

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Austinburg Township

Meeting

Held February 17, 2009

The regular meeting of Austinburg Township was called to order at 7:30pm by Chair Jerry Burke. Trustees Kusar and Spade were present. Audience present were Nelson Hejduk, Ginny Seifert, Winnie Cerbin, and Joe Hejduk Jr.

Jerry made a correction to the previous meeting minutes, stating the roadside "mower" should be called roadside "tractor".

Res. 1107-09 John moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting with above correction. Jerry seconded. The roll; Spade, aye. Burke, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 1108-09 John moved to pay the bills as the lawful obligation to the township. Janie seconded. The roll; Burke, aye. Kusar, aye. Spade, aye.

Receipts totaled \$18,767.78. Bills totaled \$31,381.97.

Zoning Administrator John Beninato gave his report. A copy is in township files. Jerry inquired about the Woodside Dr. property. John stated he is still waiting on a response from Catherine Colgan. Discussion was held on removal of junk vehicles.

John Kusar stated he was contacted by Marcy Hejduk regarding street signs at Chestnut and Betts. They need to be installed there. Jerry will refer this to Pete.

John stated Shelley Hejduk contacted him about church services being held in the town hall due to recent power outages. This led to a discussion on fees for the use of the town hall. John suggested Cindy Hejduk, custodian, come up with a fee structure to review with trustees.

The recent zoning meeting was cancelled because of a lack of a quorum.

John said that due to conversations at recent trustee meetings regarding zoning positions, he has sent a letter to the County Prosecutor for clarification of two issues. He read the letter aloud. The letter stated that Trustee Spade indicated zoning positions are for life unless just cause for removal is shown. John asked for a copy of this requirement from the ORC. The letter also asked if trustees have to state a reason why they vote no in a public meeting, as Janie has said they do. A copy of the letter is on file. Janie discussed John's letter, stating she disagrees with John's statement that he had asked Janie for proof three times, that zoning positions must remain beyond the end of the term for that position. Janie said it is in the Sunshine Law that when you vote either way, you must state how you came to that decision in an open meeting. She stated the facts should be represented in a letter to the Prosecutor.

Janie reported Mrs. Blakemore from River Glen contacted her about a neighbor's tree limbs leaning toward her garage. Janie told Mrs. Blakemore the township may not go on private property. She told her that she can trim the limbs up along her property line that are encroaching onto her property. Janie will follow up with Mrs. Blakemore.

Janie thanked Nelson Hejduk and his grandsons for cleaning out around fire hydrants after the snow storm.

Janie said she attended the OTA Winter Conference, and moderated a class on ODNR grants. She spoke afterwards to Dameyon Shipley about the Natureworks grant application that Mike Schaab provided the trustees. It would be due March 1, 2009. She said that Mr. Shipley told her it would be best to wait and apply next year, as they already have worked on this year's grants for parks and pretty much have things set in November for the following year. She has his card, and told him we would be very interested in the grant. We have the park restrooms to address as well as ball field fencing.

Janie attended and moderated the Clean Ohio seminar, as did Jerry. This is a grant program as well, and they have 50 million to give out over three years.

Janie referred to County Commissioner Peggy Carlo's comments, that the Austinburg sewer project is a number one priority in her mind, when asking for stimulus money.

Discussion was held on bidding for stone, road materials, clean up day, and rubbish collection. Pete may attend next meeting to discuss road materials needed.

Jerry reported snow is getting into the engine of the one ton truck. He will be talking to Greg Sweet about a snow shield for the front of the truck.

Jerry stated he went with Pete to get fuel during the recent power outage. They discussed using the welder/generator in the garage for power for the road garage. Jerry will get a price from an electrician for hook-up of the generator.

Jerry said he spoke with Grant at the EMA office, and was told money is available from the stimulus package for projects like the garage ceiling that has been discussed, as well as the roadside mowing tractor. Jerry would like to follow up on these grant possibilities.

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Jerry discussed the prices he received from Nolan Door and Carter Lumber for replacement of doors on the fire hall.

Res. 1109-09 Jerry moved to purchase the doors from Carter Lumber with keyed locks, and the installation at \$490.00. Janie seconded. Joe Hejduk stated Carter is providing household doors, and Nolan's are commercial grade. Jerry said the front door would have a steel jamb, the rear door would have a treated wood jamb. Both doors are commercial fiberglass, which is better than household doors. The roll call vote; Spade, aye. Kusar, aye. Burke, aye.

Jerry reported Cicogna Sign Co. met with him to look at installing a sign in front of the town hall. They gave a proposal of \$1,410.00 for sign and 200 letters. Installation would be \$320.00. Jerry said we could install it with our electrician doing the electric, and save half of the installation cost.

Res. 1110-09 Jerry moved to purchase the sign from Cicogna at \$1,410.00, we will install, and he will get the electric costs worked up. John seconded. The roll; Spade, aye. Kusar, aye. Burke, aye.

Jerry said the fire dept. did a great job during the recent wind storm.

In audience participation, Nelson Hejduk agreed the fire dept. and road dept. did good jobs with downed limbs and wires.

Jerry discussed the issue of hooking up a generator to the town hall to provide heat and electric. Jerry said he would like to look into the possibility of connecting the large generator located at the fire hall to the town hall.

Winnie Cerbin inquired about the excess standing water in the township. The ground is saturated now.

Joe Hejduk said he thought a letter should be sent to the utility company commending them for the job they did after the wind storm Janie stated she will take care of it.

Joe said he had stated his opinion at the last meeting, on the re-appointment of Ted Seifert to the zoning commission, and wants his opinion written into the minutes. Barb asked if the trustees agreed with placing this into tonight's minutes.

Res. 1111-09 John moved the fiscal officer place Joe's opinion into the minutes. Jerry seconded. The roll; Kusar, aye. Spade, aye. Burke, aye.

Mr. Hejduk had stated at the last meeting he is not happy with who has been in charge of the zoning commission. Joe said he has been here for many years and feels there has been inconsistencies in zoning decisions over the years. He said there are others in the community he is aware of that feel the same, and he does not want Ted re-appointed.

Res. 1112-09 John moved to adjourn. Janie seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Jerry Burke
Board Chairman
Barbara Schaub