

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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

September 6, 2018

The Public Hearing for Zoning Case 2018-14LASR Modification was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Mr. Connor.

Mr. Bickford presented the case; a request for a major adjustment to the existing LASR at Kenwood Towne Centre to allow for an exterior sign for Louis Vuitton. Mr. Bickford explained the only retail tenants permitted exterior signage under the current LASR are those with direct exterior access. He pointed out the proposed sign dimensions and design on the rendering submitted.

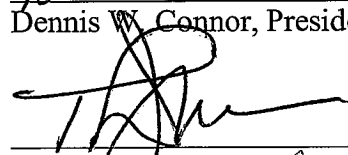
Mr. Connor asked if the applicant was present and wished to address the Board.

Ms. Amanda Caldwell, the applicant, of Ideal Due Diligence, addressed the Board regarding the signage for Louis Vuitton.

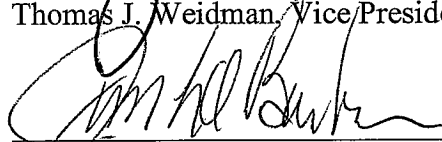
Mr. Connor closed the public hearing at 6:54 p.m.



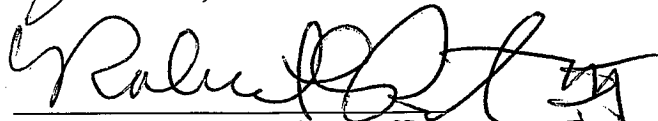
Dennis W. Connor, President



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

September 6, 2018

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

The invocation from Bethel Baptist Temple was read by Mr. Connor. Mr. Connor stated included in the evening's prayer would be the victims from the shooting downtown today as well as the first responders.

Pledge to the Flag.

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

Mr. Connor spoke about the passing of long time golf outing organizer Rick Wietmarschen whose family continued the event this year in his memory. Mr. Connor then stated Rick's wife Kathy and other members of the Wietmarschen family were present at the meeting to accept a check for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Greater Cincinnati in the amount of \$10,674.55 from the proceeds of the golf outing.

The Proclamation "Designating September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month" in Sycamore Township was read by Mr. Connor. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman and seconded by Mr. LaBarbara to pass the Proclamation. Mr. Porter called Roll. All Aye.

Lt. Smith introduced Patrol Officers Robert Jim, Justin French and Alexander Berlin to the Board to recognize them for their courage and quick thinking in saving a person from an attempted suicide.

The minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held August 2, 2018 were presented for approval. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connor, to approve them.

Mr. LaBarbara objected to the minutes and read a prepared statement noting his objections to the August 2, 2018 meeting minutes. His objections included the lack of inclusion in previous minutes for comments made regarding the Ohio Checkbook and the former Taco Bell site among others.

Mr. Connor asked Mr. Butler if Mr. LaBarbara was out of order.

Mr. Butler answered yes stating it is acceptable to make comments regarding items missing from the minutes but it is not acceptable to make editorial comments.

Mr. Connor said the Ohio Attorney General's office states minutes are a summary of business conducted and are intended to help the public understand how decisions were made. He pointed out Mr. LaBarbara's objections and comments were not related to a vote. He stated if not included in the minutes Mr. LaBarbara's comments may be added to the record as objections.

Mr. LaBarbara argued that the minutes need not be verbatim but should include statements from each Trustee especially if controversial.

There was further discussion regarding what should be included in the minutes.

Mr. LaBarbara reiterated his objection to comments made during Ohio Checkbook discussion in the April, 2018 meeting being left out of the minutes.

Discussion ensued and it was noted the vote to use Ohio Checkbook took place in 2017 prior to Mr. LaBarbara beginning his term as Trustee, therefore the comment was not related to legislation. Mr. LaBarbara disagreed.

Mr. Connor stated there had been enough time spent on the discussion about the minutes noting there are other items on the agenda to be discussed.

Mr. LaBarbara said his other comments were not addressed by Mr. Weidman and said he will have comments to make in old business.

Mr. Weidman suggested Mr. LaBarbara let the public know he has received the Streetsense documents. There was then discussion regarding those documents and when they were received and the information distributed to Mr. LaBarbara and Mr. Connor.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: LaBarbara: No; Weidman: Yes; Connor: Yes

Ms. Cora Jones, of 12121 2nd Avenue, Sycamore Township, OH 45249 addressed the Board saying she and other High Point residents were present in regards to issues in High Point. She expressed concerns about zoning and property maintenance issues, drug activity, rental properties and graffiti in the area.

Mr. Connor addressed the issue with trash at 12135 2nd Avenue noting the Trustees had declared it a nuisance at the Workshop on Tuesday.

Ms. Melissa Merry, of 12157 2nd Avenue, Sycamore Township, OH 45249, addressed the Board also in regards to drug activity and overdoses in High Point.

The High Point residents brought up concerns about a few specific properties.

Lt. Smith responded he is aware of the overdoses, graffiti and bicycle thefts mentioned. He said there are a variety of issues in the neighborhood noting he needs specific information and said he would give the concerned residents his contact information.

