

RUSHCREEK TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
BOARD MEETING
12/20/2017

Hart Van Horn, Chairman called the Rushcreek Township Trustees Board meeting to order at 7:01pm leading with the Pledge of Allegiance dedicating it to the military who defend this nation and the law enforcement who protect our freedoms. Those in attendance in addition to Hart were: Dave Myers, Trustee; Bill Myers, Trustee; Road Superintendent, Doug Hintz; and Will Duvall, Fire Chief. Hart asked that all cell phones be muted along with all fire radios except the Chief and Road Superintendent.

Visitors

Chad Ashbaugh, Tracy Shahan, Mary Hoffman, Barb & Charlie Hockman, Earl Lehman, Ray Stemen

Minutes

The minutes of the December 4th Regular Meeting and December 8th Special Meeting were presented to the Trustees for approval. Bill made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes because the Trustees had reviewed them prior to the meeting and approve the minutes. Dave seconded the motion. Roll Call: Dave, yes; Bill, yes; Hart, aye. Hart reminded everyone that the minutes are available upon request at the Fiscal Officer's office and the website www.rushcreektwp.org.

Treasurer's Report

EFT #772-2017 - #808-2017 and Warrants #40943 - #40961 in the amounts of \$58,309.44 were presented to the Trustees for signatures. This includes PE#8 to Seifert Construction in the amount of \$31,066.15 which is the final draw. Dave made a motion to pay the bills and Hart seconded the motion. Roll Call: Hart, aye; Dave, aye; Bill, aye.

Due to the end of the year approaching, no spending was approved unless it is an absolute emergency and all three trustees and the fiscal officer must be notified.

The following appropriation changes were made:

\$323.46 from 2191-220-190 to 2191-220-240

\$68.82 from 2021-330-420 to 2021-330-190 Trustee verbal approval on December 15th.

An invoice from Jefferson was not received as of today's date so hopefully this matter can be cleared up at the December 30th End of the Year meeting.

Business

Charles Hockman, Rushcreek Township Representative on the Regional Planning Commission reported:

- Fairfield County has grown 24% and is now the 3rd largest growing county in the State.
- A Fairfield County Comprehensive Land Use Plan has been drafted. The document was left at the township and Mr. Hockman will inquire with Regional Planning to see if there is a link that can be posted on our website for the public to view. Several communities were surveyed with the citizens top priority was the school systems. Rushcreek Township also included Farmland Preservation.

Chief Will Duvall reported the following:

- Runs during the last pay period: 14 EMS including 8 transports and 5 fire runs.
- Accepted a letter of resignation from Paramedic Kyle Peters on December 18th.
- Commercial One with the assistance of Trustee Van Horn donated a 15' Uhaul full of very nice, nearly new, furnishings to complete the office needs of the renovation project. This also included 32 cushioned folding chairs. The Township and Fire Department are both grateful for this wonderful gesture. Chief Duvall and Brian Irwin handled the pick. This donation saved the Township several thousand dollars.
- An Open House will be held at the fire house before the end of this year to provide the public an opportunity to tour the facility. The date was established to be held 4pm-7pm on December 29th. The building will be dedicated to Bremen-Rushcreek EMS & Fire Personnel.

-On December 12th a truckload of used items from the renovation project were delivered to Habitat for Humanity of Fairfield County.

Road Superintendent Doug Hintz reported the following:

-All gravel roads have been checked, evaluated, and had stone applied as needed which changes according to weather conditions.

-The cold storage barn has been rearranged so that the snow plows can be accessed and attached to the trucks quickly.

-The crew treated roads following an accumulated snowfall the night of December 12th. Trustee Dave Myers plowed the township parking lot, mixed material, and loaded trucks.

-A Stop Work Order was placed on an agricultural pole building being built five feet into the road right of way at 7365 Ireland Road. A letter was composed and sent to the property owners informing them of the building encroachment onto the Right of Way stating it must be moved back to a minimum of 30 ft. from the center of the road. Dave Myers and I meet with the property owners and resident onsite who agreed to move the building off the Right of Way. It will be approximately 33 ft from the center of the road when completed.

-The old salt bin was filled with grindings to keep dry for treating roads this winter.

-Washouts were repaired on Tent Church and Pleasantview Roads.

-New cutting blades were put on the chipper.

