

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of the Trustees of Sycamore Township Meeting
Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio
August 20, 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, Law Director Miller, Administrator Bickford, Superintendent/Assistant Administrator Kellums, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holbert, Parks/Recreation Director McKeown, Fire Chief Penny and Lt. Smith from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Weidman.

Approval of July 30, 2019 Workshop Minutes

Mr. Connor made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to approve the July 30, 2019 Workshop minutes.

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

Proclamation – Designating September 2019 Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

The Proclamation designating September, 2019 “Prostate Cancer Awareness Month” in Sycamore Township was presented by Mr. Miller. Mr. Connor made a motion to approve the Proclamation, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Proclamation passed this 20th day of August, 2019.

Planning & Zoning Update

Mr. Holbert reported he had begun the process to obtain AICP certification.

Mr. Holbert recommended candidates for the Land Use Plan, noting he based his decision on those he thought would be the most open-minded to the concerns of residents and to the continued economic vitality of the Township. He recommended Ms. Tracy Hughes, Mr. Peter Mallow, Mr. John O’Shea, Ms. Tracy Schwegmann and Mr. George Ten Eyck.

Mr. Holbert went on to recommend Mr. Bill Swanson for the open alternate position on the Zoning Commission. He explained the choices he made were based on applications submitted, which had been emailed to the Trustees, and personal interviews with each candidate.

Mr. Connor stated he reviewed the applications and agrees those recommended by Mr. Holbert fit the qualifications for the Board.

Mr. LaBarbara stated Mr. Jack Pflum was omitted. He also asked about both Mr. Ten Eyck and Mr. Swanson applying for Zoning Commission.

Mr. Holbert explained Mr. Ten Eyck said he was willing to serve on the Land Use Committee.

Mr. Connor made a motion, seconded by Mr. Weidman, to approve the Land Use Committee candidates that Mr. Holbert proposed.

Mr. LaBarbara commented Jack Pflum should have been on that Board.

There was discussion on creating an alternate position. The Board decided not to create an alternate for the Land Use Committee.

Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Connor made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to nominate Mr. Bill Swanson to the position of Alternate on the Zoning Commission. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Nuisance Resolutions – 8671 Darnell Ave. and 12099 3rd Ave.

The resolution “Providing for and Authorizing Removal of Vegetation, Garbage, Refuse and Other Debris and Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 8671 Darnell Avenue, Sycamore Township, OH 45236” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Connor, seconded by Mr. Weidman, dispensing with the second reading. Mr. Porter called the roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2019-84 passed this 20th day of August, 2019.

The resolution “Providing for and Authorizing Removal of Vegetation, Garbage, Refuse and Other Debris and Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 12099 3rd Avenue, Sycamore Township, OH 45249” 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. 2019-85 passed this 20th day of August, 2019.

Parks and Recreation Update

Mr. McKeown thanked Steve Reutelshofer for filling in for him at the Car Show which was a great success.

Mr. McKeown reported on an event coming up on September 14th at McDaniel Park called Softball with the Stars. He stated the event will include reality TV stars and raise money for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. He noted the organizers looked around Hamilton County for a location for this event and chose McDaniel Park.

Sheriff Department Update

Lt. Smith reported on a meeting with the people who conducted the research study on police services through the University of Cincinnati stating it was a very good discussion.

Lt. Smith stated he will be attending the Community Forum that the Township is co-hosting regarding the addiction crisis at Deer Park High School on August 27th.

Lt. Smith said, beginning in September, the patrol division will be taking on a new task formerly handled by the court services division. There will be territory cars spread out throughout the County to serve subpoenas and summons and court related paperwork. He noted they will not be Township patrol cars but rather County vehicles. He stated a County car will be appointed to the Sycamore Township, Symmes Township and City of Silverton region and, when not serving court documents, will be another patrol out on the streets.