Mr. Connor said he understands their frustrations and wants High Point to be as good as it can possibly be. Discussion continued regarding property maintenance and too many people living in one house and what information the Township needs to address those issues.

Mr. Standish Fortin, of 12137 McCauly Road, Sycamore Township, OH 45241 addressed the Board. Mr. Fortin stated the franchise fee should be reduced to three percent since there is no video of the public meetings. He went on to say the Trustee Meeting Room should have a podium similar to that at the Schuler Community Room and that the water fountain needs repair.

Mr. Fortin then asked Mr. Porter a question about bids for Township projects and when multiple bids are required.

Mr. Fortin asked questions about the Trustees' meeting schedule and when the public has the opportunity to speak. He then discussed parks and recreation meetings being cancelled saying he has items he'd like to have addressed. Mr. Fortin handed out his property tax summary to the Board and went on to address comments he said were made about him by an individual at a previous meeting having to do with lighting districts.

Mr. Porter explained to Mr. Fortin how lighting districts work noting it is citizen driven.

Mr. J. Janus, Jr., of 4462 Daffodil Ave., Sycamore Township, OH 45242, addressed the Board. Mr. Janus asked for clarification on the process for lighting districts and Mr. Porter explained the process. Mr. Janus then addressed the Board regarding such topics as vehicles in the Township parking lot, road maintenance and the Township newsletter. He also discussed public records and protocol for redactions.

Mr. Tom James, of 5784 White Chapel Dr., Sycamore Township, OH 45236, addressed the Board in regards to documents on the website stating resolutions should have contracts attached. Mr. James also suggested a "What's New" section on the website. He suggested resolutions and documents discussed during public hearings should be displayed for public view.

Chief Penny presented the monthly report for August, 2018 noting an increase in overdoses. He stated EMS revenue is going well. Chief Penny informed the Board the St. Saviour Church Festival would be taking place this weekend.

Mr. Bickford reported the Zoning Commission will meet on Monday to continue their discussion of the amendments to the Zoning Resolution. He stated High Point residents should send addresses of property maintenance issues to Mr. Holbert and to him as well.

Mr. Bickford responded to Mr. James' comments about the contracts associated with the resolutions and the minutes. He asked Mr. Fortin to send him the information he had regarding street lights.

Mr. Bickford stated the opt-out has gone out for the aggregation programs.

Mr. Bickford reported he had met with Silverton and Symmes Township regarding alternatives to the Hamilton County Sheriff's contract. He spoke about proposed rate changes.

Mr. Bickford said there will be a free solar workshop at the Schuler Community room on September 27th.

The following PO's were presented for approval:

LSQ Funding Group, LC	Temporary Help	\$10,000.00
Kathy Wietmarschen	Reimburse for Golf Outing Expenses	\$5,280.45
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation	Donation from Golf Outing 2018	\$10,674.55

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to approve these requests.

Vote: All Aye.

Mr. LaBarbara talked about the condition of the former Taco Bell property.

Mr. LaBarbara and then stated he would like to discuss the Township's plans for that property at the next Workshop.

Mr. LaBarbara said at our last Thursday meeting, Mr. Weidman asked our Law Director Doug Miller to comment on the procedures we use in acquiring properties. Mr. LaBarbara asked Mr. Miller to discuss those procedures concerning how we acquire property at the next Thursday night meeting. MR. LaBarbara also asked that Mr. Miller discuss the difference between public and private sector and how it relates to governing the Township.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to direct Law Director Miller to prepare a resolution approving Zoning Case 2018-14LASR Modification as submitted.

Mr. Porter called roll. All voted Aye.

The resolution "Imposing a Temporary Moratorium of Ninety Days Upon the Processing, Approval, and Issuance of Any Permits Relating to the Construction or Installation of, and/or Modification to, Micro Wireless Telecommunications Facilities within the Rights-of-Ways and Residential Areas of Sycamore Township, Ohio Resolution 2018-91" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading and declaring an emergency. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2018-91 approved this 6th day of September, 2018.

The resolution "Providing for and Authorizing Removal of Trash and Debris. Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 12135 2nd Avenue, Sycamore Township, OH 45249" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading and declaring an emergency. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2018-92 approved this 6th day of September, 2018.

Mr. Weidman explained the water agreement.

Mr. Connor referred those in attendance to the printed agenda for the schedule of events.

The Receipts and Disbursements of September 6, 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.

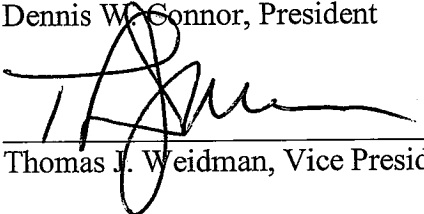
Signed: 
Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. Connor, 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 9:36 p.m.


Dennis W. Connor, President


Thomas J. Weidman, Vice President

Jim LaBarbara, Trustee


Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer
09/06/2018