BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman David P. Stotz with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Trustees Richard A. Geyer and W. Robert Kusmer, along with Randal L. Strickler, Solicitor.

Moved by Mr. Kusmer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the December 20, 2016 meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz –Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes. Motion carried.

Ellen Ickes, Fiscal Officer, provided financial information as follows:

Total bills:	$ 47,101.30
Total receipts:	$ 10,602.80
Cash total:	$ 967,474.59

Moved by Mr. Kusmer, seconded by Mr. Geyer, that the financial report be approved and the bills be paid. Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Geyer –Yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT
A sign-in sheet was passed around and all present were requested to sign in (attached).

Larry Bowers was present and asked the trustees the status on the drainage project affecting his property. Mr. Kusmer advised that nothing was done on it over the holiday season.

Dave Bain was present and had nothing to report.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson
Mr. Ferguson advised that all the cemeteries look good. Mr. Lagrou stated that two graves were dug today, for a cremation, and a full grave in McGormley Veterans' Section.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT
David Schwartz, Zoning Inspector, was absent. Mrs. Ickes passed along his message thanking the township for all the expressions of sympathy with the recent loss of his mother.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood
Mr. Wood stated that the lights are working good in Conner Park, and Mr. Lagrou added that they won't need as many tall lights if they are placing bollards in between. Mr. Wood pointed out that the park is not open after dark, but we do want it to be a safe place. He invited trustees to the Parks Board meeting in February when Christina Kuechle, State Scenic River Coordinator, will attend.

Mr. Lagrou stated that Valley Electric has been paid 90% of the first purchase order, and that he is waiting for an itemization from them on the cost overruns on the Conner Park lighting project. Mr. Wood said that the next time they get quotes, they need to make sure the estimate is more exact. Solicitor Strickler stated that the township should always get two quotes for work to be done, and a brief discussion took place on the balance of the lighting project in Conner Park.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT - Bill Lagrou
Superintendent Lagrou reported that Ax-Pro has 13 trees down and the stumps have been ground out. Originally, they quoted 19 trees, and another one has been added. He requested a purchase order be issued for an additional tree for $750.00, as this maple tree has a solid trunk, but hollow limbs, causing a safety issue.

The annual Inventory meeting will be held Monday, January 9, 2017 at noon.

Mr. Lagrou brought up the Mobilite cell tower request for River Run Drive. The county is allowing placement on their county roads within the township. Mr. Geyer asked about the height restrictions, and discussion took place on this. Solicitor Strickler advised that there is a process for telecommunications towers, and if there are objections from the residents, it would end up with a hearing of the Board of Zoning Appeals. Ballville Township has a 100% fall requirement and 100 mph wind tolerance, and zoning restrictions regarding cell towers.

A request was made by Mr. Lagrou to carry over some unused vacation time from 2016 due to a miscalculation of his vacation time. He inadvertently had three extra hours of vacation at the end of 2016, and the Employee Handbook states it is a "use it or lose it" benefit. Upon a motion by Mr. Kusmer, with a second by Mr. Geyer, the trustees voted to allow the three hours to be carried over to 2017. Upon a vote, Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Geyer said he dropped off his Christmas tree yesterday, and Mr. Lagrou advised that tree drop-off is available until January 9.

OLD BUSINESS
Solicitor Strickler advised that he will have a contract and resolution for Green Springs Fire Department to be signed for an annual basis renewal contract for $6,000.00 a year for the next meeting. Mr. Strickler will prepare a contract and send a letter to Green Springs Volunteer Fire Department regarding the same.

Solicitor Strickler has discussed the non-renewal of the Old Fort Volunteer Fire Department contract with their counsel, citing Old Fort's staffing issues and Ballville's desire to reduce expenditures as the basis for the decision.

NEW BUSINESS
Mr. Geyer made a motion to close out 2016 business. Mr. Kusmer seconded the motion. Upon a vote, Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; the motion passed.

The first item of 2017 was a motion made by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to name Mr. Kusmer as the trustees' Chairman, and Mr. Stotz as Vice-Chairman. Upon a vote, Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to set the trustees' meeting dates and time for the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Ballville Township House. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried.

Since the first meeting in July will fall on Tuesday, July 4, Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to set this meeting on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; and Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed.

A motion to re-appoint the trustees and fiscal officer as the Audit Committee was made by Mr. Stotz, with a second by Mr. Geyer. Upon a vote, Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion passed.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, for the re-appointment of Randal Strickler as Solicitor. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; as Resolution 2017-1:

RESOLUTION 2017-1
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A SOLICITOR FOR BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP, OHIO.

Reservations for the Sandusky County Township Association annual dinner on Thursday, January 19 were discussed. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for the township to pick up the cost of spouses for the dinner. Upon a vote, Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed.

Mr. Kusmer advised he would be attending the Ohio Township Association conference later this month, and Mrs. Ickes stated she would also be attending. Mr. Geyer and Mr. Stotz will not be attending.

The annual Inventory meeting will be held Monday, January 9, 2017 at noon at the township house. The fiscal officer will place a legal notice for this in the News-Messenger.

Mrs. Ickes stated that the township has received a bill from the Sandusky County Treasurer for the Southland Meadows detention pond property taxes due in February. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, not to pay the invoice. Upon a vote, Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried not to make this payment.

Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to renew the brush drop-off contract with Universal Farms. Upon a vote, Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer –Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion passed. Solicitor Strickler will prepare a contract a resolution for the January 17 meeting for this renewal.

Mr. Kusmer indicated that he will look into the River Drive street lighting assessment shortfall.

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to transfer monies from the General Fund to the Special Assessment Fund for the lighting district. Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed as Resolution 2017-2:

RESOLUTION 2017-2
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO TOWNSHIP TO REALLOCATE $300.00 WITHIN FUND 1000, GENERAL FUND, AND TRANSFER SAID MONIES FROM FUND 1000 GENERAL FUND TO 2401 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FUND FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION WITHIN THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FUND OF $300.00

Mrs. Ickes advised that she spoke to Wendy French at OTARMA and the township has been approved for the 2017 MORE grant.

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, to enter into Executive Session regarding employee compensation and pending litigation. At 6:40 p.m. the trustees, fiscal officer, and Solicitor Strickler entered into Executive session following a roll call vote: Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; the motion carried. At 7:30 p.m., Mr. Stotz made a motion to return to the regular meeting, with a second by Mr. Geyer, and upon a roll call vote – Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Geyer to accept the 2017 Wage Schedule (a copy is attached), as well as a new policy regarding compensation time for full-time employees being limited only to the first 80 hours of compensation time accrued in a calendar year, effective January 1, 2017. The compensation policy will be further addressed in a new employee handbook. Also attached is a 2017 Wages and Leave Listing which shows current full-time and part-time employees and their pertinent information, including approved leaves balances of January 1, 2017. With a second by Mr. Stotz, and upon a vote – Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion passed.

The fiscal officer was directed to send letters to the three full-time employees (Mr. Hoffman, Lagrou, and Myers) and the zoning inspector (Mr. Schwartz) to advise them of their increase in wages, and that a strong consideration in the wage increases was based on the township's increasing health insurance costs.

Purchase orders and checks for bills were signed by the trustees at this meeting.

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Geyer - Yes. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ellen K. Ickes, Fiscal Officer

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W. Robert Kusmer, Chairman