

**WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**SEPTEMBER 17, 2009**  
**Public Hearing-Zoning Text Amendments-Article IV. Section 406**  
**Section 407 and Article IX. Section 907 & Regular Meeting**  
**6:30 P.M.**

Chairperson Jim Likley called to order the continuation of the public hearing of the Westfield Township Board of Trustees at 6:33 p.m. Trustee Sims, Likley and Kratzer were present. Other individuals in attendance were: County Pros. Bill Thorne, Heather Sturdevant, Carol Rumburg, Ron Oiler, Marlene Oiler, Linda Pavlick, Stan Scheetz, Kathy LeMar, Dwayne Kramer and Tom Micklas.

Chair Sturdevant from the Zoning Commission continued to address the Trustees regarding the proposed text amendments.

Section 407 Signs Permitted in the HC, LC and I Districts. Chair Sturdevant stated the Pros. Office questioned Section 407 A. Area of Signs, which read, "The total area of all permanent signs (but not including the area of a high-rise sign permitted in Section 407 B.3) for each use, parcel, building, or land under common ownership or control shall not exceed one and one-half (1.5) sq. ft. for each one (1) lineal foot of the building wall which is more parallel to the frontage of the lot on which the building is located." The question was what if there was no building on the property? Chair Sturdevant stated that Section 407 A. would only apply if there was a building on the property. She added that this language was currently in the code and the only change the Commission made was the correct reference to Section 40.B.3 High-Rise Sign. Mr. Thorne stated that the reference in Section 407 A., that is the total area of all permanent signs was not correct, as the other signs i.e. wall, free-standing etc. were not part of the total area.

The Trustees proposed the following wording changes to Section 407

**A. Permanent Signs. Total permanent sign area may be allocated to any or all of the following sign types subject to the restrictions and requirements set forth herein:**

1. **Wall Signs. The total area of all permanent signs (but no including the area of a high-rise sign permitted in Section 407.B.3) for each use, parcel, building, or land under common ownership or control shall not exceed one and one-half (1.5) square foot for each one (1) lineal foot of the building wall which is more parallel to the frontage of the lot on which the building is located.** Wall signs shall not project more than eighteen (18) inches in front of the building wall to which they are attached no shall more than 20 percent (20%) of the signs total height be extended above the top of the wall.

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It was also discovered that under the Sign Matrix for Section 406B6 Freestanding Sign, there was no language in the text therefore it would have to be addressed. Chair Sturdevant stated she remembered that wording was proposed she would just have to look at her notes and the minutes accordingly as it was just an oversight. Also the wording for a temporary sign on a corner lot would need to reference what type of sign that could be and not just a general reference to Section 406.

Trustee Sims asked that the proposed modifications by the Trustees including re-numbering and lettering be made so that it would be clearer to follow and the move forward accordingly.

Mr. Thorne went back to Section 407B.3 which read, "High Rise Sign. Each lot in the HC District may have one (1) pole type high rise accessory sign that is designated to be seen from Interstate 71 or 76 or US 224. Such sign shall be located within 660 feet of the interstate right of way except as otherwise permitted by law, and shall be located within 50 feet of the business activity area (building or parking area)...He stated that if such a sign has to be located within 50 feet of the business activity he questioned if that could be done on some of the lots. Chair Sturdevant stated that beside the proposed amendment "except as otherwise permitted by law" that was existing language in the zoning code.

Due to the fact that the Trustees Regular Meeting was scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. as well as the complexity of the text amendments warranting additional review and discussion, Trustee Kratzer made motion to continue the public hearing on the proposed text amendments until the Trustees Regular Meeting scheduled for October 1, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. It was seconded by Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley. Motion carried.

