

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Austinburg Township

Meeting

Held April 21,

2008

The regular meeting of Austinburg Township held April 21, 2008 was called to order at 7:30pm by Chair Jerry Burke. Trustees Kusar and Spade were present. Audience present were Ginny Seifert, Shirley Lindberg, Diane Mongenel, Winnie Cerbin, Eileen Kusar, and Mark Calaway.

Res. 936-08 John moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as written. Janie seconded. The roll call vote; Burke, aye. Spade, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 937-08 Janie moved to pay the bills as the lawful obligation to the township. Jerry seconded. The roll; Kusar, aye. Burke, aye. Spade, aye.

Receipts were \$44,966.85. Bills were \$8,132.78.

Barb reported on the real estate tax settlement that Janie had inquired about at the last meeting. Taxes paid the township in 2007 were \$217,808.51. Taxes paid the township in 2008 were \$233,356.77.

Res. 938-08 Jerry moved that the fiscal officer, Barb Schaab be the contact person for the township regarding the Ohio Dept. of Safety funding for the March 2008 ice storm. John seconded. The roll call; Spade, aye. Kusar, aye. Burke, aye.

In correspondence a letter was received from the OEPA, regarding a community meeting to discuss restoration of the Ashtabula River and Harbor.

We received pre-application information on OPWC 2009 funding from Tim Martin.

Insurance renewal information was sent by Jason Matney of Burnham and Flower. The trustees stated if Jason Matney contacts the fiscal officer regarding our renewal, a meeting date should be set with him to discuss insurance renewal.

At this time, mowing bids for the township park and cemeteries were opened and read. Chris's Quality Lawn bid \$7,600.00. Lencl bid \$38,000.00. C & G bid \$6,250.00. Tom's Landscaping bid \$7,350.00. All bids included BWC and liability insurance certificates.

Res. 939-08 Janie moved if his references check out ok, and no findings for recovery are found on the Auditor of State web site, the mowing bid be awarded to C&G as the lowest bidder at \$6,250.00. John seconded. Jerry will check his references and Barb will check the AOS web site. The roll call vote; Burke, aye. Kusar, aye. Spade, aye.

Zoning Administrator John Beninato gave his zoning report. Discussion was held on property being renovated without a permit. The heater in the zoning office is broken. Jerry will follow up on that.

John Kusar stated that two proposals have come back in for our comprehensive plan. John stated he would like to table this issue until after the next zoning meeting.

John discussed a ditching program that had been talked about at the trustees' work session. Jerry had received some prices on hiring the ditch work done by a contractor with their machine. Janie stated she thought Pete should get these prices. Jerry stated either he or Pete could get prices, as he and Pete had been talking back and forth about this issue. Pete and Jerry both think we should do sub-drainage before ditching. Discussion held on pricing of hiring the work and renting a machine to do the work.

John stated that the week prior to the work session, he received a call from Jim Wolfe. Jerry received the same call. John and Jerry both went to Jim's property to view his problem. John said that Janie brought up concerns that Jerry and he had gone to Jim's together. John said he looked into the Sunshine Law, and there was nothing done in violation of the law. No official action was taken, and if he received another call from a resident asking us to look at a problem, he will do that. John said he went to look at a water problem, no action was taken and there was no secret meeting. Janie stated her concern was that she was not made aware of the issue or informed. She stated she informs John and Jerry of everything she does regarding the township. John refuted that he and Jerry were called by Mr. Wolfe. Janie said if a trustee gets a call from a resident, all three should be made aware of the issue. John said at the work session, Janie accused he and Jerry of holding a secret meeting, and John said he states for the record that is not what happened, there was no secret meeting.

Jerry added that Janie should have some faith in her colleagues. This was a minor occurrence, and he reported on this at the last meeting. Janie stated it is not a question of faith, but it is common courtesy and respect to let each other know about these things.

Janie reported the NAD meeting is May 7, 2008 at 6:00pm.

Janie would like permission from the board to get estimates on cleaning the town hall.

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Jerry stated that was fine, and bring prices back to the board.

Janie asked about a number for Pete to work with concerning road work. Barb said she stated at the work session, there was \$100,000.00 in addition to the FEMA money that will be transferred into the road fund for future emergency prevention. She stated this is her suggestion to the board as a comfortable amount for the township.

Janie reviewed the topics discussed by the trustees at the work session they held with Pete.

Res. 940-08 Janie moved to renew the Norton Anti-Virus software on the office computer, not to exceed \$75.00. John seconded. The roll; Kusar, aye. Burke, aye. Spade, aye.

Jerry reported on discussion at the work session on replacing the one ton truck and purchasing a new plow. He is getting estimates on paving College, Campus, and River Glen from Tim Martin. Tim informed Jerry it will be approximately \$50,000.00 per mile.

Jerry met with Mark Walker regarding the Pelton Rd. detour on Friday. The road has been video taped. The state will work with the township and repairs will be made to the road if damage is done due to the detour.

Jerry contacted Russell Standard regarding the CRS-2 not holding up on River Glen. He has not heard back yet.

Discussion was held on advertising for part time help in the paper.

Res. 941-08 Jerry moved to advertise for a part time employee, requirements are a Class B CDL, physically able to work, run equipment, and the position will be on an as needed basis at the discrepancy of the road supervisor. Resumes accepted until May 5, 2008. John seconded. The roll; Spade, aye. Kusar, aye. Burke, aye.

In audience participation, Mark Calaway discussed the property to the west of him. The township moved the road there in the past. He would like to make fence repairs, and follow the contour of the road. He inquired about placing his fence along the road on township property, or if he could perhaps purchase the area from the township if the township does own it. Janie stated she would like to set a work session to go and view the area in question. Jerry stated he will check on the legal aspects of this. John suggested speaking with Tim Martin about the township moving the road and where the road right of way now lies. Jerry added if a sale of property is involved, it must go out for bid. John said after Jerry finds more information, it can be discussed. Jerry said he will try to have more information by next meeting.

Shirley Lindberg discussed a tree falling on Lampson Rd. at her property. It was further damaged in the ice storm. She would like to possibly work with the township on removing it. Jerry stated CEI was supposed to work on trimming this tree. Shirley said some cutting has been done. Jerry will check with Mark Jones of the Illuminating Co. about the tree.

Diane Mongenel suggested going through each name on the sign in sheet for audience participation. Diane gave a summary of what the Zoning Commission has discussed on the Corridor Plan they were asked to review. Diane provided the trustees a copy of the comprehensive plan done by Cleveland State University on Main Ave. in Ashtabula. This plan was completed in 1997. John said he would like to review it.

Res. 942-08 John moved to adjourn the meeting. Janie seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

*Jerry Burk*  
*Martin*  
*Janie Spade*

*Barbara Schach*