

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of the Trustees of Sycamore Township Meeting
Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio
September 17, 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, Attorney Deepak Desai, Administrator Bickford, Superintendent/Assistant Administrator Kellums, Parks/Recreation Director McKeown, Fire Chief Penny and Lt. Smith from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. Planning and Zoning Administrator Holbert was excused.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Weidman. Mr. McKeown had to leave for an appointment and had requested his report move to the top of the agenda.

Parks and Recreation Update

Mr. McKeown reported on the Softball with the Stars event which took place at McDaniel Park noting it went very well.

Mr. McKeown asked if the Trustees had received the Festival in Sycamore Income and Expense Report. He stated the gross expenses were \$123,615.27 and the income was \$33,363.95. He said the net expense was \$90,251.32 which is under budget.

Mr. LaBarbara stated there are still some expenses that could be cut including the radio advertising.

Approval of September 3, 2019 Workshop Minutes

Mr. Connor made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to approve the September 3, 2019 Workshop minutes.

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

Planning & Zoning Update

Mr. Bickford stated Mr. Holbert was in court and could not be present. He noted this is Mr. Holbert's last week with the Township, therefore, he will be filling that role in addition to his own until that position is filled.

Mr. Connor thanked Mr. Holbert for a tremendous job in a difficult assignment, noting he handled it with dignity and professionalism. Mr. Connor stated he wishes Mr. Holbert well in his new position.

Mr. Weidman agreed pointing out it is one of the most difficult jobs.

Mr. Weidman also brought up Roger Bien's property noting it had 45 cars parked there over the weekend in violation of the injunction. Mr. Bickford stated there is an upcoming court date regarding that issue.

Mr. Miller recommended the Board formally appoint Mr. Bickford Acting Planning and Zoning Administrator until a replacement is found.

Mr. Connor made a motion to appoint Mr. Bickford Interim Planning and Zoning Administrator until a replacement for Mr. Holbert is hired. Mr. LaBarbara seconded the motion. Mr. Porter called roll.
Vote: All Aye.

Nuisance Property Resolution – 4266 Williams St., 8109 Reading Rd. & 12098 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 4266 Williams Street., Sycamore Township, OH 45236” 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. 2019-97 passed this 17th day of September, 2019.

The resolution “Providing for and Authorizing Removal of Vegetation, Garbage, Refuse and Other Debris and Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 8109 Reading Road, Sycamore Township, OH 45237” 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. 2019-98 passed this 17th day of September, 2019.

The resolution “Providing for and Authorizing Removal of Vegetation, Garbage, Refuse and Other Debris and Declaring a Nuisance for the Property Located at 12098 3rd 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. 2019-99 passed this 17th day of September, 2019.

Sheriff Department Update

Lt. Smith reported the Sheriff’s Office is dealing with some speeding issues, primarily on Wicklow Avenue.

Lt. Smith stated final preparations are being made for the active shooter drill to take place at Kenwood Towne Center. He said the drill is tentatively scheduled for the last Sunday in October.

Fire Department Update

Chief Penny reported on a meeting that took place with the construction team for the Capital Investment project noting the Fire Department will be able to use some of the buildings for training exercises prior to their demolition.

Chief Penny also reported Firefighter Mike Kramer will be holding a Stop the Bleed class for Hamilton County Park Rangers.

Chief Penny informed the Board of a run by the Department that required them to administer treatment for a medical emergency in a confined attic space.

Maintenance Update

Mr. Kellums reported the results had just gotten back from testing the water in the basement at 6330 Kugler Mill Road, the condemned house scheduled to be demolished. He said he will be getting ahold of an environmental company to take care of the water which had an oily sheen and smelled like petroleum.

Mr. Kellums stated phase one on 7783-7789 Montgomery Road had begun.

Mr. Kellums said work on the Sycamore Road roundabout continues noting there is now no access to Plainfield Road from Sycamore Road. He also reported Bechtold Park is completely closed at the moment to prevent vehicles from using it as a cut through. He said tomorrow a sign will be put up there saying there is no access to Sycamore Road from the park and the Sycamore Road entrance to Bechtold Park will remain closed.

Mr. Kellums reported the wall on Kenwood Road is almost completed, noting D.J. Stone Company is doing a great job.

