

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

COPLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held _____ **TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021** _____ 20 _____

Welcome Guests: Director Loudan Klein introduced Dave McCallops; Michelle Johnson, Dwayne Groll, Ben McKeenan and Katherine Holmak from Environmental Design Group (EDG). They have prepared a presentation on a 10- year Capital Plan for the Township.

Presentation: Environmental Design Group – 10 – Year Capital Plan

Katherine Holmak spoke on Storm Water Retention, assessing that there are three watersheds in the area: Pigeon Creek; Wolf Creek, and Yellow Creek. These are the head waters. Ms. Holmak recommended focusing on Pigeon Creek which is 59-60% inside Township boundaries. Projects with habitats, wetlands, and storm retention would be the focus for this area as well as Wolf Creek and projects surrounding the reservoir.

Dave McCallops who looked into sanitary sewer and water systems suggested the Township have both county and Akron sewers. He broke the Township into areas to determine the need for pump stations and gravity areas. These maps could provide opportunity to inform developers what to install as part of the larger picture. He stated that water must have a certain flow and a certain pressure. Akron will be able to take care of most of the Townships water, but there are high pressure zones that cannot be served. Those high pressure zones would need to connect to a water tower. Barberton and Wadsworth have been approached about providing water, but further study about what would be needed to serve the entire Township would have to be looked into before they could commit. Mr. McCallops stated the top projects need to be prioritized. Currently there are 9 sewer projects focusing primarily on projects along Copley Road (based on the JEDD requirements); and eight water projects, focused on individual points of concern from our residents.

Michele Johnson is in charge of the Multi-model Connectivity Plan. The focus is to connect like networks together. Her priorities would be the Ridgewood High School Corridor as well as Copley Community Park, however if funding becomes available for another project the Township could change priorities. Funding available through ODOT Safety Grants and other grant funding.

The Board thanked the consultants for their efforts and agreed the report provides good technical information to be used for grant applications. Trustee Schulte asked if we could still apply for grant funding or is the grant cycle over; Ms. Johnson indicated that some funding has been delayed due to COVID and that most of the project funds available don't require formal adoption of a plan. Mr. McCallops added that capital money would not be needed until 2022.

- In summary, the plan provided a Capital Funding Improvement Plan –detailing plans of how and when projects take place at a Master Planning level..

After thanking everyone for their presentation, Trustee Dressler made a motion to proceed with the Board's Regular Meeting; second by Trustee Koellner, all voting aye.

Open

Trustee Koellner called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:37p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board of Trustees

Discussion regarding a petition submitted by Tuscan Ridge Development Company, LLC to be included in the Copley-Akron Joint Economic Development District (JEDD).

Trustee Dressler moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation with Legal Counsel; second by Trustee Koellner. Roll call vote: Trustee Koellner, aye; Trustee Schulte, aye; and Trustee Dressler, aye. The session started at 6:40.

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At 7:15 p.m. Trustee Dressler moved to reconvene the Regular Meeting; second by Trustee Koellner, all voting aye.

Fiscal Officer's Report – Ms. Linda Peiffer

Updates:

The Fiscal Office closed the 2020 Financials and they are available for review in the Fiscal Office.

A question was asked regarding Ambulance Funds - how the money was being collected and if the funds were being deposited into Life Force accounts or Copley Township accounts. Ms. Peiffer stated all monies will be forwarded to Fiscal. The Trustees stated they needed clarity on the percentage received and the monies charged.

Michele Colopy and Janet Iverson, assistants in the Fiscal Office, worked together on the software in order to get the credit card process up and running. They added department codes for credit card deposits and sent out emails to authorized users so they could set up their own individual passwords. A short meeting was scheduled for a question/answer session regarding taking the credit card information. This coincides with some of the administration staff establishing the procedure for how the credit card process will initially be handled within each department.

Motion to approve the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting minutes of January 12, 2021. Trustee Koellner moved to approve; second by Trustee Dressler. All voting aye with Trustee Schulte agreeing to approve as long as the correction was made.

Motion to approve the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting minutes of February 9, 2021. Trustee Schulte moved for discussion; second by Trustee Koellner. Due to an incorrect resignation date of an employee and more details needed in the discussions that took place in the February 9th BOT Meeting, Trustee Koellner moved to table the motion; second by Trustee Dressler, all voting aye.

Motion to approve the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting minutes of February 23, 2021. Trustee Koellner moved approval for discussion; second by Trustee Dressler. Trustee Schulte indicated there was not enough detail in the correspondence that was made between the Beacon Journal and the Fiscal Office. The record should show the conversation not just that a call was received. The Trustees felt the discussion that Director Klein of the Community and Economic Development Department conveyed at the last meeting was very detailed and full of information that was important to show in the record. Trustee Schulte moved to table the motion until more information could be provided; second by Trustee Dressler, all voting aye.

16-2021 Resolution approving a Purchase Order in the amount of \$56,000.00, to Witschey, Witschey & Firestine for legal fees for 2021. Trustee Koellner moved approval; second by Trustee Dressler. Roll call vote: Trustee Koellner, aye; Trustee Schulte, aye; and Trustee Dressler, aye.

Trustee Koellner asked Fiscal Officer Linda Peiffer if she would be interested in a program that has been offered to the Township to support local government services. The auditor offered 20 hours of free guidance to be given in the Fiscal Office. Ms. Peiffer stated it would be alright to have them in the Fiscal Office as long as it was at no cost to the Township. Trustee Koellner moved approval; second by Trustee Dressler, all voting aye.