**Westfield Township Trustees Regular Meeting Sept. 17, 2009**

Chairperson Jim Likley called to order the regular meeting of the Westfield Township Board of Trustees at 7:18 p.m. Trustee Sims, Likley and Kratzer were present. Other individuals in attendance were: County Pros. Bill Thorne, Heather Sturdevant, Carol Rumburg, Ron Oiler, Marlene Oiler, Linda Pavlick, Stan Scheetz, Kathy LeMar, Dwayne Kramer and Tom Micklas.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Sturdevant stated that during these difficult economic times people are faced with foreclosure and losing their homes. There was a training session held last year to explain how individuals could be helped when faced with these uncertainties. Ms. Sturdevant

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stated she would like to give this information on the Medina County Foreclosure Prevention Task Force to Admin. Assistant Ferencz to type up so residents would have the information available to them.

Auditor's Office-Linda Pavlik stated there will be 100 Sherriff sales taking place next week. On September 21, 2009 information on the HEAP program will be posted on the Auditor's website. This program can assist families to reduce their heating costs this winter.

Ms. Kathleen LeMar addressed the Board. She stated she was the first alternate member on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Ms. LeMar stated she was present this evening to protest the actions of Mike Schmidt Chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals at the public hearing for the Cloverleaf School District regarding variances requested for the construction of a new elementary school. She stated that Mr. Schmidt's actions compromised the integrity of the Board as he has a direct interest in the School District as President of the School Board. Ms. LeMar asked that this situation not be repeated and that Mr. Schmidt be reprimanded for his lack of judgment even when this situation was brought to his attention. Ms. LeMar concluded that Mr. Schmidt was shown a copy of the letter that was received from the Pros. Office regarding recusal of a board member.

Trustee Likely stated that the Board of Trustees would go into Executive Session later in the meeting with legal counsel regarding this situation and to ensure the integrity of the zoning boards are maintained.

Trustee Sims asked, are the BZA members employees of the Township or appointees? Mr. Thorne responded the members were appointees not employees but a member could be removed. Charges would have to be written and filed and a show of cause hearing held. This is an action that would have to be taken by the Board of Trustees and not an individual Trustee.

Trustee Kratzer confirmed Ms. LeMar's statements of what occurred at the hearing. Trustee Kratzer stated that he was in the Townhall complex doing some copy work the night of the hearing, and Ms. LeMar came to him before the hearing began and explained the situation that she approached Mr. Schmidt about recusing himself from this hearing and Mr. Schmidt refused. Trustee Kratzer continued that he did approach Mr. Schmidt about recusing himself before the hearing began, to which Mr. Schmidt responded that if I (Trustee Kratzer) did not recuse myself when the Trustees discussed my property then he could sit on the BZA when they discussed school property. Trustee Kratzer stated Mr. Schmidt came up to him after the hearing and said he felt the hearing went quite well. Trustee Kratzer said he responded yes, until the School Board was denied one of the variances they requested (monument signs) because of a tie vote due to the fact that Mr. Schmidt abstained from voting.

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Trustee Sims asked if Mr. Schmidt chaired the meeting and participated in the discussion? Trustee Kratzer stated Mr. Schmidt chaired the meeting and did participate in the discussion of the Board. BZA member Mr. Micklas interjected that Mr. Schmidt stated at the beginning of the hearing that it was his intention to abstain from all the votes. Chair Likley stated when a board member chooses to abstain from the vote there needs to be a reason for the abstention so later on if a member chooses not to abstain from voting on the same topic that individual can state the reasons why he/she will vote this time but did not vote at a different time. Again, the reason for someone's abstention needs to be stated. Mr. Thorne interjected that if one has a conflict where an individual needs to abstain from voting one has to abstain from the discussion and the vote. In Mr. Kratzer's case it was a bit different because he as an individual has property rights that are protected. Mr. Thorne stated Trustee Kratzer did not discuss his property while sitting on the Board of Trustees but while in the audience. He has a right to sit in the audience because he is permitted property rights as an owner of property under the Constitution. However, in most recusal situations, one is to abstain from the discussion as well and one does not use their position on the board to influence the other board members. Chair Likley stated that Mr. Thorne did write a letter to the Township regarding recusal of a board member and the board members received a copy of that letter.

