

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Public Hearing of the Trustees of Sycamore Township Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio

March 15, 2018

The Public Hearing for Zoning Case 2018-02Z was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Connor.

Mr. Holbert presented the case; a request for a zone change to allow for a parking lot for new car display for the existing Mercedes Benz dealership.

Mr. Holbert pointed out the applicant's proposal exceeds the buffer and landscape requirements for the property. Mr. Holbert discussed the proposed signs and lighting plan.

Mr. Holbert stated the Zoning Commission had recommended approval with three conditions and went on to read those conditions to the Board. He then reviewed additional staff recommended conditions should the Board of Trustees approve the zone change request.

The Board asked questions of Mr. Holbert.

Gene Allison, the architect and applicant with Reztark Design Studio, 601 Main Street, Suite 200, Cincinnati, OH 45202, addressed the Board.

Mr. Allison introduced several others who were present on behalf of the dealership including Ed Keady, General Manager; Mike Russell, General Contractor for the project; and David Peterson, the owner.

Mr. Allison then spoke about their efforts to work with the neighbors on a good plan that will be compatible with the area.

Mr. Connor asked if any member of the public wished to comment on the case.

Mr. Nicholas Strauss, of 8815 Lyncris Drive, addressed the Board against the project.

Ms. Karen Carle, of 7748 Highgate Place, addressed the Board.

The landscape architect, Jon Henney, addressed Ms. Carle's concerns about the existing pine trees.

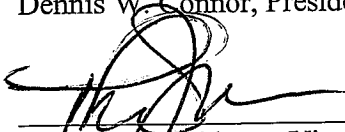
Ms. Jane Mueller, of 7725 Highgate Place, addressed the Board regarding the proposed signs and the fence.

Mr. Peterson and Mr. Allison responded to Ms. Mueller's questions.

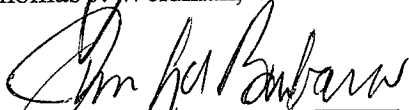
Mr. Connor closed the public hearing at 6:45 p.m.



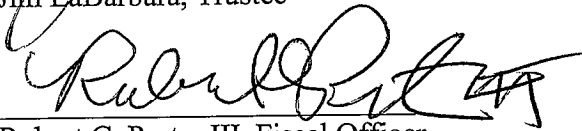
Dennis W. Connor, President



Thomas J. Weidman, Vice President



Jim LaBarbara, Trustee



Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

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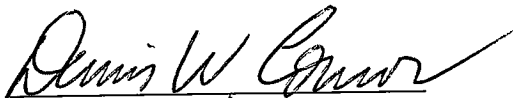
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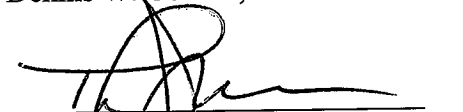
March 15, 2018

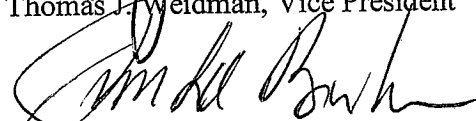
The Public Hearing for the Tax Incentive Review Council was called to order at 6:46 p.m. by Fiscal Officer Porter.

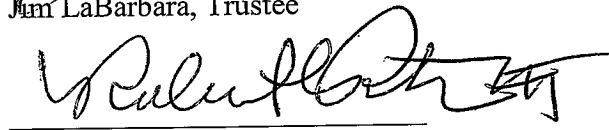
Mr. Miller reported that five parcels, condos in a larger project, have yet to pay their first half of 2017 taxes. He said other than that, everyone is in compliance.

The public hearing was closed at 6:54 p.m.


Dennis W. Connor, President


Thomas J. Weidman, Vice President


Jim LaBarbara, Trustee


Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Public Hearing of the Trustees of Sycamore Township Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio

March 15, 2018

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

The invocation from Brecon United Methodist Church was read by Mr. Connor.

Pledge to the Flag.

Present for the meeting were President Connor, Vice President Weidman, Trustee LaBarbara, Fiscal Officer Porter, Law Director Miller, Administrator Bickford, Superintendent/Assistant Administrator Kellums, Zoning Administrator Holbert, and Lt. Smith from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. Parks /Recreation Director McKeown and Fire Chief Penny were excused.

The minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings held February 13, 2018 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to approve the minutes. Vote: All Aye.

Ms. Natalie Fields, of the Hamilton County Public Library, addressed the Board. Ms. Fields gave an update on the Deer Park Branch Library. She stated there is public preschool at the library two days a week for a few hours each day for eight weeks. Ms. Fields also reported on the "My Librarian" program in which students may sign up for appointment based homework help. She then pointed out there will be a levy for the library on the ballot May 1st as over 20% of its state funding has been lost despite library usage increasing 60% over the past five years.

Lt. Smith submitted the monthly statistics for February. He reported he is working on the purchase of two new patrol vehicles.

Mr. Bickford reported on behalf of Mr. McKeown that Moeller had played its first baseball game of the season at Schuler Park.

