

German Township  
Board of Trustees  
March 13, 2017

The Trustees of German Township, Fulton County, Ohio met in regular session for the purpose of conducting business of the township.

Present: Bruce Lauber, Kenneth Leupp, Randy Ruffer, Keith Short

Guests: Josh King, Stephen Lange, David Pugh, Donna Dettling

The meeting was called to order by Bruce at 7:00 pm.

Stephen Lange presented the February zoning report (attachment 01-03-17).

Donna Dettling asked if there has been any movement on the latest Fire Department Proposal. Bruce said he has put together some points and questions to address the Village Council. Bruce said he does not feel the proposal is acceptable. Kenneth has reviewed different fire departments and found that Swan Creek Township had the highest cost of \$618.00 per run in the Township. They use three departments to provide fire service to the township. Donna said every township is struggling on how to structure fire service. The council feels there is a disparity in the amounts the Village residents are paying versus what the residents outside of Archbold are paying. Randy said he thought it would be more feasible if the Township had total control of the Fire Department. Randy has spoken with many residents and has not heard that anyone thought there was a problem with the current situation. At one meeting a Council member stated they thought that some tax levies could be reduced but now they are talking about the doubling levy. Randy said farmers are not looking for fire protection for their land. Randy said residents outside of the Village are paying more for fire insurance than residents inside the Village because of the ISO ratings. Randy also discussed the payroll tax that everyone working inside the village pays the 1.5% payroll tax. Donna asked if the Trustees have asked if other departments would provide fire service to the Township. There have been contacts made. The three original Fire Department presentations were far less than what is now being proposed. Randy said he was concerned with what the cost will be after nine years and after the Village owned the whole department that the Village could charge the Township \$200,000.00 if they wanted to. Donna said that the Council will not back down. Randy asked how is it fair to the Village residents to pay for new fire equipment when they have already helped buy the current equipment. Donna stated all the Trustees are welcome to attend the Council meeting on March 20, 2017.

The minutes from the February 27, 2017 meeting were presented. Randy made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Kenneth seconded the motion. The motion passed with three yes votes and no negative votes.

The February 2017 bank statement was presented for review.

The bills were presented for review (attachment 02-03-17). Randy made a motion to accept the bills for payment as presented. Kenneth seconded the motion. The motion passed with three yes votes and no negative votes.

Josh reported they have received the last of the sign material from our Grant and have until August to have them completed. There was quite a bit of wind storm damage to some trees in the Goll Woods area.

The February 2017 financial reports were presented for review.

There was a letter of transmittal from the Fulton County Engineer's office requesting permission to temporarily relocate poles while the bridge is being replaced on Co Rd 25 (attachment 03-03-17).

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Randy made a motion to allow the Village to chip and seal our portion of Co Rd BC from the Village limits to Co Rd 24 and to send us an invoice for the work. Kenneth seconded the motion. The motion passed with three yes votes and no negative votes.

Randy said German and Franklin Townships are in charge of the fish fry on April 20, 2017 from 4:30 to 7:00 pm.

Randy made a motion to request the Fulton County Commissioners to dismiss the ditch improvement petition permit #2130 known as Grass Run. Kenneth seconded the motion. The motion passed with three yes votes and no negative votes.

Randy received a bid from Lockport Excavating to replace the tile on the Dinius property known as Grass Run in the amount of \$5,445.00 (attachment 04-03-17). The Township will be responsible for \$2,300.00 of the bid and the balance will be divided equally between Derald Seiler and Lonnie Blosser. Randy made a motion to approve the quote. Kenneth seconded the motion. The motion passed with three yes votes and no negative votes.

A letter will be sent to the residents in Old Mill Run to ask if they are in favor of repairing and turning the lights on and to ask if they would be willing to help in the repair cost (attachment 05-03-17).

Bruce thinks it is time the community gets involved in the discussion about the Fire Department proposal. Bruce said he has had people tell him the Trustees need to stand their ground. Kenneth and Randy said they have also had the same discussions. Bruce said he did not think it was fair that the Fire Department members have not been able to share their opinions about the proposal. Bruce suggested a letter be sent to all residents of German Township. Bruce recommended each of the Trustees compose a letter and send them to Keith, who will combine them into one letter for approval.

Randy made a motion to adjourn at 9:02 pm. Kenneth seconded the motion. The motion passed with three yes votes and no negative votes.

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Attested