

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes of the Trustees of Sycamore Township Meeting**  
**Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio**  
**February 5, 2019**

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

**Approval of January 15, 2019 Workshop Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Weidman.

Mr. Connor made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to approve the January 15, 2019 Workshop minutes.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: Connor: AYE; LaBarbara: AYE; Weidman: AYE

**Planning & Zoning Update**

Mr. Holbert reported on the Reading Road Corridor study saying the next step is to do a survey in preparation for the potential project. He stated the City of Cincinnati can do the survey in-house to save money. He said preliminary numbers for the Township's portion of the cost would be \$4,500 for the survey, \$66,000 for the design phase and \$410,000 for construction. There was discussion about what areas would be included in the project. Mr. Holbert noted the project would include sidewalks and road widening.

**Upcoming Public Meetings**

Mr. Holbert stated Zoning Case 2018-20Z, a proposed zone change in order to construct a new building for Kids First Sports Center, would be heard by the Board on Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Holbert reviewed the details of the proposed project for the Board.

Mr. Connor asked what the Zoning Commission had voted to recommend for the project.

Mr. Holbert answered the Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposal by a four to one vote.

Mr. LaBarbara asked if the applicant had addressed the issues brought up about the project.

Mr. Holbert answered the issues had been addressed except documentation of the shared parking agreement which the applicant said is pending and probably won't be submitted unless they are approved.

Mr. Standish Fortin, of 12137 McCauly Road, addressed the Board asking for clarification on who was the applicant for the zoning case and also Kids First Sports Center's sponsorship of the festival in Sycamore.

### **Proposed New Zoning Commission Meeting Time**

Mr. Holbert reported the members of the Zoning Commission would like to change the start time of their regularly scheduled meetings to 6:00 p.m. beginning in March, 2019. He stated there have been comments from residents about the meeting running late into the evening.

Mr. Connor made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to change the start time of the Zoning Commission meetings to 6:00 p.m. on the second Monday of the month (excluding holidays) beginning with the March 11, 2019 meeting date. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

### **Resolution – Approving a Site Plan for the Bank of America Office Development in Sycamore Township**

The resolution “Approving a Site Plan for the Bank of America Office Development in Sycamore Township” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2019-11 passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

### **Nuisance Property and Vehicle Resolutions – 12098 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue**

The resolution “Providing For and Authorizing Removal of Vegetation, Garbage, Refuse and Other Debris and Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 12098 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Sycamore Township, OH 45249” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2019-12 passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

The resolution “Providing for the Removal of a Junk Vehicle in Sycamore Township, Hamilton County and the Proper Disposal, Storage or Impoundment of Motor Vehicle by Implementing the Procedures Set Forth in Sycamore Township Resolution 2012-14, and Sections §§ 505.173, 505.85, AND 505.871 of the Ohio Revised Code” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2019-13 passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

The resolution “Providing for the Removal of a Junk Vehicle in Sycamore Township, Hamilton County and the Proper Disposal, Storage or Impoundment of Motor Vehicle by Implementing the Procedures Set Forth in Sycamore Township Resolution 2012-14, and Sections §§ 505.173, 505.85, AND 505.871 of the Ohio Revised Code” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2019-14 passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

The resolution “Providing for the Removal of a Junk Vehicle in Sycamore Township, Hamilton County and the Proper Disposal, Storage or Impoundment of Motor Vehicle by Implementing the Procedures Set Forth in Sycamore Township Resolution 2012-14, and Sections §§ 505.173, 505.85, AND 505.871 of the Ohio Revised Code” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2019-15 passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

The resolution "Providing for the Removal of a Junk Vehicle in Sycamore Township, Hamilton County and the Proper Disposal, Storage or Impoundment of Motor Vehicle by Implementing the Procedures Set Forth in Sycamore Township Resolution 2012-14, and Sections §§ 505.173, 505.85, AND 505.871 of the Ohio Revised Code" was read. A motion was made by Mr. LaBarbara, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye. Resolution No. 2019-16 passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

### **Fire Department Update**

Chief Penny reported on the increase in runs due to the extreme cold and burst pipes.

Chief Penny informed the Board that the Medic Refresher course the department offered generated about \$6,000 in revenue. He then reported he would have the January statistics by Thursday.

The Chief also confirmed there was a fatal overdose in the Highpoint area.

### **Sheriff Department Update**

Lt. Smith reported he would have the January statistics to Mr. Bickford soon. He went on to discuss recent arrests of suspects for home break-ins and burglaries in the Township as well as guns that have been taken off the street and prostitution arrests in the Reading Road area of the Township.

Lt. Smith noted the individual who overdosed over the weekend was known by law enforcement to have a drug problem.

Lt. Smith asked resident Mr. Fortin to state for the Board what signs he would like in his neighborhood. Mr. Fortin addressed the Board stating the block watch and speed limit signs are faded and requesting new signs.