Lt. Smith also reported that effective July 30th, hemp became legal in the State of Ohio. He stated this is defined as a THC level of less than 0.3%. Lt. Smith discussed the issue that currently no crime labs in the State of Ohio are able to test the THC level for this requirement. He handed an opinion from the Hamilton County Prosecutor regarding this to Mr. Miller. Lt. Smith said the Sheriff's Office will still confiscate marijuana, but will not be able to file charges until the lab has the capability to perform the proper testing. There was continued discussion on this change in the law.

Lt. Smith informed the Board of upcoming active shooter presentations at Township businesses and schools.

Mr. LaBarbara asked if the UC study to which Lt. Smith referred is the study the Township paid for. Mr. Bickford answered yes and discussed the status.

Mr. Connor pointed out there is a new principal at St. Vincent Ferrer and requested Lt. Smith contact her to introduce himself.

Fire Department Update

Chief Penny commented on the Kenwood Towne Center active shooter training explained how police and fire personnel work together very closely on those drills. He then discussed changes to the protocol for those trainings and the improvements made through practicing.

Chief Penny reported the Crown Victoria had been on the County auction site and expired yesterday without bids. Mr. LaBarbara suggested donating it to Goodwill and Chief Penny stated he will contact them.

Chief Penny stated the hydrant painting program has been going well with 60 hydrants painted so far mostly in the Dillonvale area.

Maintenance Update

Mr. Kellums reported on the continuation of the Sycamore Road Project stating they are ready to put curb in on the west side and will be paving soon. He stated in two or three weeks the traffic pattern will flip to allow work on the east side. He noted that work will require a complete closure of the road. Mr. Kellums said the Township received a check from ODOT for a little over \$331,000 for their share of the grant for right of way acquisition.

Mr. Kellums said the Montgomery Road Sidewalk Project is moving along and should be out to bid in mid-October with advertisement on the State's website.

Mr. Kellums said work on the Bechtold Park Pavilion is nearing completion.

Mr. Kellums reported on the Kugler Mill Road Project noting he had a couple of resolutions to present having to do with obtaining the necessary easements.

Mr. Kellums stated the Board of Zoning Appeals approved the maintenance storage building.

Mr. Bickford then presented slides showing the changes made to the plans for the project after Mr. Kellums met with concerned residents on three occasions. He explained the project in detail noting the net loss of green space was about 22,000 square feet, the building and the salt dome locations had been flipped, and all operations were moved out of residents' line of sight. He also spoke about how drainage issues had been addressed and discussed the lighting plan.

Mr. Connor asked how much green space the Township will gain at Bechtold once the current pole barn there is removed.

Mr. Bickford answered 7,000 square feet.

Mr. Kellums reviewed the concerns expressed in the meetings with residents and pointed out the porta-lets will be removed as there will be public restrooms. He went on to address the suggestion that the maintenance facility be constructed at Bechtold Park. He said this plan allows us to recapture green space at Bechtold which is one of our premier parks where we have a lot of shelter rentals. Mr. Kellums noted, at the time that pole barn was built, Bechtold Park was about the only property the Township had so there was no place else to put it. He noted the difficulties with getting utilities at Bechtold which are all readily available at the administration complex.

Mr. Bickford addressed the reasoning for the parking configuration on the plan and showed an overlay slide that depicted the old plan versus the new plan.

Mr. Kellums requested a motion to advertise for bids to complete this project.

Mr. Connor made a motion to advertise for bids for the Maintenance Facility Project, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Kellums reported at the Highpoint Blockwatch there was discussion about resident requests to acquire their portion of a paper street. Mr. Weidman stated he had requested a report from Mr. Clark about the paper streets that are located in the Highpoint neighborhood.

Mr. LaBarbara asked Mr. Kellums if the road work on Quailhollow had been completed.

Mr. Kellums stated the project is complete but noted the cul de sacs are a little rough and, although the product was better, it was a messy job. He said he is meeting the contractor on site today and hopes that there can be some remedial work done to remedy those issues. He noted this is not new pavement and discussed the benefits of the product used.