Mr. Kellums requested a motion to direct Mr. Miller to prepare a resolution authorizing Mr. Kellums to submit a SCIP grant application for Larchview Drive and allowing Mr. Kellums or Mr. Bickford to sign the agreements when they come back.

Mr. Connor made a motion to direct Law director Miller to prepare a resolution authorizing Mr. Kellums to submit a SCIP grant application for Larchview Drive and allowing Mr. Kellums or Mr. Bickford to sign the agreements. Mr. LaBarbara seconded. Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Lastly, Mr. Kellums reported maintenance staff would all be attending the Hamilton County Township Association training for snow plow drivers on Wednesday, September 18th.

Mr. LaBarbara brought up an email from a resident on Marieview Court concerned about early arrival of construction crews on a nearby project. Mr. Connor stated Mr. Durham has been made aware of it and will follow up on it.

A member of the public asked for clarification on the regulations for political campaign signs in the right of way. Mr. Kellums explained. There was then a question about a specific sign possibly being on Township property. Mr. Miller stated if the sign is found to be on Township property it will be removed. There was continued discussion regarding this subject.

Kemper Road Sidewalks

Mr. Bickford reported the Township did not get a grant for a sidewalk on the south side of Kemper Road. He noted a private property owner had offered to pay half the cost for sidewalks in front of their establishment. Mr. Bickford reviewed the details on the proposed location of the sidewalk and said he will report on it again later pending progress on obtaining a grant and when more information is available.

Employee Handbook

Mr. Bickford reported the draft of the employee handbook has been completed noting it is a modification of the current one in use by the Township to bring it up to date. Mr. Miller stated he has some changes to it and, when ready, it must be adopted by a resolution.

Purchase Orders Over \$2,500

Mr. Bickford presented the following purchase orders for approval:

U.S. Bank	Kenwood Towne Place TIF Balance	\$631,591.57
Blanket Vendor	Fire – Vehicles	\$17,518.00

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

Schedule

Mr. Weidman said the schedule of upcoming events was printed on the agenda.

Mr. Weidman reported he had received an email from a developer regarding the Pep Boys property that the Township is under contract to purchase.

Mr. Miller stated Pep Boys has a right of first refusal and this developer is proposing to purchase the front of the property and the Township take the back. He suggested the Board ignore it as he does not know if the developer has been in contact with Pep Boys.

There were questions from members of the public present regarding the plans for the Pep Boys property should the Township close on it. There was discussion about previous concept plans for the area with the intent to alleviate traffic congestion there.

Mr. Miller reported the Township's property on Kenwood Road consists of ten or more parcels which the engineer for the maintenance storage building project suggests should be consolidated. Mr. Miller said he has a deed to consolidate the parcels which requires a vote of approval by the Trustees their signatures.

Mr. Connor made a motion to approve the deed for the consolidation of the Township owned parcels. Mr. LaBarbara seconded. Mr. Porter called roll. All Aye.

Mr. Miller requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation in the Moeller case.

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

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

End regular session: 9:31 a.m.

Begin Executive Session: 9:35 a.m.

End Executive Session: 9:44 a.m.

Back in regular session: 9:45 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Connor to accept Judge Luebbers' suggestion that the Moeller case be rolled over to another judge. Mr. Weidman seconded.

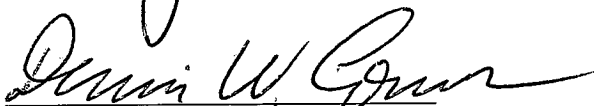
Mr. Porter called roll. Vote: Connor: Aye; LaBarbara: Nay; Weidman: Aye

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

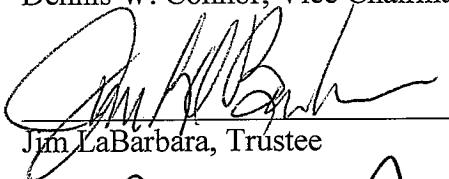
End regular session: 9:48 a.m.



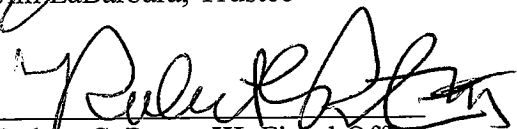
Thomas J. Weidman, Chairman



Dennis W. Connor, Vice Chairman



Jim LaBarbara, Trustee



Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer



Greg Bickford, Administrator
Workshop Minutes 09/17/2019