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Administration – Mrs. Janice Marshall, Administrator

Mrs. Marshall requested a Special Board of Trustees meeting to be scheduled to discuss 2021 Permanent Appropriations. The meeting will be held on March 22, at 2:00pm.

The Trustees discussed and decided that moving forward, the creation of the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes will return to Beth Siddall in the Administration Department.

Fire Department – Chief Chris Bower

Motion granting permission to apply for the 2021 Ohio EMS Priority Training and Equipment Grant. Trustee Dressler moved approval; second by Trustee Koellner, all voting aye.

Motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Heather Gesualdo as a part-time member of the Copley Fire Department effective March 1, 2021. Trustee Schulte moved approval; second by Trustee Dressler, all voting aye.

Monthly Report:

Chief Bower stated the department is 80% through transitioning the records information into the new record keeping system. He will present it to the Trustees upon completion.

Police Department – Chief Michael Mier

Monthly Report - Police Department - February, 2021. Police will now be able to get their vaccination shots through the Summit County Public Health Department.

Service Department – Mr. Mark Mitchell, Service Director

Resolution granting permission to enter into a five-year Memorandum of Understanding with Summit County Public Health for services rendered in connection with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025. Trustee Dressler moved approval for discussion; second by Trustee Koellner. This Resolution was tabled until Mr. Mitchell could provide answers from Summit County to the Trustees about the length of the agreement and any effect on the agreement if the Township adopted Limited Home Rule. Trustee Dressler moved to table; second by Trustee Koellner, all voting aye.

Motion granting permission to submit a Request for Engineering to determine if a pull-off area on the north side of the Cleveland Massillon Road bridge and installation of a new dry hydrant would be feasible. Trustee Schulte moved approval; second by Trustee Dressler, all voting aye.

Executive Session request to discuss hiring of personnel in the Service Department.

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Community and Economic Development – Mr. Loudan Klein, Director

Discussion about Cleveland Massillon sidewalk improvements. Three options for funding a replacement sidewalk from the Middle School to Copley Circle.

1. The Township covers entire cost - \$50,000
2. The Township covers a portion of the cost and assesses property owners remaining amount:
 - a. Walk itself is \$28,000
 - b. Assess the amount and cover the rest or reverse
 - c. Approximately 7 property owners, \$4,000 a piece
 - d. Proportion to benefits accruing to their property
3. The Township covers cost and assesses property owners entire cost over time (a ten year or five year period).

Discussion on water and sewer:

- Looked into water/sewer district establishment
- Township could establish one in an unincorporated area
- It is common for water and sewer districts to receive water from a municipal corporation and/or release sewage to a municipal corporation since the Township doesn't have any facilities to handle treatment or water.
- Township could provide information to create district, name, and purpose for public safety and welfare.
- A Public Hearing would be held to obtain public feedback
- The process would be handed over to the Court of Common Pleas where they would hold a hearing to validate the need.
- If the court is supportive, the Township would then develop a plan for funding improvements and establish a Board of Trustees.
- The Final Hearing would determine approval and any conditions deemed necessary by the court such as; reduction in district, oversight by the County for a period of time.
- Other Township districts, Twinsburg, Bath, Jefferson.

Preliminary steps that would be necessary to create a water and sewer district need to be investigated further. The Trustees asked Mr. Klein to please keep researching the concept so further actions may be taken.

Akron is willing to meet with the Township with the goal of gathering specific data for more productive meetings.

The CIC will be looking at a Designation Agreement signed by the Board of Trustees, to allow the Township to transfer Township owned properties over to the CIC as they see fit.

Monthly Report – Community and Economic Development Department February, 2021. A total valuation of improvements for the month totaled \$917,500.

New Business

None

Old Business

None

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Correspondence

Received a letter from Stouffer Realty, on behalf of property owners on Rothrock Road, requesting several properties be removed from the Copley-Akron Joint Economic Development District (JEDD). The letter was signed by six property owners who feel there have been no economic development incentives for the properties creating a hardship that directly affects the value of the properties as well as a loss of property tax income. The JEDD contract is not providing services and Summit County is providing sewer.

Received a letter from Michael and Kathi Corathers on behalf of the Copley American Legion Post 473 and the Legion Auxiliary announcing they have tentatively scheduled the Memorial Day Parade and celebration for May 31, 2021. The group thanked the Township and the Board for their continued support and are hopeful the event will not be canceled again this year due to the COVID-19 epidemic.

Business from the Floor

John Slagter of 950 Main Ave Suite 1100; Cleveland, Ohio representing Redwood Living, Tuscan Ridge LLC addressed the Board regarding the petition to include their property into the JEDD. Actions of City of Akron appear to agree with ORC. Section 17, and 18 of the JEDD agreement indicating cooperation and no legitimate reason to deny water to the site. This would be proper use of the site and is the last parcel in PDD. No action was taken by the Board at this time.

Executive Session

Trustee Koellner moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation with Legal Counsel and the hiring of personnel in the Service Department; second by Trustee Schulte. Roll call vote: Trustee Koellner, aye; Trustee Schulte, aye; and Trustee Dressler, voting aye. After a five minute recess the session began at 8:45 p.m.

At 9:47 p.m., Trustee Koellner moved to reconvene; second by Trustee Dressler, all voting aye.

Motion to confirm offer of employment to Shane Pasterchek as a Laborer in the Service Department, upon successful completion of pre-hire testing. Trustee Koellner moved approval; second by Trustee Schulte, all voting aye.

Adjournment

At 9:50 p.m., with no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Koellner moved to adjourn, second by Trustee Dressler; all voting aye.

Approved by:

Respectfully submitted by:



Bruce Koellner, President



Linda Peiffer, Fiscal Officer