

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes of the Trustees of Sycamore Township Meeting**  
**Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio**  
**October 2, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Present for the meeting were President Connor, Vice President Weidman, Trustee LaBarbara, Law Director Miller, Administrator Bickford, Superintendent/Assistant Administrator Kellums, , Parks/Recreation Director McKeown, Fire Chief Penny and Lt. Smith from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. Fiscal Officer Porter and Zoning Administrator Holbert were excused.

**Approval of September 18, 2018 Workshop Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the Board of Trustees Workshop Meeting held September 4, 2018 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to approve the minutes. Vote: LaBarbara: Aye; Weidman: Aye; Connor: Aye

**Nuisance Resolutions: 8321 St. Clair Ave., 5776 White Chapel Dr., 8119 Fields Ertel Rd.**

The resolution "Providing For and Authorizing Weed Cutting and Debris Removal, Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 8321 St. Clair Avenue, Sycamore Township, OH 45236" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading and declaring an emergency. Mr. Miller called the roll. Vote: All Aye. Resolution No. 2018-102 passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2018.

The resolution "Providing For and Authorizing Removal of Trash and Debris, Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 5776 White Chapel Drive, Sycamore Township, OH 45236" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading and declaring an emergency. Mr. Miller called the roll. Vote: All Aye. Resolution No. 2018-103 passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2018.

The resolution "Providing For and Authorizing Weed Cutting and Debris Removal, Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 8119 Fields Ertel Road, 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. Miller called the roll. Vote: All Aye. Resolution No. 2018-104 passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2018.

**Planning and Zoning Update**

Mr. Bickford presented a response from a resident on Eaglescout Court who had requested a waiver of fees associated with a fence permit. The Board felt that the resident had demonstrated that there was a misunderstanding as to the responsibilities for obtaining a permit. Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to waive the fee. All voted yes.

Mr. Bickford advised the Board on the Deer Park City Schools and their efforts to dispose of the Holmes School property. He stated that the existing Holmes School was zoned B single family residential which would allow for the construction of a subdivision with 10,500 square feet lots, each with 70 feet of road frontage. He also advised the Board that the school is interested in the old Plas Plumbing building as a potential maintenance facility. The Board directed Mr. Bickford to research the as of right uses for the building if the school district were to occupy it.

### **Fire Department Update**

Chief Penny reported that the new full time firefighters will be at the Thursday meeting for their swearing in ceremony.

Chief Penny reported that the new squad will now be constructed by Horton Ambulances on the same Ford F550 chassis since Braun Ambulance was unwilling to waive the indemnification clause in the warranty document.

The Chief also reported that the department was involved in public events with Mt. Carmel Church and the Dillonvale Shopping Center.

### **Sheriff Department Update**

Lt. Smith reported that the Sheriff's office has been involved in many active shooter training sessions. He also stated that Deputies are lined up to pass out candy on Halloween.

Mr. LaBarbara asked for an update on the drug problem in Highpoint.

Lt. Smith discussed the Heroin Task Force and stated that their work is mostly done in private, behind the scenes as undercover officers. He stated he will not comment in a public meeting about on-going investigations involving that group. He noted that there has been a plan in place for Highpoint and he also stated he has not heard from any Highpoint resident in reference to the last meeting where they requested more enforcement.

He noted that task force is working on moving up the chain and going for manslaughter charges on individuals.

Lt. Smith went on to further explain that heroin has been decriminalized and arrests can't be made like they were in the past for both users and suppliers. He also noted that because of this, users and dealers are calling 911 more than in the past because they know they will not face any consequences.

Chief Penny stated that in typical overdose cases, the users move around from house to house.

Lt. Smith stated that in reference to the recent Highpoint overdose death, an arrest was made. Mr. LaBarbara asked if crack cocaine and marijuana were treated the same way. Lt. Smith noted that different drugs have different laws.

Mr. Connor stated that the Board will never pressure the Sheriff's Office to release information that could compromise an investigation. He noted that the Heroin Coalition is separate from the task force and is primarily focused on prevention and treatment. Mr. Connor stated that he will be attending their next meeting to see if it makes sense for the Township to become part of that organization and will report back to the Board.

### **Parks and Recreation Update**

Mr. McKeown noted that the Life Line Screening group will be at the Schuler Community Room on October 18<sup>th</sup>. He also stated that he has potential conflicts with the regularly scheduled park meetings and requests everyone's patience if the meetings are cancelled.

