

# WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

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Regular Meeting  
October 1, 2012  
7:00 pm

Trustee Harris opened the regular meeting at 7:00 pm by asking those in attendance to please stand and Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Trustees present: James Likley, Gary Harris, and Ronald Oiler.

Guests were welcomed

## FIRE

Chief Fletcher gave the following report (also attached)

- Total runs for month of Sept. 2012 was 39
- Announced the annual Clam Bake / Steak Fry Oct. 20, 2012. \$25 per ticket or 2 tickets for \$45. Call station at 330-887-5562 for tickets
- Annual Halloween festivities will be October 31, 2012 from 6pm-6:30pm at the station for doughnuts and cider then Trick or Treat beginning at 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.
- We have received permission from property owners adjacent to the station to extend the drive for purpose of parking the first responder vehicle. The dumpster will be relocated with a privacy fence around it. The neighbors are supportive.
- There will be training with Westfield Companies. The chief's goal is to see how long it takes the department to get a hose up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Auditor's report with Lisa Nicholas reporting:

- Auditor's office is celebrating their 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of providing a web site. [www.medinacountyauditor.org](http://www.medinacountyauditor.org) There has been over 15M hits over the 15 years
- In the midst of the informal appeals through Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. These are designed for homeowners who dispute their property values. They may submit appraisals, sales contracts or other information by e-mail, postal mail or dropped off in person.
- Top Dog Contest is for 4<sup>th</sup> graders in Medina County. This is an essay to tell why their dog or a dog they know should be Medina County's Top Dog. The dog must reside in Medina County. Deadline is November 12, 2012 and maybe submitted to the office or the child's teacher. Top 4 winners will receive a dog tag for their dog and many other prizes from local vendors.
- Annual seal design contest for high school students is due November 21, 2012. 2 top winners will receive a \$100 savings bond. All rules are on the web site.

## CEMETERY & PARK

Trustee Oiler asked Lee Evans to report on the sidewalk project. Last Wednesday Snyder Construction came to talk about the sidewalks. Snyder Construction wanted to change some of the specs. He wanted to go from the ADA paver block to a cast iron because he did not know where to find the paver blocks.

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Snyder did not know where to dispose of the old concrete and could he trim the trees. Snyder stated he could not start the job for 2 weeks. Lee told him he didn't know where to dispose of the concrete and he could not trim the trees. Lee will have to spend some time up there to make certain things are done properly.

Trustee Likley mentioned that possibly he didn't come out to look at the job. Martha mentioned she faxed the specs to him. Trustee Likley also stated that after looking at the job if he feels he cannot or does not want to do the job, he can withdraw his bid.

Trustee Harris related since the contractor is not from around here, Osborne in Medina will take the concrete for free because they recycle it. The township cannot use the old concrete.

### ROADS: Lee reporting

- ❖ Mudlake Road bridge – the steel beams were set Wed. The deadline is Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> apparently they will not make the deadline. Lee talked with 3 individuals and they are trying to blame the utility companies. They had the bid last year and they should have had the utilities moved last year. Lee talked with Dan Becker at the County Engineers' Office and a resolution extending the road closure for 60 days making the deadline December 10<sup>th</sup> needs to be done tonight. We can then get the information to the county engineer's office so it can be distributed to all emergency and safety offices and Cloverleaf Local Schools. Trustee Oiler asked if they think they can get it finished by the deadline and Lee answered they think they can. They need to try to get it done because we may have people trapped down there if there is flooding.
- ❖ The striping has been done on the roads except for the crosswalk at the school. Pat was not in today and I could not get a date of when signs or painted crosswalk will be done.
- ❖ The 2 flashing school signs are being programmed by the county.
- ❖ Trustee Harris commended Lee that the yard looks good.

### ZONING

Matt Witmer, zoning inspector reporting:

- Update on the Hughes prosecution: Bryan Richer, Assistant Prosecutor will be in contact with Hughes attorney suggesting they combine the lots and just get a permit.
- Update on Lesiak: Took the last of the pictures today and the prosecution packet will be done. In the driveway there is still 2 semi-trailers, box off a truck on the ground by shop and another box truck on the 5<sup>th</sup> wheel trailer. Lesiak called and said he would come and get a zoning permit and he hasn't did that either.
- North Coast Soccer: Still waiting on the 2 copies of the site plan and I sent an e-mail to Bill asking for the 2 copies. Bill will see that Mike Sweeney gets the copies to the township. We need one for zoning inspector, township and one for the zoning commission to sign and get back to North Coast.
- Issued 1 permit for a new house

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- Trustee Harris stated he talked to Matt about the pole barn that was too close to the property line. The garage was 25 feet from the property line and he was adding a 20 foot addition making the building 5 feet from the property line. He started construction sometime in July and has been in contact with Matt several times. He is getting everything together to file for a variance. He has options not to file for a variance and he was deciding if he wanted to ask for a variance.

