# BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
## BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
## TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.

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

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the July 18, 2017 meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz –Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

Ellen Ickes, Fiscal Officer, provided printed financial reports to the trustees, and a financial report as follows:

Total bills: ..... $ 8,477.36

Total receipts: ..... $ 14,341.54

Cash total: .....$ 1,022,201.67

It was moved by Mr. Stotz, seconded by Mr. Geyer, that the financial report be approved and the bills be paid. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer –Yes; motion carried.

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

Cindy Pitchford, of Siler Street was present, and told the trustees that she and her husband, and mother, have been trying to reach a trustee about their neighbor's unmowed yard on Siler St., (Devan Gillmor property) at 915 Siler St. Chairman Kusmer advised that he had received her husband's email, and that the township has been involved in the process of "jumping through hoops" to get to the point of having a resolution to be passed tonight for the township to mow the Gillmor property. Once the resolution is passed, a notice will be taped to the door informing Mr. Gillmor that he should mow his yard, or the township will do so.

Mrs. Pitchford stated that the neighbors all work hard to take good care of their homes, and they take a great deal of pride in their homes and the neighborhood. In addition to the appearance of the tall grass and weeds (which have turned into trees), she stated this poses a road safety hazard obstructing the view of people going in and out of nearby driveways.

Discussion took place, and Mr. Kusmer told Mrs. Pitchford that when there was a problem last year, the yard had been mowed; this year, however, Mr. Gillmor has failed to respond to the township. The process to get the grass mowed started two months ago.

Solicitor Strickler assured Mrs. Pitchford that the grass will be cut, and he has allowed a few extra days for Mr. Gillmor to mow the yard himself. The resolution that will be passed tonight will be taped to Mr. Gillmor's door, and a date and time-stamped photo should be taken of this. It was briefly discussed and concluded that Mr. Gillmor used the side door as the main door. The option of mowing the grass with township employees or hiring this out was discussed, and the costs for mowing will be added to the homeowner's property taxes. Mr. Strickler also advised that the Sandusky County Sheriff's Department should be on stand-by when going to the residence.



Assistant County Prosecutor Mark Mulligan was present, and advised that his office is here to assist the township (not to replace the solicitor) specifically in matters of weeds, junk vehicles, and prosecution for zoning code violations. He briefly explained the process.

Mr. Kusmer asked Mr. Mulligan about the Southland Meadows Detention Pond and the issue over who owns the property. Mr. Mulligan stated that the county commissioners had asked him to review this, and he is researching it. Both he and Solicitor Strickler agreed to work on this together. Mr. Mulligan left the meeting after renewing the offer to help the township in the future.

**CEMETERY BOARD REPORT** - Jack Ferguson and Jim Gillis
Mr. Gillis reported that everything looks good in the cemeteries. Superintendent Lagrou advised that there have been a lot of cremations. He asked if the township would want to purchase six white chairs for people who attend the cremations. There are some at Sam's - they are durable, have a lifetime warranty, and cost about $20.00 each. Funeral homes provide chairs with their tents; for cremations, the township must provide them. Following discussion, including a description by Mr. Ferguson of the metal chairs currently used as "old and ugly", Mr. Geyer made a motion, with a second by Mr. Stotz, to purchase six new white chairs for use at cremations. Upon a vote – Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Lagrou explained that he had received a call regarding software for recording cemetery information. He explained he was quite happy with the Pontem software. No further discussion took place.

No additional bids have been received for cleaning the mausoleum. Mr. Lagrou will attempt to make contact with Mr. Binsack to see if he will provide a quote.

Mr. Lagrou informed the trustees that two more crypts might be sold, and that there are eight left.

Mr. Gillis is looking into columbariums, lights, and concrete work – all of which will need to be priorized in the cemeteries.

Discussion took place on the veterans' monument at McGormley Cemetery, and discussion took place on whether it had been sealed by Anstead Construction (free of charge) or not.

****** 6:00 P.M. OPEN BIDS FOR SALE OF 1990 INTERNATIONAL TRUCK**

It was announced that two sealed bids were received. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to close the bidding for the sale of the 1990 International truck. Upon a vote – Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried. The fiscal officer opened and read the bids received in this order:

| Name of Bidder (in order of opening) | Bid Price |
|---|---|
| Greg Heckman | $6,001.00 |
| Swim Rite Pools (Lanny Sieving) | $6,000.00 |

Mr. Geyer moved to accept the high bid of $6,001.00, which he quickly rescinded upon Lanny Sieving of Swim Rite Pools wanting to increase his bid as advertised in the notice for bids by public outcry. Mr. Sieving then immediately withdrew his request to increase his bid, stating that Mr. Heckman needed the truck more than he did. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to accept the high bid of $6,001.00 for the sale of the 1990 International truck to Mr. Heckman. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried. Information was exchanged between Mr. Kusmer and Mr. Heckman to arrange a date and time for the sale of the truck.

**ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT** - David Bain, Zoning Inspector
Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from August 1, 2017, entered into the township's meeting minutes.

Mr. Geyer asked about the abandoned migrant camp on Buchanan, and Mr. Bain stated that it looks like the grass has been mowed. Discussion took place, and Solicitor Strickler advised that Mr. Bain should write a letter to the property owner (Gonya) since the property has been abandoned for more than two years, and the township zoning dictates what happens.

