

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of the Trustees of Sycamore Township Meeting
Sycamore Township, Hamilton County, Ohio
December 15, 2020

NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the issuance of guidelines to limit public gatherings by Governor DeWine and the Director of the Ohio Department of Health, and due to enabling legislation (House Bill 404) which extended the ability of local governments in Ohio to meet remotely during this time, this meeting was held remotely via Zoom. Video of the meeting was live streamed to the public on the internet.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Present for the meeting were Chairman LaBarbara, Vice Chairman James, Trustee Weidman, Fiscal Officer Porter, Law Director Desai, Administrator Warrick, Superintendent/Assistant Administrator Kellums, Planning & Zoning Administrator Miller, Fire Chief Penny, and Parks and Public Spaces Supervisor Jason Petty. Lt. Tarr from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office was absent.

Approval of Electronic Signatures

The Trustees, Fiscal Officer, Law Director and Administrator all gave their permission for their signatures to be applied electronically to any documents approved at the meeting.

Approval of the December 1, 2020 Trustees Workshop Meeting Minutes

The December 1, 2020 Trustees Workshop Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Mr. LaBarbara made a motion, seconded by Mr. Weidman to accept them. Mr. LaBarbara called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Approval of the December 3, 2020 Trustees Workshop Meeting Minutes

The December 3, 2020 Trustees Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Mr. LaBarbara made a motion, seconded by Mr. Weidman to accept them. Mr. LaBarbara called roll. Vote: All Aye.

FISCAL OFFICER ITEMS

The Receipts in the amount of \$310,151.41 and Disbursements in the amount of \$235,269.90 for December 3, 2020 were read by the Fiscal Officer 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: /s/ Robert C. Porter, III

Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. James to accept them. Mr. LaBarbara called roll. Vote: James: Aye; LaBarbara: Aye; Weidman: Aye

EMS AND FIRE ITEMS

COVID-19 Update

Chief Penny reported since the last meeting 110 additional people to the quarantined at home list in Sycamore Township, and 88 people have been released from that list.

Chief Penny stated he is filing for reimbursement in the amount of \$279,187.00 for all COVID-19 related purchased from March 1st to July 7th before the Township received its first CARES Act funds.

Chief Penny reported the document pick up signs have been posted on the buildings in the administrative complex to guide people needing assistance with document pickup or drop off.

Mr. Weidman asked if all Fire Department personnel will be eligible to be vaccinated for COVID-19 and if all of them are interested in getting the vaccine.

Chief Penny answered vaccines will be received by the Fire Department. He stated he ordered 75 vials and had to purchase a refrigerator with a temperature gage which must be used only for vaccine storage. He added that he will be attending a webinar about the vaccine and will ask questions. He noted he is not sure if those who have already had the virus should get the vaccine, but he thinks most of the firefighters will want to be vaccinated. He said he is hoping to get that information in the webinar.

Chief Penny reported Hamilton County is reallocating money to communities who did not get money encumbered and we are eligible for \$145,570.00 from Hamilton County which must be appropriated so we can use it.

Mr. Warrick said this came in at 9:00 p.m. last night. He said we already have a resolution for amending 2020 resolutions so when we get to that resolution, he will add this amount.

Mr. Desai said after the resolution title is read, the Trustees can do a motion to amend the resolution to add that amount to it and then approve the resolution with the amendment.

Chief Penny said Congress is working on extending the deadline for spending the funds into 2021 but that is yet to be determined. He noted we can use money for payroll if we do not spend it all on purchases.

Mr. James asked if this money from Hamilton County heard about last night has the end of the year deadline.

Chief Penny answered yes.

Mr. James asked if there is an opportunity to sub grant this to another organization or government entity in need if we cannot spend it.

Mr. Warrick answered there would have to be an extension for us to even entertain that possibility as there is simply not enough time.

ROADS, MAINTENANCE & RECREATION ITEMS

Mr. Kellums reported Jason Petty is present to report on the park rules updates and the parks survey. He noted he had spoken to Mr. Desai about how to rewrite Section 8 having to do with firearms, so we are not quite ready to adopt it.

Park Rules Updates

Mr. Petty reported on the amendments to the park rules. He reviewed the changes for the Board which were also highlighted on the document shown.

Mr. James said he doesn't think the document is ready to go yet. He said he thinks the section regarding alcoholic beverages is unnecessarily restrictive. He pointed out a grammatical error. He noted the section regarding fires is inconsistent. He said he got feedback from a Parks Advisory Committee Member who suggested the committee look at the rules and the survey again. Mr. James said this is good but needs a little tweaking.

Mr. Kellums asked if the Trustees are satisfied with the language about the drones.

Mr. James said he was satisfied.

Mr. Miller noted the FAA also regulates drones.

Mr. James asked for the other Trustees input on the alcoholic beverages section.

Mr. LaBarbara said he agrees with Mr. James. He said he also received emails from a Committee member wanting this item and the park survey tabled so the committee can look at it again.

Mr. Weidman said he is ok with the language in the alcoholic beverage section as presented but would yield to other two Trustees.