### FISCAL OFFICER

- ✓ Bills to be paid in the amount of \$23,663.66 **Trustee Harris made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Trustee Oiler. Roll call: Oiler, aye; Likley, aye; Harris, aye**
- ✓ Correspondence: Letter from Prosecutor's office concerning Attorney General's Office opinion on OUT OF POCKET INSURANCE PREMIUM REIMBURSEMENT. It is for elected official or employee only if they choose not to take the township's insurance. (attached)
- ✓ An update from Ohio Township Association that the State Auditor has confirmed that they will not issue any citations or findings for recovery regarding the insurance premium reimbursement prior to 2013. (attached)
- ✓ The trustees signed the Local Maintenance Detour Route Post-Detour Release Form for the bridge repair on Daniels Road
- ✓ The Zoning Training that was scheduled for September never was announced or distributed therefore it was re-scheduled for October 17, 2012 at 7:30 pm with Bill Thorne. The questions need to be sent to Heather by October 5, 2012 so she can compile a list for Bill. This was sent to every zoning member on our boards and to every township in Medina County hoping that we will get them to come and participate in the session. It was mailed and not e-mailed.
- ✓ This year Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority has offered a 3-year rate guarantee to qualifying township members. The township can have peace of mind that our rate will be locked in and continue until our renewal date August 2015. The quote for the fire department is locked in also if we choose to add the fire department. Trustee Likley asked if the fire district is formed would that still be the premium. Martha stated the agent e-mailed the package and it should be but we will have to see if and when the levy passes. The fiscal officer asked the board if they agreed that she should sign the document and send it back, all agreed.

### **RESOLUTION 2012-19 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR**

Fiscal officer, Martha Evans relayed to the board of trustees that she was very disappointed reading the resolution because the Fire Levy will generate only \$73,600 for the year 2013 because the levy is so old (since 1997). It is almost imperative that the levy passes because the chief and the board of trustees have done all they can do to generate revenue such as EMS & accident charges and applying for grants.

**Trustee Harris made a motion to adopt Resolution 2012-19, seconded by Trustee Oiler. Roll call: Harris, aye; Oiler, aye; Likley, aye.**

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**RESOLUTION 2012-20 A RESOLUTION TO EXTEND CLOSURE OF MUDLAKE ROAD (T.R. 116) LOCATED BETWEEN DANIELS ROAD (T.R. 246) WEST TO WESTFIELD ROAD (C.R. 15) IN WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP, MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO FOR 60 DAYS AMENDING RESOLUTION 2012-13 TO (DEC. 10, 2012) THE CLOSING IS NECESSARY DUE TO THE REPLACEMENT OF CSX BRIDGE**

**Trustee Oiler made the motion to adopt Resolution 2012-20, seconded by Trustee Harris. Roll call: Oiler, aye; Harris, aye; Likley, aye**

Trustee Oiler commended Trustee Likley for his article in The Post (Promoting the Fire Levy). It was a very good, right to the point and an excellent article. Thank you very much.

Trustee Likley replied "Hopefully that conveys the message to our residents and it explains in detail the reason and the cost to the residents." Funding for a fire department is by no means an easy explanation. Martha stated she will also write a letter to the editor with the new amount that is to be received is down due to the age of the old levy it will only generate \$73,600. Trustee Likley used the numbers that we had at the time.

Trustee Oiler: I can't think of any finer investment that one could make in this township than to support the fire department as it saves lives and property. Thanks again, Jim. Trustee Harris also thanked Trustee Likley.

Trustee Likley: I hope that it is well received on Election Day; hopefully any residents that have any questions, concerns or comments will call. I cannot be any more forward; I put my cell phone number in the article for them to call. Please call, come to the meetings and ask the questions. IF you don't agree with it and you want to see the books we are open to show you what we have done, how the money is being spent and what we have done to generate additional funding. I think we have a very efficient department, well operated and well over seen and it is an excellent service for the funding that we have.

## MINUTES

September 17, 2012 **Trustee Oiler made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Trustee Harris. Roll call: Harris, aye Likley, aye; Oiler, aye**

## OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Likley received a follow up phone call concerning the cell tower lease and did not respond to the call.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Trustee Likley asked if there was any response from the zoning board members about our willingness to pay for their attendance to a workshop/seminar but they are responsible for paying the fee if any. Trustee Harris had one response that they would not go because it is not worth it for \$5.00. This was a person who does a lot of things.

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- Zoning & Planning Workshop – November 16, 2012 from 7:45am to 4:30 pm. Cost \$85/member \$90/non-member and students \$50. Trustee Likley mentioned that some of the items on the agenda are being offered with Planning Services for the \$25. If there was interest in this I don't know that I would be willing to pay the cost.
- Kevin Rych from the Fire Department – One thing that hasn't changed in 9 years in the township is the Westfield Annual Clam Bake. The price and the quantity is the same \$25 for one person \$45 for two. It will be October 20, 2012; for those who do not like clams there is a strip steak. It is eat in or take out at the fire station. Clams, ½ chicken, sweet potatoes, cole slaw, roll & butter OR Steak, ½ chicken etc.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

|                                    |                  |         |                     |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------|---------------------|
| Zoning Commission                  | October 9, 2012  | 7:30 pm | Regular Meeting     |
| Public Hearing (Small Wind Energy) | October 15, 2012 | 6:30 pm | Continuation        |
| Trustees                           | October 15, 2012 | 7:00 pm | Regular             |
| Zoning Training w/ Bill Thorne     | October 17, 2012 | 7:30 pm | Questions & Answers |

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Candidate Judith Cross for Representative: The Township trustees work very hard for very little money and I really appreciate the job that you do. The trustees are probably the people that know the best of what needs to be done in local government. I would like to see some state money returned to the local people because you have a better idea of how to spent it and where it should go than the folks at the state; this part of my platform.

**Trustee Harris made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 pm, seconded by Trustee Oiler. Unanimous**

Approved October 15, 2012