Chair Likley stated that the School District was not required as a governmental entity to come before the Township boards for approval on their projects or to have to request variances or get them approved. The School District came before the Township as a courtesy. They were also aware that there was the possibility that some of the variances they were requesting may not be granted but they were willing to meet any request by the BZA to potentially eliminate the need for variance and not just have the process rubber stamped.

Trustee Sims stated she spoke with Cloverleaf School Superintendent Mr. Kibilus and their intent is to request a motion of consideration and to be heard by a full 5 member board. It should be explained to the BZA members that because the School and the Township were governmental entities; the considering factors were different than the standard variance factors. The Board would be looking at the benefit of the School versus the benefit of the Township to enforce the zoning regulations. She added she hoped to have a response by the School District shortly on the proceeding.

**Fiscal Officers Report**

Fiscal Officer Evans presented the bills in the amount of \$7,424.52.

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### Fund Status

There is \$276,167.26 in the checking account after the bills were paid and \$841,061.71 in the investment account.

Trustee Sims asked Fiscal Office Evans to explain the Frank Gates Workers Comp bill. She added it appeared there was an increase in their fee. Fiscal Officer Evans stated she allocated \$1000.00 and the amount of the bill is \$800.00. By using this group rating fee the Township would save approximately \$2000.00 per year on our Workers Comp Premium.

**Trustee Kratzer made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$7,424.52 as presented. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.**

**ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.**

### Correspondence

- Letter from the County Commissioners for the necessity to close Mudlake Rd. at the CSX railroad for core sampling. They have been working at this location for the past three days. They are having trouble locating bedrock because of the aquifer. Fiscal Officer Evans produced pictures of this project. They propose that Mudlake Rd. would also be closed tomorrow.
- Medina Co. Health Dept. will be holding flu shots as well as Lodi Hospital. Chair Likley questioned if the Township employees and board members could get a flu shot at the cost offered of \$25.00 but that the Township would not be paying for the flu shots. Fiscal Officer Evans stated she did not know if that cost would be applicable if the employee/board members were paying for it on their own. It would be up to any individuals to look into this accordingly.
- Memo from Fiscal Office on the need for a new copy machine. Details of the purchase and/or lease option and service agreement would need to be requested by Blue Technologies. Fiscal Officer Evans stated she would contact them and report back to the Board accordingly.

### ROADS

- Westfield Landing Rd. will be motor paved Friday September 18, 2009
- Chip and seal Buffham & Kennard will be done when Lytle Construction comes back to top Westfield Landing Rd. weather permitting. Temperature must be at a minimum of 50 degrees.

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- No schedule on asphaltting Daniels and Eastlake Rd.
- Striping will be done September 22 and 23 on the roads that are completed
- Mowing-caught up mowing on road sides
- Trimming & Brush-the timber cat will be put on the mower as soon as the leaves have fallen and the branches will be trimmed
- White Rd. widening/elevation. Please give an idea what the Trustees want to do in that area (widen or widen and elevate the road at the railroad crossing. An estimate was given by Lytle Construction April 2008 to widen White Rd. at the approach to the railroad crossing on both sides.

Chair Likley stated he did not think the Trustees were going to elevate White Rd. He added the initial bid the Trustees received from Lytle Construction was just for the widening of White Rd. Trustee Sims interjected that at one point Baker Sand and Gravel was intending to move White Rd. to be able to mine underneath it. If that was the case it was considered by the Board to make that a level crossing. However, due to the economy that did not happen. Trustee Kratzer stated he did not think the Trustees needed to raise the elevation of White Rd. at the approach. He continued that if Baker Sand is closed and made a park, the elevation raising would help the trucks but most trucks go out Friendsville Rd. He added he did not see a need to incur such an expense to elevate White Rd. at the approach to the railroad crossing. The Board was in agreement that the widening of White Rd. should occur before the gates go up which should happen within the next 18 months.