Mr. Kellums reported he met with the City of Montgomery regarding the Kennedy Lane Sidewalks Project. The joint project could potentially begin in 2020.

Mr. Bickford reported on the proposed terms of the Township electric rate contract with Dynegy. The rate for Township facilities for the next four years will be locked in at .0475 per kWh and the rate for street lighting will be locked in at .0328 per kWh. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to extend the contract for another four years. Vote: All AYE

The following purchase orders were presented for approval:

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|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Cincinnati & Suburban Bell Telephone | Sycamore Rd Easement | \$3,627.00 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|

Robert A & Linda J Cecil

Sycamore Rd Easement

\$3,746.00

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to approve these requests.
Vote: All Aye.

Mr. LaBarbara stated that the Board discussed putting meetings on public access and that discussion was postponed to a later date. He also stated that the workshop meetings would be moved into the Trustee hearing room. He then stated that there will be one Thursday meeting a month and they will be available on podcast via the website. He stated that he would like the meetings on video in the future.

Mr. Connor stated that he understood the conversation about the meeting audio had been tabled until the new equipment has been installed and that no formal action was taken on the podcasts.

He also noted that the second Thursday night meetings in April, May, and June have been cancelled and that the Board would then evaluate the new format noting there has been no permanent cancellation of any meeting.

Mr. Miller clarified that the workshops are not first and third Tuesdays. He stated that the workshops are held on the Tuesday preceding the first and third Thursdays.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to move the April 3, 2018 Workshop meeting to April 4, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Weidman stated that he believes in transparency and noted that we are the only Township in Hamilton County to have four meetings a month. He stated that there are Townships with 60,000 people and they only have one meeting per month. He noted that, in an effort to consolidate Township business, the Board voted to have only the first meeting of the month on a trial basis. He also noted the first meeting was selected because it coincides with Zoning Commission and their public hearings which eventually get to the Trustees. He also noted that in the last three months, there has been only one Thursday night meeting a month.

Mr. LaBarbara noted that eight of the 12 don't have workshops and all business is discussed at the regular meetings. He also stated that he wants to make sure the permanent record reflects what he said and audio is the way to do that since he did not agree with all recent minutes. Mr. LaBarbara stated that the audio is available for \$1.06 but the quality is not very good.

Mr. Bickford noted that the audio for the past fourteen years is available for free if you bring a flash drive to the Township.

Mr. Weidman stated he believes there are no transparency issues here and anytime anyone has ever asked for information it has been given. He also stated that in an effort to maintain transparency the Township will give out information as requested.

Mr. Miller noted that there is only one day between the workshop and regular meeting so any requests for legislation must to be submitted ASAP.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to direct Mr. Miller create a resolution approving the Zone Change for Case 2018-02Z with the following conditions: All Zoning Commission recommendations included and unless otherwise noted, all aspects of the Sycamore Township Zoning Resolution must be adhered to, no cellular telecommunication towers are permitted on site, all canopy and understory trees must be installed with a 4" minimum caliper, and all lighting to be shielded from view.

Mr. Weidman thanked the applicant for working with the residents so diligently. Mr. Connor thanked the applicant for their open communications with the residents and staff. Mr. Connor also thanked Mr. Holbert for his efforts. Mr. LaBarbara stated that the applicant has gone overboard on working with the residents.

Vote: All Aye.

The resolution "Authorizing a Contract with Brandstetter/Carroll, Inc. for Engineering, Design, Bidding, and Construction Administration for the Bechtold Park Shelters" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2018-28 approved this 15th day of March, 2018.

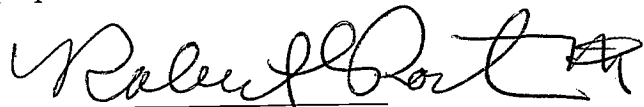
The resolution "Authorizing a Contract with Brandstetter/Carroll, Inc. for Engineering, Design, Bidding, and Construction Administration for the Silver Crest / Garden Sidewalks Project" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2018-29 approved this 15th day of March, 2018.

The resolution "Authorizing a Contract with Adleta Construction for a Storm Sewer Replacement" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2018-30 approved this 15th day of March, 2018.

The resolution "Authorizing a Joint Marketing Initiative to Promote Energy Efficiency Improvements and Solar Power Installations for Residential Households" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2018-31 approved this 15th day of March, 2018.

The Receipts and Disbursements of March 15, 2018 were available in the Fiscal Officer's Office and are hereby made a part of these minutes.


I hereby certify that the money for payment of these bills is in the fund provided and duly and properly appropriated.

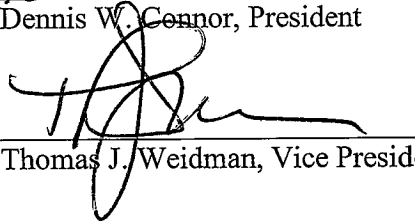
Signed: 
Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to accept them.
Vote: All Aye.

A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to adjourn the meeting.
Vote: All Aye.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.


Dennis W. Connor, President


Thomas J. Weidman, Vice President

Jim LaBarbara, Trustee


Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer
03/15/2018