-A fallen tree was removed from Thomas Road in the evening on December 18th.

-The County is working on Young Road correcting the stream.

Bill thanked Doug and brother Dave for doing great job.

Connie reported the following:

-The Prosecuting Attorney sent all Townships a notice on new procedures for placing levies on the ballot which was also covered at the Fairfield County OTA meeting on December 17th.

-The January Safety Council will meet at the Eagles in Lancaster on January 9, 2018 at 7:30am. Until the new Board gets established, Dave agreed to represent the Township.

-The December Grassroots Clippings was distributed.

-As a reminder, the 2017 End of Year meeting has been advertised and is scheduled to be held December 30th at 7:00am.

Trustee Reports

Dave reported after the Special Meeting on December 8th contact was made with Burnham & Flowers agency to go over the different packets that were presented to the Board of Trustees. A meeting was held with the employees on December 11th to begin the paperwork process to secure health insurance coverage for 2018. Employee information, group application, information regarding current coverage and payments to Jefferson Health Plan were faxed to Burnham & Flowers Agency to process and approve. On December 13th the agency requested additional information to be resubmitted. On December 15th the agency requested proof of coverage to Jefferson be resubmitted. The agency provided an updated quote for the Gold 2520-1000 plan which included one employee as a tobacco user. The monthly premium which includes mandated fees is \$2,601.00 thus making the annual premium \$31,212.00.

Dave made a motion to accept Burnham & Flowers as the health insurance agency for Rushcreek Township effective January 1, 2018. Hart stated that he did not think this was good business practice as shopping for insurance is fine but only Burnham and Flowers was given an opportunity to provide a quote. Bill seconded the motion. Roll Call: Hart, abstain; Dave, aye; Bill, aye.

Bill made a motion to accept Medical Mutual PPO Gold Plan with a \$1,000 deductible as proposed by Burnham & Flowers Agency as the Insurance Company provider for the fiscal year 2018. Dave seconded the motion. Roll Call: Hart, aye; Bill, aye; Dave, aye.

**As approved in the Treasurer Report, Dave made a motion to pay the January monthly premium to Medical Mutual in the amount of \$2,601.00 and Bill seconded the motion. Roll Call: Hart, aye; Dave, aye; Bill, aye.

The insurance contract was presented for signatures. Dave stated that if we stayed with Jefferson the annual cost was \$38,828.88 and with Medical Mutual the annual cost is \$31,212.00 an annual difference of \$7,616.88. There will be increases due to the structure of age changes but that would've also been a factor with Jefferson. Lisa Burnworth reminded the Board during the Special Meeting during the telephone conference with Jefferson, going to a PPO instead of consortium removes the Township of a possible liability of \$75,000 both Bill & Dave concurred on hearing that figure. Hart stated that he was unsure of that statement because there is no documentation to support that figure. He added that the Trustees need to be focused on the facts and that the Township saved over \$23,000 just this year by structuring a better program which had nothing to do with the provider. All Trustees signed the contract and submitted with the check.

Hart advised that the employee's lifestyles are factored in the rates. The Township needs to get into a wellness program that promotes healthier living. Both Dave and Lisa advised that a Wellness Program was discussed as part of the package. Hart reminded that every insurance program sells that in its package, but it is up to the Township to actually implement programs for a healthier life style and that will bring rates down.

Bill reported that one zoning permit has been issued since the last meeting to Robert Leasure, 8405 Marietta Road; accessory building. Loren Young, Tim Thomas, Phil Miller, and Charlie Hockman advised they would serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals and Charlie Hockman agreed to continue as Rushcreek Township representative for the Regional Planning Commission. Bill spoke of his pleasure being a trustee and thanked Doug and brother Dave for an excellent job.

Hart shared some parting words as this was his last regular meeting. Hart stated that he appreciated the opportunity to serve the community and work with the support he received from the Trustees, plus Doug, Will and Connie. With Rushcreek Township being a rural community and far removed from a stable recovery area, it has been a pleasure during his tenure as Trustee to be part of establishing improvements to the fire department as a point of disaster support and critical services. With the renovation project, we are now much better prepared and he thanked Chief Duvall for his devotion to this project. The Township is a pivotal component for supporting the surround communities, including Perry and Hocking Counties and there is much development that should continue for everyone's benefit.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:57pm