Fiscal Officer Evans stated Road Supervisor Evans asked Lytle Construction to resubmit their quote for the widening to compare what was previously submitted. Trustee Sims stated it was the Board's intention to move forward with the widening at the specified width per Lytle Construction's bid specifications. The Public Utilities Commission should be notified as well. This widening work would have to be done first thing in the spring.

**Zoning Commission Alternate Appointment**

Chair Likley stated at the special meeting of the Trustees, an interview was held for the Zoning Commission alternate appointment. The Trustees interviewed one applicant, Ms. Kathy Zweifel.

Trustee Kratzer stated that he was pleased with the interview of Kathy Zweifel and her experience over the last 15 yrs. in the construction business. He added he also looked at the application received by Brian Wilde. Trustee Kratzer stated that Mr. Wilde was a

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member of the Comp Plan Steering Committee. It was his recommendation that the appointment be given to Ms. Zweifel.

Trustee Sims stated that both individuals seemed capable and eager to serve the community. She added that Ms. Zweifel stated she had experience in technical writing and that was an asset and also felt inclined to appoint Ms. Zweifel. Chair Likley agreed with both Trustees comments and recommendation.

**Trustee Kratzer made a motion to approve Kathleen Zweifel as the Zoning Commission alternate. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.**

**ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.**

Trustee Sims stated she would inform Ms. Zweifel regarding her appointment and asked Fiscal Officer Evans to put together a new employee packet. Fiscal Officer Evans stated that has already been completed.

**Fire Report**

Chair Likley stated he has been in communiqué with the Fire Committee to change their meetings from Sunday evenings so that Mr. Thorne could attend. The next scheduled meeting of the Fire Committee would be on September 30, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station. Mr. Thorne stated he would be present at that meeting. Chair Likley asked Fiscal Officer Evans to advertise that meeting.

**MISC.**

Chair Likley stated a letter was received by Admin. Assistant Ferencz requesting to attend the 2009 Annual Zoning and Planning workshop to be held in Westlake Ohio on November 13, 2009. A letter was also received by BZA member Ron Oiler to attend the same conference. The cost is \$85.00 per person. He continued that previously Fiscal Officer Evans brought up that there was no more money allocated in the fund designated for training. It was discussed at that time that training was one item the Board could control in terms of cost and did not allocate any further funding for it.

Trustee Kratzer stated in Kim's instance because she also works for Medina Township, the Westfield Board of Trustees had a verbal agreement with Medina Township that both entities would participate in the cost of any training for her. He added he felt that the Board has required training for the board members and Mr. Oiler and Ms. Ferencz have both attended this conference in the past and the Township has reaped the benefits. Though it was not a local workshop, he felt the fund should be supplemented to approve their attendance at this seminar. Again in Kim's case he commented that he did not want

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to slight Medina Township in the verbal reciprocal agreement that both Township's would share in the costs of her training.

Trustee Sims stated Westfield Township had a gentleman's agreement to toggle back and forth the expenses to send Kim Ferencz to training. If she was correct, Medina Township did not pay for the last out of County training for Kim. The costs the Township is in incurring to send members outside the County for training is a substantial expense for the Township. She added the intent was to provide training for new members and the County training that is provided has served us well. Trustee Sims added that the Trustees reimburse the zoning board members \$30.00 to attend and their mileage. Trustee Sims stated she felt the Board has made the right choice by not adding any more funding to that budgetary category. Chair Likley stated that Mr. Thorne has stated he would be willing to meet with the zoning boards at no charge to address any issues they may have.

Chair Likley stated what was good for one individual is good for all and this was one avenue the Township could save costs. Trustee Sims stated she was still willing to work with Medina Township on any other up and coming training that may be offered. Trustee Kratzer stated if the "gentleman's agreement" does not mean anything now why would it matter later? Trustee Sims stated each training/seminar/workshop would be taken on a case by case basis.

