

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Austinburg Township

Meeting

Held

August 6,

2007

The Austinburg Township meeting held August 6, 2007 was called to order at 7:30pm by Chair Lynn Frank. Trustees Spade and Burke were present. Audience present; Norrel Dearing, Jim Simmons, Dave Long, Winnie Cerbin, Ginny and Ted Seifert, Connie Coons, Mike Schaab, Mary Ann Clause, Robert Ruck, Raquel Martinez, Gary Welch, Shawn Shannon, Byron Dutton II, Mike Farinacci, Jim Heath.

Res. 742-07 Janie moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as written. Jerry seconded. The roll call vote; Frank, aye. Spade, aye. Burke, aye.

Res. 743-07 Lynn moved to pay the bills as the lawful obligation to the township. Jerry seconded. The roll; Spade, aye. Burke, aye. Frank, aye.

Receipts ; \$173,242.70 due to the second half real estate settlement. Bills ; \$35,630.90 with \$100.00 turned in this evening from zoning.

The fiscal officer reported she had been called by Ashtabula County Prosecutor Tom Sartini regarding the indigent burial of Mr. Donald Young. Mr. Sartini stated the attorney he has been working with informed him that a physician has agreed to sign the death certificate and the hospital is in the process of contacting Fleming Funeral Home. Once Mr. Fleming has received the death certificate they will contact Austinburg to arrange for burial and payment. Barb made a follow up call to Fleming's and spoke with Joan Billman, who told Barb that they are also waiting on permission to cremate the body and will be in touch with the township.

In correspondence, a thank you was received from the VFW for the township's donation.

A letter from ACDES regarding easements for the sewer project and follow up information was received.

Certificate of Liability Insurance from Martuccio Asphalt and Paving.

Copies of documents regarding the Petition for Special Relief , WGGN TV, and Time Warner Cable.

Zoning Administrator John Beninato gave a zoning report at this time. A copy is contained in the township files.

In trustee report, Jerry stated there was a problem in Eagleville Cemetery. The family members met with he and Bill Wilms, and Lot 106 will be purchased back from Carol Lambert by the township at the purchase price. A note will be put on the deed to Lot 46, her husband's grave, and after cremation, she will be buried in that plot.

Jerry stated the road crew is working on Lampson Rd. at the Wilms' property. Jerry explained the work to be done there. Jerry spoke with Tim Martin and Pete about the ditch work needed near Winnie Cerbin's property. Pete said it should be started this week.

The work on Mill Creek Rd. will be started next week. The road will be closed. Jerry stated we need to rent a roller/ compactor, maybe from the county.

Res. 744-07 Jerry moved to rent a roller/compactor for the project on Mill Creek Rd. Janie seconded. The roll; Frank, aye. Spade, aye. Burke, aye.

Rails to Trails asked that the grass be cut at Lampson and Allen Rds for easier visibility from the trail. Jerry will notify Pete.

Janie gave the report from the August 1, 2007 NAD meeting . It is available for review.

The County is having a haz-mat clean up day on Sept. 22. Janie stated she would like to see the township hold a clean up also.

Res. 745-07 Janie moved to have a township clean up day on September 22, 2007 from 8:00am - 12:00 at the township garage. Jerry seconded. The roll call; Spade, aye. Frank, aye. Burke, aye.

Janie stated she has left a message for Janice Schweitzer about the recycling program. She has not heard back yet.

Ken's Foundation provided information on defibrillators. Janie said they run approximately \$1,195.00. She said she thinks it would be a good idea to get one for the road garage and town hall.

Janie reported she attended the summer conference of the Ohio Twp. Association in Beachwood. She gave information on the set up of a web page by Miami Univ. with grant money they obtained. They can design and maintain them at no cost, except for a domain name. The cost is \$10.00 for a generic and \$100.00 for dotGov.

Res. 746-07 Lynn moved Janie explore this and report back to the board. Jerry seconded.

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The roll call vote; Burke, aye. Spade, aye. Frank, aye.

Janie said when talking to Barry at the sewer meeting, he advised when the sewer is placed, that a tie in be established for the park in the event restrooms are installed there. Janie said she would like to pass this along to Larry Meaney.

Res. 747-07 Janie moved to put this information in the form of a letter and send it on to Larry. Jerry seconded. The roll; Frank, aye. Burke, aye. Spade, aye.

Janie addressed playground equipment for the township park. She would like to set up a meeting with the company rep, and anyone interested in helping with this project to get it going.

