

WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
Special Year-end and General Business
December 30, 2009
7:00 pm

Chairman Trustee James Likley opened the meeting by asking those in attendance to stand and Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Fiscal Officer, Martha Evans is unable to attend because of flu and Trustee Sims will not be here this evening due to her husband's health condition.

The Records Commission meeting was scheduled prior to this meeting however with Ms. Evans out, the meeting could not be held and is re-scheduled Jan. 18th, 2010 @ 6:55 pm.

ROLL CALL: Trustees Timothy Kratzer and James Likley were present.

Trustee Likley welcomed the guests and asked for comments.

COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Dog Licenses are to be purchased by Dec. 31, 2009 @ \$12.00. After Dec. 31, 2009 they will be \$31.00
2. There is a lower real estate tax rate for about 95% of Medina County residents next year, the chart is available on the auditor's website and there is a chart available at the auditor's office.
3. Tax bills will be mailed mid January and due by mid February

BILLS TO BE PAID (The spreadsheet is attached to the minutes in the fiscal officer's office)

Total bills to be paid are \$13,234.17 per the spreadsheet. The spreadsheet omitted one bill from Kimball Midwest in the amount of \$133.84. TOTAL BILLS \$13,368.01.

Trustee Likley stated the sign company called to let township know they would be shipping the signs.

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Trustee Likley.

Roll call vote: Trustee Kratzer, aye; Trustee Likley, aye.

No correspondence.

At the last meeting we discussed the Frank Gates \$500 or \$1,000 deductible for Workers Compensation claims. We later received another e-mail stating that they would not recommend the deductible because if there were more than one claim it would cost the township more than they would save. The board previously approved a \$500 deductible; do I have motion to rescind that decision of \$500 deductible for workers compensation?

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to rescind the previous motion of a \$500 deductible with Frank Gates for worker compensation claims, seconded by Trustee Likley.

Roll call vote: Trustee Kratzer, aye; Trustee Likley, aye.

Temporary appropriations will not be considered because of Martha's inability to attend this evening. We had received the recommended temporary appropriations at our last meeting and this can be done at the first meeting of the New Year. Trustee Likley asked if Mr. Oiler and Mr. Harris received a copy of the recommended appropriations and they answered, yes.

Approval of the December 3, 2009 meeting minutes

Trustee Kratzer moved the December 3, 2009 minutes be approved as presented, seconded by Trustee Likley.
Unanimous

ROAD REPORT

Trustee Kratzer stated we took delivery of 6 loads of salt yesterday. Trustee Likley stated 140.69 tons of salt to be exact and a bill of \$6,563.00. Our efforts to keep the roads free from ice and snow is pricey but we do a good job. Lee reported he tries to keep the bins full and really didn't count on him bringing it today but he did. I was going to leave but I can't tell him no and wait until tomorrow. I have a good relationship with Tony up there, so I take the salt whenever he can bring it. There were times last when other people couldn't get the salt and I would say I have to have the salt so bring it on Saturday and it would be delivered.

Mileage certification must be signed at the county engineers' office Jan. 6, 2010. Trustee Likley asked Lee if he is satisfied with the report. Lee answered he has not gone through it but he will do it tomorrow. Trustee Likley asked if there was any change on the upgrade that we did this year. Lee, "That is what I must check to see if they added that in the report." Sometimes when the county drafts the bid proposal, they will automatically put it in but I do double check. That is how the township gets their funding.

ZONING REPORTS

No report from the zoning commission

Ronald Oiler from BZA reported that the variance for Mr. Jackson was approved to build a barn on his property.

There is not an organizational meeting scheduled at this time for the BZA.

FIRE REPORT

Trustee Likley reported: There was a fire committee meeting last evening. Total of 26 runs for December 2009

5 runs covered during the day staffing. The improvements to the station to accommodate the new fire truck are underway. There is a big hole in the wall of the front bay to accommodate the new truck. It is a long process but will be completed when the new truck is delivered. The truck is now in Omaha, NB being outfitted and anticipates the truck to be in service by March 2010. Bills for the fire department that were approved were \$5,349.35 and will be split between the village and township. A "knox box" is an access box that can be placed on a place of business or a residential home in the event there is an alarm the fire department has access. A code from the sheriff's department allows

them to open the box in their truck which gives them the key to open that box at the location and gives them the ability to enter the building. The purpose of this is if there is an alarm system and it is a false alarm, they are not damaging a door at that location to get in. It's been recommended that become a policy or a zoning requirement for new commercial buildings. We have discussed that some but would have to go through the process of our zoning board to make that change in our zoning policy. It is a secured system and only allows certain people that information. One resident has requested a "knox box" because they have an alarm system and leaves for the winter. The price of the box is about \$230.

Trustee Kratzer stated the Seville/Guilford has been using knox boxes for quite a few years. About 85% of the businesses that are not open 24 hours have them. It saves a lot of time. They have advantages and disadvantages.

No old business

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to set the trustees pay as a salary for the year 2010, seconded by Trustee Likley.

Roll call vote: Trustee Kratzer, aye; Trustee Likley, aye. Unanimous

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to retain the following positions and salaries for the Road Supervisor, Zoning Secretary, and Administrative Assistant through January 4, 2010, seconded by Trustee Likley.

Roll call vote: Trustee Kratzer, aye; Trustee Likley, aye. Unanimous

Trustee Likley reported at the last trustees' meeting, County Planning Services submitted a proposal to have Lafayette and Westfield Townships and Villages of Gloria Glens and Chippewa Lake to look at a community development plan just north of Westfield Township in Lafayette Township. This was to look at these communities zoning, infrastructure, road studies, and traffic and to look at it in a proactive approach. At this meeting they had asked that the 4 communities make a verbal commitment working together and putting together a small package. Trustee Likley received a phone call from Patrice Theken from the Medina County Planning that the Medina County Commissioners has pulled back some of their funding.

Patrice said she was looking for other sources of funding and would possibly be asking the 4 communities to contribute. Trustee Likley explained that Westfield Township has just spent \$34,000 for a comprehensive plan to review the very things that they looking at. In the present proposed land use proposal the northeast quadrant is proposed to expand that area to suburban residential use, not so much commercial but residential. Trustee Likley stated Lafayette Township would be the beneficiary to this development and that they may carry a larger portion of the funding of this plan. Patrice will get back to us at a later date.

Trustee Kratzer stated that the commissioners were concerned that the study was not broad enough. The commissioners are asking that the study be broadened to include Lake Road north to Medina City Limits and South to Greenwich Road. That could be why she looking for more funding.

COUNTY ELECTRIC AGGREGATION

Trustee Likley stated that he was at the meeting with Steve Hambley and a broker for the electric aggregation. Back in 2000 the commissioners put the issue of electric aggregation to a vote county wide and it did not pass throughout the county. They are now asking our interest in participating in that ballot. Residents may choose to opt out even if it passes in the township. There will be a 10 year commitment for the aggregation. They are proposing a 6% under auction price. We need a resolution but will wait until January.

OTA WINTER CONFERENCE

The deadline for registration to the OTA winter conference is January 29, 2010. Ron Oiler, Jim Likley, and Lee will be attending.

Trustee Kratzer thanked the residents of Westfield Township to sit on a board for the last 16 years. Thanks for the memories.

Trustee Likley thanked Timothy Kratzer and Carolyn Sims for their commitment to the community.

Trustee Kratzer moved to adjourn at 7:37 pm., seconded by Trustee Likley.

Approved January 18, 2010