ZI Harris stated he did go out and take pictures of Mr. Zuber's property to confirm he was in compliance with the zoning code. He presented those pictures to the Board. ZI Harris stated he also sent Mr. Zuber a letter confirming his compliance with the zoning code.

ZI Harris continued that he investigated a complaint about a resident burning their garbage at 6100 Kennard Rd. The resident stated they were not burning garbage; they had a campfire burning over the weekend. ZI Harris said that he told them if they were burning garbage the Fire Chief could be called out and they could be cited. Trustee Sims stated she believed the Fire Chief issued that individual a letter about open burning in the State of Ohio.

ZI Harris stated that he spoke with Mr. Bombard about his rental property at the corner of Lake Rd. and Greenwich Rd. The renter is bringing in a number of boats and boat trailers to the property again. He asked if the Trustees wanted him to contact Mr. Bombard about his renter. The Trustees stated that Mr. Bombard should be sent a letter addressing this accordingly.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Township Newsletter Articles



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Trustee Sims stated she did receive Chair Likley's article on ROADS and sent that to the printer. In addition she revamped the article on the ODNR Wellhead and read it to Mr. Thorne over the phone and he had no issues with it. Regarding the article on the Zuber Greenwich Rd. property clean up, Trustee Sims stated she added language about the removal of disabled vehicles within the Township.

Chair Likley asked what the estimate was to print the newsletter? Trustee Sims stated the estimate was for \$1,242.00. The Board had allocated \$1,598.00 for the Newsletter publication.

Trustee Kratzer stated he stopped at the County Engineer's Office yesterday to speak with Mr. Boreman about his retirement. Mr. Boreman said he gave his 2-yr. notice and would be retiring May 2011. Mr. Boreman stated Dave Miller was taking care of Issue 1 money and that Westfield Township's Buffham Rd. project was not far up enough on the list to be a priority to be considered this year for Issue 1 money. Also, the tobacco money that was put in by the State was withdrawn, therefore Westfield Township's project would not be considered this year but put back in the lot for next year. Chair Likley stated in his article on Roads, he mentioned that the Township was pursuing Issue 1 money. If that was now not the case those statements could be removed from the article.

Trustee Sims stated that the Township wrote a formal letter requesting that the Issue 1 money be pursued and at that time she was encouraged to pursue that money because there were not that many projects out there as some of those projects were going after stimulus money and asked what has now changed? Trustee Kratzer responded that there is no more stimulus money. The Governor pulled out of the running for stimulus money for Issue 1. Chair Likley asked if the Township would be receiving a letter stating such? Trustee Kratzer stated he hoped so and would follow up with the County Engineer accordingly. Trustee Sims stated that was unfortunate as pursuing Issue 1 money has taken up a lot of the Board's agenda this year. Chair Likley stated his article would remain as written that the Township is pursuing Issue 1 Money.

Trustee Sims stated she also wrote a brief article on the annexation issue of the Greewich Rd. properties and that it would be on the November ballot in Seville. Trustee Kratzer asked why Trustee Sims was pinpointing Greenwich Rd. properties west of Chippewa Creek. He added articles have already been in the Gazette and Post so does one have to be in Westfield Township's Newsletter? Trustee Sims responded that was why she gets questions about water, annexation and Trustee Kratzer. She added that Trustee Kratzer's attorney wrote the Township a letter that as of November 30, 2009 if there was not a resolution for Mr. Kratzer's property then he would pursue additional annexation. Trustee Sims stated she was a Westfield Township Trustee and was concerned about additional annexation of Greenwich Rd. properties west of the Chippewa Creek. Trustee Kratzer interjected, whose property is that? Trustee Sims stated there was more there than just

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Mr. Kratzer's property. An edit was made to the article on annexation with the last two sentences as proposed by Trustee Sims to be removed.