Res. 748-07 Lynn moved a meeting be set to discuss playground equipment, get costs, and find out what people want. Jerry asked if there were others that Janie was talking to. Janie stated a committee had not been set up yet. Jerry seconded the motion. The roll; Spade, aye. Burke, aye. Frank, aye.

Janie said that for anyone qualifying for the extended Homestead Exemption, sign up may be done at the Ashtabula County Auditor's office by October 1, 2007.

Lynn stated she would like newsletter articles by August 12 if possible.

Lynn is working on the quarterly FEMA report, she will need hours and materials used for the end of the project, from Pete. Jerry will mention this to Pete.

Lynn said that regarding the easement agreement with Mr. Pishner, Res. 739-07 needs to be reflected on that agreement.

The old dump truck was discussed. An ad will still be placed in the OTA magazine.

Lynn said she FAXED the letter to Dominion East Ohio, listing areas of concern within the township. This was discussed at the last meeting. A copy is in the township files.

Lynn reported on her attendance at the Summer Conference in Beachwood, classes she attended.

Lynn stated she received a letter from Steve LaTourette concerning the Appalachian Regional Commission and what they are working on. Benefits of this designation were listed in the letter.

In audience participation, Lynn said it was obvious by attendance that the topic of sewers would be a big part of the discussion. She stated she would like to have continuity in the comments. Mike Schaab stated everyone is here together, and one person will speak for most of the residents here about the sewer.

Norrel Dearing asked where the summer conference was. It was held in Beachwood. He inquired what it cost the township. Lynn stated it cost nothing. He suggested the board do more to help with grants for the sewer project, and less newsletters. He feels many of them are just thrown out.

Jim Simmons stated more needs to be done about sewer funding. These costs are going to be hard to come up with.

Dave Long said he likes the newsletter and finds it informative. He also said any grants are going to be hard to get now.

Winnie Cerbin complemented the work done on Forman Rd.

Ginnie Seifert stated she also likes the newsletter and the information it provides.

Connie Coons said she has heard many positive comments about the newsletter. She stated that regarding grants, the township must often come up with matching funds, and the budget must allow for that. Lynn stated the board cannot apply for these grants, since the township can not own the sewer line. Janie stated this is a county project so the county must apply for grants.

Connie inquired about the town hall steps. Jerry has spoken to Pete Haas and it is still a go.

Connie asked about money available for sprucing up the looks of the township. The fiscal officer presented information on paying for beautification projects out of township funds.

Ted Seifert said he is not involved personally with the sewer project but is concerned for those that are. He said that perhaps the township could help with in kind work to offset costs.

Mike Schaab stated he is here with others affected by the sewer project. Mike read a letter to the board that those involved would like the board to sign and send to the County Commissioners. The letter stated the board will not endorse the sewer project until costs to the affected residents are cut by half. Discussion on the sewer project was held.

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Mary Ann Clause asked if the county would put any money in to help pay for the sewer line.

Lynn said the \$350,000.00 grant that has been secured is an Issue I grant. She said we need to look into CDBG grants.

Mike asked if the board will sign the letter. Janie said she did not feel it would do any good. She stated the board needs to push the county to look into more grants.

Jim Heath asked if anyone said no to this project. He said someone should say no at these prices.

Ted Seifert said perhaps if an extension could be granted by the EPA, there would be time to get more funding. This should have been looked into long ago.

Lynn stated the board should take the questions and comments from here, and get on the agenda of the Commissioners' meeting. Janie agreed with Lynn, we should get on the meeting agenda. She feels there is more money out there and we should push the Commissioners to look.

Jerry stated he would sign the letter presented tonight. Janie stated she thinks there are other ways to approach this, and would not sign the letter. Lynn said she would not sign the letter as written.

Mike Schaab added he thinks it would be a good idea to put a ramp on the town hall while the steps are being repaired. He said voting could then be held in the town hall.

More discussion was held on costs of the sewer project.

Jerry asked if Lynn wanted to go with him to the courthouse, possibly tomorrow. Lynn said she would like to get comments together and get on the agenda. Mary Ann Clause stated people involved could attend the Commissioner's meeting also.

Jim Heath inquired about what GRA will pay for tie in and footage.

Byron Dutton suggested asking Larry Meaney if tap in fees could be assessed along with the frontage.

Gary Welch said he liked the idea of asking for an extension. Perhaps more grants could be applied for during that time, to offset these costs.

Res. 749-07 With no other business to come before the board, Lynn moved to adjourn the meeting. Janie seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Barbara Schaab
Jerry Busche