Bridgeton St. NW, Massillon 44646 – Mr. Blythe addressed Trustee DeChiara regarding the possible survey that he mentioned earlier in the meeting. Mr. Blythe stated that he felt surveys were worthless and gave a brief statement regarding that. Mr. Blythe added that he felt that the Board meetings each first and third Tuesday of every month serves as a survey. Mr. Blythe stated that it was his opinion that if somebody has something to say, these Board meetings are the means whereby they should speak. Mr. Blythe relayed that he felt if somebody didn't have the gumption to come here to voice their opinion, then they didn't need to be heard.

John Sisson, 1409 Perry Dr. SW – Mr. Sisson stated that he had a complaint about the supplemental ad papers that are being thrown onto their properties and many times ending up in the street. Mr. Sisson stated that this is littering and added that he has called about this numerous times. Law Director Hall stated that Mr. Sisson had contacted one of the Trustees to voice this concern and the Zoning Department had removed the overflow of papers on the surrounding property of Mr. Sisson's complaint. Mr. Hall stated that he would address this issue at the next monthly meeting for Stark County Law Directors.

Executive Session(s):

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to include the Board, Law Director, Fire Chief and Fiscal Officer to discuss personnel matters involving continuing employment of the firefighters; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at: 7:57 pm

The Board adjourned from Executive Session at: 8:10 pm

Adjournment:

With nothing further to come before the Board, Trustee Haines made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Craig Chessler, President

Joe Schlegel, Fiscal Officer