Trustee Kratzer asked Trustee Sims if she spoke with Mr. Thorne about the information the Fire Dept. wrote for the Township Newsletter? She stated no, she was not in charge of the Fire Dept. Trustee Sims stated she would also need an updated roster with the addition of Kathy Zweifel's name and contact information added to it.

**Trustee Kratzer made a motion to enter into Executive Session with legal counsel regarding employee discipline. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.**

**ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:46 p.m.

**Chair Likley made a motion to come out of Executive Session. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer.**

**ROLL CALL-Likley-yes, Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes. Motion carried.**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:28 p.m.

Chair Likley made a motion to authorize the Pros. Office on behalf of the Westfield Township Board of Trustees to prepare a letter of reprimand for BZA member Mike Schmidt for failing to recognize the necessity to recuse himself from the Board of Zoning Appeals in a timely manner. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer.

**ROLL CALL-Likley-yes, Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes. Motion carried.**

Mr. Thorne would prepare the letter and the Trustees would sign it and give/send a copy to Mr. Schmidt. Chair Likley stated further disciplinary action for a separate employee has been put on hold for preparatory reasons under the Pros. Office advisement.

Chair Likley stated he requested that Fiscal Officer Evans put together financial numbers for the future funding of the Fire Dept. He then asked Fiscal Officer Evans to present that information to the Board. Fiscal Officer Evans stated that small sheet before the Board was the actual expenses for the Westfield Fire Dept. for the year 2008. She added these numbers were gathered between herself and Fiscal Officer Sue Ewers from Westfield Center. (See attached to approved minutes). The result is that the Township paid 59% of the total Fire Dept. expenses regardless of how the cost of certain items was split between the Village and the Township. The Village paid 41% of the Total Fire Dept. Expenses. Regarding TG Fire's Report, they projected a 4% increase each year for expenses in their proposal and she felt that percentage was unreasonable. Chair Likley stated he did not

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believe the 4% TG Fire added were on the hard figures Fiscal Officer Evans was presenting this evening. Fiscal Officer Evans stated she believed the expenses for the fire chief and staff would be a 2% increase and added she did show the figures for a 3% increase as well.

Fiscal Officer Evans stated her calculations are based on ACTUAL EXPENSES for 2008 plus a 4.5% increase each year. The district is the UNINCORPORATED area of Westfield Township with Westfield Center and Gloria Glens contracting for fire/rescue services. The fire chief is based on a \$52,000/yr. salary plus benefits with a 2% increase each year. A part-time chief based on \$2000 salary a month plus Soc. Security, Medicare and Workers Comp. Staffers based on avg. \$12/hr. plus Soc. Security, Medicare and Workers Comp and 2% increase. Station (20 yr. financing) Fire Apparatus (10 yr. rotation) Squad (5 yr. rotation).

Fiscal Officer Evans stated she allocated \$7,500 for District Admin. Costs for the next 5 yrs. as if a Fire District was created, a board would need to be formed to oversee it along with the Fiscal Officer, and a computer would be needed to keep the financial records for the District. Mr. Thorne stated that if a District is formed of just the unincorporated area of the Township, The Township Trustees would be the Trustees of the District and the Clerk is the Fiscal Officer. If a District is made up of the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the Township then an independent board made up of representatives would have to be created. Mr. Thorne stated if a district of the first scenario was created then that money (District Admin. Costs) would not have to be reduced from the budget. The Trustees by Statute would control a District of the unincorporated area of the Township. Regardless, it would still be a District and would have to have a separate name and record keeping. Trustee Sims stated if a District was created it would be additional work for Fiscal Officer Evans to have to complete so could she be compensated? Mr. Thorne stated no, and General Fund money could not be used to supplement the District. If a joint district was formed under 701, then he believed that the money allocated for District Admin. Costs would come out of the budget. He added he would need to contact the State Auditor to find out more specifics and get clarification.