### **Maintenance Department Update**

Mr. Kellums reported the Silvercrest and Garden Sidewalk Project is underway and moving along. He also noted that the brick paver style crosswalks were being installed on Galbraith Road.

Mr. Kellums reported that because of weather issues, the contractor has delayed the Onyx program for the fall. He also noted that the contractor is not providing good service and he will be addressing it with their representatives.

The resolution "Determining to Install a Fiber Interconnect System within Sycamore Township, Authorizing a Contract with Prime AE Group, Inc. for the Sycamore Township Interconnect Project Phase 2" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Miller called the roll. Vote: All Aye. Resolution No. 2018-105 passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2018.

Mr. Kellums presented a proposal from Sitescapes for site work and landscaping on the Kenwood Road median in the amount of \$46,575. Mr. LaBarbara indicated he was not in favor of landscaping the median. Mr. Kellums also presented a proposal from Adleta Construction for concrete work and other items associated with the median landscaping.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connor, to direct Law Director Miller to prepare the necessary resolutions to construct the landscaping. Mr. LaBarbara requested that this be placed on hold while the issue is studied. He indicated he has had discussions with Ted Hubbard about the median. Mr. LaBarbara also noted that he did not like the median and thought it should be removed. Mr. Connor stated that he has had discussions with Mr. Hubbard, who has stated that the median is to remain. Mr. Weidman noted that this landscaping was part of the original plan for the corridor. Mr. LaBarbara stated that he did not want any part of this and it is a waste of money. Mr. Miller called the roll. Vote: Weidman Aye, LaBarbara Nay, Connor Aye. The motion passes two to one.

Mr. Kellums presented a change order for Sycamore Road for additional design considerations including storm water, right-of-way establishment, and underground utilities because of County requirements. He noted that he is working to get the County Engineer to share in the cost since they have no money in the project.

Mr. Kellums reported that leaf collection begins on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Miller reported that he has reviewed the revised agreement for the Bechtold Park storm water retro fit and it is acceptable.

### **Resolution – Authorizing a Contract for the Purchase of an Ambulance**

The resolution "Authorizing a Contract for the Purchase of an Ambulance from Horton Emergency Vehicles Company through the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Miller called the roll. Vote: All Aye. Resolution No. 2018-106 passed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2018.

### **Purchase Orders Over \$2,500.00**

Mr. Bickford presented the following purchase orders for approval:

Lykins Oil Company  
Ferno

Fuel – Police  
Ambulance Wheelchair

\$6,000.00  
\$4,435.80

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

### Schedule

The schedule of upcoming events was read by Mr. Connor.

A motion to enter into **Executive Session to discuss Personnel – Employment** was made by Trustee LaBarbara and seconded by Trustee Connor.

Vote: Weidman: Aye; LaBarbara: Aye; Connor: Aye.

End regular session: 9:57 a.m.

Begin Executive Session: 10:02 a.m.

End Executive Session: 10:07 a.m.

Back in regular session: 10:10 a.m.

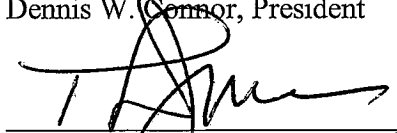
Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connor, to hire Kevin Clark as Zoning Inspector and move Ernie McFarlin back to the Maintenance Department.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Weidman and seconded by Trustee LaBarbara. Vote: All Aye.

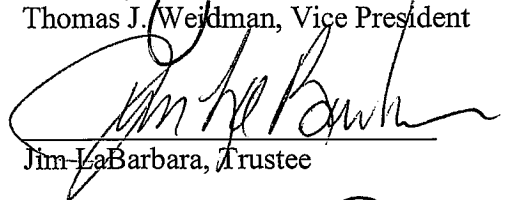
End regular session: 10:10 a.m.



Dennis W. Connor, President



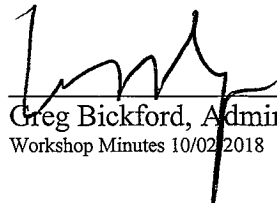
Thomas J. Weidman, Vice President



Jim LaBarbara, Trustee



Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer



Greg Bickford, Administrator  
Workshop Minutes 10/02/2018