

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Austinburg Township

Meeting

Held December 7,

2009

The regular meeting of Austinburg Township held December 7, 2009 was called to order at 7:30 with the pledge. Trustees Burke, Kusar, Spade, David Thomas, Ginny Seifert, Jim Heath, Tod Dutton, Bill Wilms, and Byron Dutton II were present.

Janie stated she had indicated at last meeting she wanted corrections made on the minutes being corrected. Barb stated only typographical errors may be made to the original minutes, corrections are stated in the following minutes. Auditor Kim Jaster had stated this at the last township audit. John and Jerry also said they remembered Kim had stated this. Janie disagreed with this, saying corrections may be made on the minutes.

Res. 1257-09 John Kusar moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Jerry seconded. The roll; Spade, aye. Kusar, aye. Burke, aye.

Res. 1258-09 John moved to pay the bills. Jerry seconded. The roll; Kusar, aye. Burke, aye. Spade, aye.

Res. 1259-09 Jerry moved to approve the Rates of Resolution for Tax year 2009 as presented from the County Auditor. John seconded. The roll; Burke, aye. Spade, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 1260-09 Jerry moved to approve the transfer of funds from the General to Zoning in the amount of \$4,000.00 as the fiscal officer requested. John seconded. The roll; Spade, aye. Kusar, aye. Burke, aye.

In correspondence, the bond applications were received from OTARMA.

A letter of resignation from the Zoning Commission was received from Carl Chiarenza.

Auditor of State Mary Taylor sent notice that audit reports will now be dispersed, once they are public, in electronic form.

The law office of Ralph Buss sent a request for copy of the zoning text and any documentation regarding ordinances the trustees have drafted concerning snowmobile use on roadways.

Res. 1261-09 Jerry moved to change the filters in the furnaces and install CO2 detectors in the town hall and fire hall, in lieu of paying for a service agreement from Ziegler Heating. John seconded. The roll; Spade, aye but Janie said she felt the furnace for the town hall should still be serviced every year. Kusar, aye. Burke, aye.

Zoning Administrator John Beninato gave his zoning report. Permits for buildings under 200 sq. ft. were discussed. John stated there is problems involving a property on Forman Rd. A building has been constructed with no permit from the township. The County building dept. has issued a stop work order. John has submitted the issue to the County Prosecutor.

The board decided on a work session for December 14 at 7:00pm. The year end meeting and meeting of the Austinburg Fire Dept. Dependency Board will be held on December 28 beginning at 6:30pm. Representatives from Fire, Road, Zoning, and Town Hall depts. will be in attendance.

Members of the fire dept. were present at the meeting to discuss dispatching proposals. Janie said the renewal contract from Geneva City with yearly fees was sent prior to last meeting, and fees are in those minutes. Jerry reported on a proposal from Saybrook Twp. The contract is for three years at a cost of \$2,800.00 per year, payable quarterly in the amount of \$700.00. Janie stated she and Chief Bill Wilms and representatives from Harpersfield Fire Dept. and trustees met with Geneva City to discuss their costs, Geneva agreed to lower their yearly increases from 5% to 4%. Janie stated that when Saybrook dispatched for the township before, they did a good job. It was announced in the media that they were going to discontinue dispatch services. Then when they met with entities they served, Saybrook indicated they were willing to continue dispatch service. At that time Austinburg switched to Geneva. Geneva is doing a good job, Janie said, and they also dispatch NAD when needed. They also coordinate any emergency services needed. Janie said Geneva equipment is more up to date than Saybrook's and she feels that they will have to upgrade and will pass that cost on to us. Chief Bill Wilms stated he has no problem with Saybrook. He said coordination of emergency services will still happen with Saybrook dispatching, and they can also dispatch NAD. John Kusar asked if the fire dept. is comfortable with Saybrook. The savings between the costs could be used to purchase needed equipment. Tod Dutton added he feels Saybrook has done an excellent job. They can also signal to an individual pager. Geneva does not, so multiple pagers are needed. Bill said there is no need for state of the art equipment, just good

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communication. He has no problem with Saybrook and recommends going with their dispatching.

Res. 1262-09 Janie moved to contract with Saybrook Twp. For fire dept. dispatching, it is a three year contract beginning 01/01/2010 at a cost of \$2,800.00 per year, at the recommendation of the Austinburg Fire Chief. John seconded. The roll; Kusar, aye. Spade, aye. Burke, aye.

John K. reported on the Christmas parade to be held Saturday, he has contacted Chief Fenton and there will be a Sheriff unit at the town hall for traffic control, barring an emergency.

John stated Mr. Excavator was low bidder for the sewer project at 2.3 million.

John said that the trustees resolution on paying the zoning board members is not clear on meetings where there is no quorum. He said he feels this is for expenses, so therefore even if members show up for a meeting that must be rescheduled, they are to be compensated. The board agreed. The fiscal officer inquired about Sarah Masek's extra work on the electronic version of the zoning text. The trustees' resolution caps her at five hours per month. Some of her month's work is over five, others are under. She still does not reach the max of 60 hours however, so Barb said she assumed she could be paid in the full amount Sarah submitted. The trustees agreed.

Janie reported the NAD meeting had to be canceled, and has been rescheduled for Dec. 8, 09 at 7:30pm. NAD received the Cornerstone Award from the Geneva Chamber of Commerce.

Res. 1263-09 Janie moved the township pay the State Association dues, \$35.00 each for a total of \$140.00. John seconded. The roll; Burke, aye. Kusar, aye. Spade, aye.

Janie stated the roadmen usually receive a week's pay as a yearly bonus. Jerry said he would like to discuss this at the scheduled work session. Janie stated she wants to discuss this issue tonight. Jerry said he feels a week's pay is too much in this economy. Janie stated they do a good job, our funds are good, and the men expect and count on this benefit. John agreed the week's pay is excessive. He feels a bonus can be given, but not a full week's pay. He mentioned he recently lost all paid holidays on his job, so benefits are sometimes lost. Discussion was held on what flat rate for a bonus should be. John stated he feels whatever the amount chosen, Pete should get a bit more since he is supervisor.

Res. 1264-09 John moved bonus will be \$400.00 for Bill, \$400.00 for Scott, and \$550.00 for Pete. Jerry seconded. The roll; Burke, aye. Kusar, aye. Spade, aye.

Jerry said Randy Gildersleeve will be working on installing the new lights in the road garage on Saturday and Sunday. He will also get prices to Jerry on the garage thermostats.

Jerry stated the roadmen have constructed a canopy for the new tractor. He is curious how much we have in labor for the project, and there is about \$400.00 in materials.

Some residents asked Jerry why the sign on the freeway indicates Ashtabula and Warren, not mentioning Austinburg. Jerry will follow up on this with the state to see if Austinburg can be placed on a sign.

Jerry asked if Janie had heard any more from RTS about the broken playground equipment. She had not, but she will check with them again.

In audience participation, Ginny Seifert asked if minutes are corrected on the next meeting's minutes, how would someone know when requesting only set. Barb explained that anyone currently receiving the minutes, are getting every meeting. Anytime someone has requested only one meeting from her, she explained that she checks the following meeting and if corrections to the minutes requested have been made, a copy of those minutes are also provided.

Res. 1265-09 Jerry moved to adjourn the meeting. John seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Jerry Burke
Board Chairman
Barbara Schaab