Fiscal Officer Evans continued that she took the soft billing of non-residents and computed the millage on that basis for the Township, Westfield Center and Gloria Glens. She then computed the figures for the soft billing of all residents. Fiscal Officer Evans stated the millages presented were based on the 2009 estimated property evaluations as provided by the Auditor's Office. The evaluations were to be rounded down per the Auditor's Office. That way the Township would be more sure of the valuations and not be short in those figures. Fiscal Officer Evans continued that she also included the advance repayment of \$100,000 for the new fire truck in one year, over five years or no adv. /repay transfer of the cost of the new fire truck based on a financial cost of a full-time chief/part-time staff and with a part-time chief/part-time staff. Fiscal Officer Evans

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stated the Auditor's Office likes to have repayment completed in one year. Also shown was what the millage would be to repay the cost of the fire truck in 1 yr. and over five years. If the fire truck was paid back in one year the millage would not go down there would just be more money in reserve. There was also the option that the Trustees could write off the advance as a transfer if that was the way the Township wanted to go. Mr. Thorne stated if no district was formed the cost of the new fire truck would not have to be paid back at all but did not believe that was the Trustees intent. He added he believed the intent was to pay that money back because the Township was short funding in other areas of the budget. If a District is formed an advance was the way the cost of the fire truck would have to be treated and paid back. However, Mr. Thorne commented that the Trustees would probably be criticized for advancing the money from one fund to another. Chair Likley stated if we (Trustees) do our job right and look at these figures we should not have to supplement the fire dept. operation like we have done in the past. Fiscal Officer Evans interjected that she also showed the figures on not repaying back the cost of the fire truck and the subsequent millage reduction. Trustee Sims stated if you form a district it would start out \$100,000 in debt. Chair Likley thanked Fiscal Officer Evans for her hard work in putting these figures together.

Trustee Sims stated the Board now needed to review these millages and figure out what was the potential for a fire levy to succeed in this economy. Chair Likley stated that was why every type of scenario was laid out i.e. full/part time chief/ part-time staffing, repaying the fire truck or eating the cost of the new fire truck. We need to look at all the options and see what type of coverage could be provided to the residents and for the Township to be financially responsible and sound n making those decisions

Trustee Sims stated that the millages shown were high and did not think it would be wise to put a fire district on the ballot. She added she would yield to Chair Likley's negotiations with Westfield Center that something amicable could be worked out. Chair Likley stated his conversations with Village Council are that they believe this is beyond Fire Committee for discussion and decision. These decisions need to be made by the Trustees and Village Council.

Trustee Sims stated a review of the funding changes that have already occurred regarding the fire department with the current contract should take place. Chair Likley stated that was why Mr. Thorne would be attending the next Fire Committee meeting.

Trustee Sims stated a letter was received from the Medina County Soil and Water District about Smart Growth Initiatives for Watershed Planning Partnership. The meeting will be held on September 30, 2009.

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**Announcements**

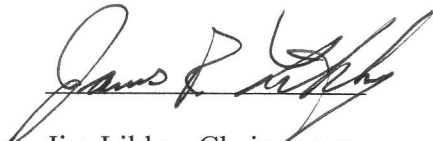
Comp Plan Steering Committee Meeting-September 24, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Comp Plan Presentation to Zoning Commission-October 13, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

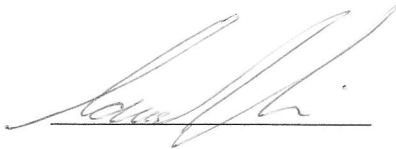
Trustee Kratzer made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Chair Likley. All members were in favor. The meeting was officially adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

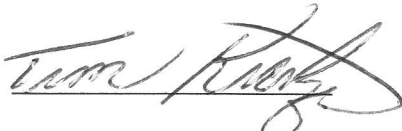
Kim Ferencz, Westfield Township Admin. Assistant



Jim Likley, Chairperson



Carolyn Sims, Trustee



Tim Kratzer, Trustee