**PARKS BOARD REPORT** - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood
Mr. Wood had nothing to report. Mr. Lagrou stated that soccer practice starts mid-August and games soon after that.

The township's summer help, Zach Militello and Paige Miarer, have done a good job. Zach's last day will be August 11. Paige will continue to work 12-3:30 p.m. most days for a while.

A quote was received for hydroseeding at the new park from Jay Giase for 18-1/2 acres. The process would use 63,000 gallons of water (we would use river water), and use wood fiber mulch. The wood fiber mulch (the best option), including fertiziler, is quoted at $19,000; paper mulch instead of wood would cost $17,249. Mr. Lagrou said with the expense of these options, the township will have to do the seeding.

Grasses and flowers are growing in the lower area. To kill weeds and plant grass in a new area, Sunrise will charge $775.00, then the township will mow what was sprayed and plant grass. This work will be done soon.

Mr. Lagrou reported that there is a problem with moles in Conner Park.

**ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** – Superintendent Bill Lagrou
Mr. Lagrou mentioned the Devan Gillmor property on Siler St., and a brief discussion took place.

Mr. Lagrou has discussed with Chad Fisher of Sandusky County that there are two trees that need to come down on Morrison Rd. because they are at the entrance of the sewer drainage project.

Adkins Sanitation is on-call for the eastside Rhoda subdivision. There are still drainage problems, from roots. The township may have to add a couple of catch basins.

Ken Haslinger on Rambo Lane has a big sinkhole that the township is looking into.

August 1 was the deadline for the signs from the 2016 Signs Grant to be installed. Mr. Lagrou submitted an extension for a year to install them since the township is about 70% done, and should be done in the Fall.

The railroad has installed stop signs at every crossing in the township that does not have a gate, posted on railroad property. They all are on roads maintained by the county. Discussion took place regarding the size and height of the signs and conformance to the Uniform Traffic Control Code Manual specifications.

The township has received a Ballville Township meeting minutes book from 1901-1907. Mr. Lagrou advised that all the township's records from this time period had been taken to the Hayes Presidential Center. This book, however, was found at a swap meet at the Fremont Yacht Club by Ron Baker's daughter. She received it at no charge after she realized what it was and pointed it out to the people who had it. The Bakers then turned the book over to Mr. Lagrou. Mr. Baker asked Mr. Lagrou if the township could find out who Baker Road was named for – his father, or someone else. Mr. Lagrou and Mr. Kusmer will look into this. Brief discussion took place on what to do with this book which contains hand-written minutes.



**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**
Mr. Kusmer brought up the county's 200th anniversary in 2022. Discussion took place on several residents who have great knowledge of the past, and having them share their memories, things they can recall that no one else can.

Mr. Kusmer said that today he staked the property across Tiffin Road that the township will be purchasing. Jack Zimmerman, the current owner, is coming tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. to meet with him. The survey was approved by the county engineer. The process of purchasing the property, including the title search, will continue and, once the corn is harvested, more activity will take place. The closing is anticipated in 30 days or so.

The trustees and David Bain, Zoning Inspector since May 1 of this year, briefly discussed Mr. Bain's 90 day probation period. With everyone in agreement that things are working well, Mr. Bain will continue as Zoning Inspector.

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for the township to notify Devan Gillmor that the township will mow his grass if not mowed by August 9, and that the township will assess his taxes for the township's costs. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; as Resolution 2017-30:

**RESOLUTION 2017-30**
*A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP, SANDUSKY COUNTY, OHIO FOR THE PURPOSE OF DECLARING A NUISANCE, ORDERING THE OWNER(S) OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 915 SILER STREET, BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP, SANDUSKY COUNTY, OHIO, TO ABATE, CONTROL OR REMOVE SAID NUISANCE ON OR BY AUGUST 9, 2017 OR THE BOARD WILL ABATE, CONTROL OR REMOVE SAID NUISANCE AND CERTIFY THE COST OF SAID ABATEMENT TO THE SANDUSKY COUNTY AUDITOR AS A LIEN FOR COLLECTION AS OTHER TAXES.*

A certified copy of Resolution 2017-30 was given to Chairman Kusmer to post at Mr. Gillmor's house immediately after the meeting.

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for the transfer of cash to the debt service fund for principal and interest payments on the new truck. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; as Resolution 2017-31:

**RESOLUTION 2017-31**
*A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO TRANSFER THE SUM OF $29,000.00 FROM FUND 2031 - ROAD AND BRIDGE TO FUND 3101 - DEBT SERVICE-2017 KENWORTH/ACCESSORIES AND TO REALLOCATE WITHIN FUND 3101*

Thank you notes were received from Sacred Heart Church for the use of picnic tables for their parish festival, and from Bob Nepper's family for flowers at the time of the passing of his wife, Pat.

Mr. Kusmer advised that he would like to schedule a work session regarding the employee handbook in the future. After discussion, it was agreed to hold this work session as the last item on the agenda of the September 5, 2017 meeting.

Solicitor Strickler brought up the medical marijuana issue and, after discussion, Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to have a resolution prepared by the solicitor to prohibit cultivators, processors, growers, and dispensaries of medical marijuana in the township. Upon a vote, Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Geyer –Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried.

The medical marijuana issue will be addressed accordingly in the new employee handbook.

Gambling was briefly discussed as a prohibition and will be an issue reviewed by the Board of Zoning Commission.

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

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Stotz, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - 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