### **Parks and Recreation Update**

Mr. McKeown stated there is a resident involved with a crafting/scrap-booking group who would like to hold quarterly meetings at the Schuler Community Room for a discounted rate. There was discussion among the Trustees with the decision that it would not be a good precedent to set at this time.

Mr. McKeown reported he would like to update the vendor policy and application for the Festival in Sycamore with regards to food trucks.

Mr. Connor made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to amend the vendor policy per Mr. McKeown's suggestion. Mr. Porter called roll. All voted: Aye.

Mr. McKeown reported there was a resident who would like permission to install a free "little library" for exchange of books in one of our parks. He noted he was also contacted by an Eagle Scout looking for a project and thought this would be perfect. There was discussion about legal and zoning issues with the structures. Mr. Weidman instructed Mr. McKeown to look into how other local communities have implemented them and what kind of guidelines and rules they might have.

Mr. McKeown said he had received a request to look into the cost to book Tommy James and the Shondells for the Festival in Sycamore. He reported the cost would be \$50,000. There was discussion about what bands to look into and the cost of the Festival.

Mr. Connor stated that Mr. McKeown should work with Mr. Bickford to create a budget for the Festival that balances sponsorship dollars with spending.

Mr. LaBarbara stated he had spoken to Officials from the City of Montgomery and the City of Blue Ash about a similar events and reported on what they had said about the cost for those events.

Mr. Weidman noted it would be better to submit an official records request for expenditures than to rely on what someone states from memory.

There was discussion about comparing the events, cost and possible bands with the Board agreeing to move forward with a budget for the event.

### **Bechtold Park Pavilion**

Mr. Bickford reported on the needed repairs to the Bechtold Park Pavilion. He explained the bids and the reasons why the second lowest bid is actually better than the lowest due to materials that would be used and reputation of the contractor.

The Board agreed with Mr. Bickford's reasoning.

The resolution "Approving a Contract with Schweitzer Construction Company for the Bechtold Park Pavilion Restoration Project" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye.  
Resolution No. 2019-17 passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

### **Resolution – Authorizing Defeasance of a Portion of the Road Improvement Bonds, Series 2010, Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Deposit Agreement, and Authorizing the Purchase of State and Local Government Securities to Fund and Escrow Fund**

Mr. Bickford explained that the bonds issued for the 2010 construction of Reagan Drive need to be defeased in order to maintain their tax exempt status. He explained this is because there are still proceeds from the issuance that have not been spent due to the lower cost of construction and right-of-way acquisition. The nature of the bonds requires them to be spent on road work and, because there is no current roadwork, the bonds must be defeased or paid off early.

The resolution "Authorizing Defeasance of a Portion of the Road Improvement Bonds, Series 2010, Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Deposit Agreement, and Authorizing the Purchase of State and Local Government Securities to Fund and Escrow Fund" was read. A motion was made by Mr. LaBarbara, seconded by Mr. Connor, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2019-18 passed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

### **Resolution – Authorizing a Rental with the Hamilton County Board of Elections**

The resolution “Authorizing a Rental with the Hamilton County Board of Elections” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara dispensing with the second reading.

There was discussion about the possibility of finding a better polling location in the Township due to parking difficulties and other issues. Mr. Connor withdrew his motion and the resolution was tabled pending such research.

### **Purchase Orders over \$2,500**

Mr. Bickford presented the following purchase orders for approval:

Bethesda Healthcare Inc.	Firefighter OM Tests	\$5,189.00
Bureau of Worker’s Compensation	Payroll True-up 2018	\$11,665.00

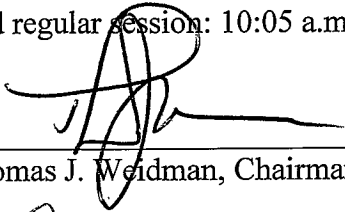
A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to approve this request. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye

### **Schedule**

Mr. Weidman pointed out on the schedule of upcoming events that the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting has changed to Tuesday February 19<sup>th</sup> due to the Monday holiday and there is a public hearing on Thursday. Mr. Bickford noted he is working on changing the date of the March JEDZ meetings since the Trustees meeting had to be moved to Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>.

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

End regular session: 10:05 a.m.



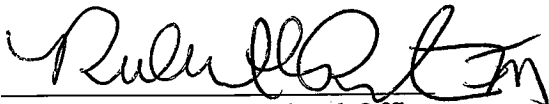
Thomas J. Weidman, Chairman



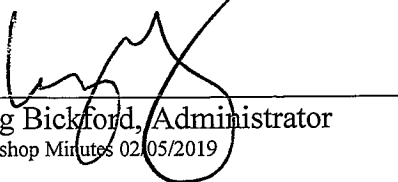
Dennis W. Connor, Vice Chairman



Jim LaBarbara, Trustee



Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer



Greg Bickford, Administrator  
Workshop Minutes 02/05/2019