Resolution – Authorizing a Contract with Right of Way Solutions, LLC

The resolution "Authorizing a Contract with Right of Way Solutions, LLC" 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. 2019-86 passed this 20th day of August, 2019.

Resolution – Authorizing a Contract with Dennis A. Ziccardi & Associates, LLC

The resolution “Authorizing a Contract with Dennis A. Ziccardi & Associates, LLC” 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. 2019-87 passed this 20th day of August, 2019.

Mr. Miller stated he had mentioned at the last Trustees meeting that he would be bringing forward the contract for the Township’s obligation for the Pine Road TIF for Lucke Land and the additional detention basin.

Resolution – Authorizing the Purchase and Closing of the Real Property Located on Pine Road Being 1.2511 in Sycamore Township

The resolution “Authorizing the Purchase and Closing of the Real Property Located on Pine Road Being 1.2511 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. 2019-88 passed this 20th day of August, 2019.

Purchase Orders Over \$2,500

Mr. Bickford presented the following purchase orders for approval:

Blanket Vendor	Fire Capital	\$150,000
Blanket Vendor	Medical Exams	\$25,000
Blanket Vendor	Tuition Reimbursement	\$20,000

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 referred those in attendance to the written schedule of events.

Mr. Connor reported on the upcoming Community Forum addressing the addiction crisis saying it will be held Tuesday, August 27th beginning with dinner at 5:00 p.m. provided by Bridge of Hope Church. He noted that the Deer Park School District is providing the venue and assisting with scheduling and Bridge of Hope Church is providing dinner complimentary and doing a tremendous job of publicizing the event.

Chief Penny thanked Trustee Connor for his efforts trying to improve Dillonvale Shopping Center.

Mr. Miller stated he will be out of town Labor Day week so Mr. Desai will be in attendance at meetings. He requested resolution requests be submitted as soon as possible.

Mr. Weidman asked what happened with the Moeller Board of Zoning Appeals hearing.

Mr. Miller said the case was heard and went on quite late noting it was continued until the September 16th Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting.

A motion to enter into **Executive Session to discuss Property Acquisition** was made by Trustee Connor and seconded by Trustee LaBarbara.

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

End regular session: 10:08 a.m.

Begin Executive Session: 10:12 a.m.

End Executive Session: 10:32 a.m.

Back in regular session: 10:33 a.m.

Mr. Kellums stated he had a purchase order for \$22,000 for Brandstetter Carroll for the additional work they did to modify the plans for the maintenance facility.

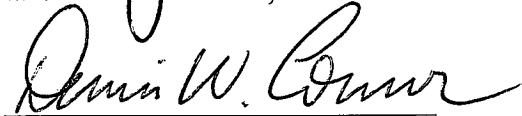
Mr. Connor made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara. Mr. Porter called roll. All Aye.

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

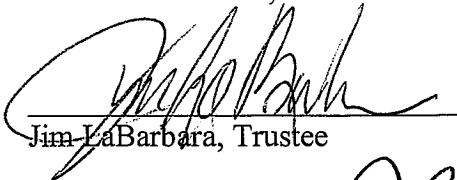
End regular session: 10:33a.m.



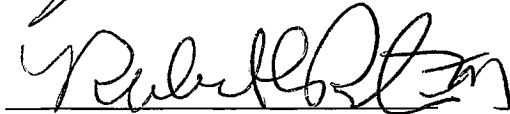
Thomas J. Weidman, Chairman



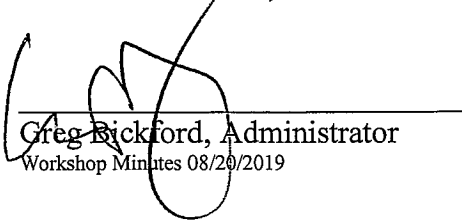
Dennis W. Connor, Vice Chairman



Jim LaBarbara, Trustee



Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer



Greg Bickford, Administrator