Parks and Recreation Survey

Mr. Petty reported on the parks survey and showed the document to the Board.

Mr. Weidman asked how we will get this out to the public.

Mr. Petty explained he was working with Ms. Gunderson.

Ms. Gunderson stated she was planning to send the survey out using Constant Contact and share a link to the survey on the Township website and social media platforms.

Mr. Weidman noted the most important thing is to get input from a lot of people, so we do not get skewed information. He said information about the survey should be included in the print newsletter.

Mr. Miller suggested putting the QR code in the print newsletter for the public to scan.

Mr. James suggested making a sign with the QR code and posting it at some intersections within the Township.

Mr. James suggested changing the survey to allow respondents to rank the parks instead of choosing one favorite and that addresses of the parks be included in the survey for clarity.

Mr. LaBarbara said he had a request from a Parks Advisory Committee member to remove question #14, "How can we improve our parks to provide a better experience for our senior citizens?", from the survey.

Mr. James said the question is how much this will cost and suggested instead of "would you like a nature preserve" we should ask "would you like to see the Township put financial resources towards having a nature preserve with walking trails".

Mr. Kellums agreed noting it would take a lot of money and a lot of work.

Mr. LaBarbara said there was a study conducted about putting a nature preserve on 16 acres out by School Road.

Mr. Kellums said that would be costly; it is very rugged and would take a lot of work.

Mr. LaBarbara said this should have future consideration.

Mr. James asked why we are holding that property by School Road and why it was purchased.

Mr. Weidman stated he believes it was purchased as green space. He said the study was done to look at putting trails in and there was a lot of opposition from residents who didn't want people walking around close to their homes. He said it was also expensive due to topography to create trails.

There was continued discussion about a nature preserve or walking trails, the possibility of volunteers to help and if it would have to be ADA compliant.

Mr. Warrick said we would have to investigate all liability noting in today's world there is no easy way to do it.

Mr. Petty reported he had invoiced a total of \$14,837.50 for ball field rentals. He said to date \$6,652.50 has been paid so quite a few are outstanding. He noted this is from June on as fields were shutdown prior to that due to the pandemic.

Mr. James stated he had received emails from some people about Moeller using our ball fields for practice as they are now promoting online that they are using fields on Grooms Road in Blue Ash. He asked if Moeller is still using our fields and if they are paying rent.

Mr. Petty answered yes noting any time Moeller gets a field permit they pay the field rental fee.

Mr. Kellums reported curbside leaf pick up season is over.

Mr. Kellums reported he will attend a Zoom meeting about restaurant relief tomorrow. He noted this is pushing right up to the deadline and he is not sure how we are supposed to get this done this fast.

Mr. Kellums said Maintenance Storage Building construction continues. He then reported he looked at the former Taco Bell building on Montgomery Road and it is in pretty rough condition. He said the Township would be throwing money away to repair it; therefore, it would be best to raze the building. Mr. Kellums reported he had requested bids to raze the building and received responses from two people. The lowest bid was from Robert Jacobs, Inc. for \$9,640.00. He requested a motion to accept this bid saying the demolition could be done in the next two weeks. He pointed out he is still working on getting Duke Energy to shut off gas and remove the gas meter. He stated a purchase order has already been approved to do this in 2020, if not done this year a new purchase order would have to be approved.

Mr. LaBarbara stated the building is an eyesore and he would like to move forward.

Mr. Weidman agreed saying the bid is a great price.

Mr. James agreed.

There was some discussion about the demolition.

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mr. LaBarbara, to proceed with the demolition of the former Taco Bell building accepting the bid presented by Mr. Kellums from Robert Jacobs, Inc. in the amount of \$9,640.00. Mr. LaBarbara called roll. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Warrick said he found out yesterday the Township has been awarded a \$110,000.00 grant to replace the Bechtold Park Playground. He stated we had asked for \$140,000.00 but got \$110,000.00.

Mr. Weidman asked where the grant was from.

Mr. Kellums answered it is a CDBG Grant.

Mr. Kellums reported one of our projects rated very well for a retaining wall at the corner of Gwilada and Donegal that has collapsed for an OBWC grant so it looks like we will get funding.

Mr. James asked about the delays in the construction of the maintenance storage building and possible financial penalties against the contractor.

Mr. Kellums answered he is very disappointed in this contractor noting there have been gorgeous days recently and no one working. He said there is another meeting about it tomorrow and we are in discussions about this with the engineer as well and reviewed other issues with utility companies involved in the project.

Mr. James said there is a snowfall predicted and asked if the delay in finishing the project will affect snow removal operations.

Mr. Kellums answered it will not; the maintenance department is ready for the predicted snowfall.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

Mr. Miller reported the Zoning Commission heard three cases remotely last night. He said the first two cases, 2020-07Z and 2020-08P1, heard were for 8760 Montgomery Road and involved a zone change request from “B” Single Family Residential to “DD” Planned Multi-Family and along with the zone change application there was a PUD1 proposal. He said there were 45 people on the Zoom call including staff, with about a dozen residents who actively spoke and voiced concerns about the plan to construct 22 multi-family units on the two-and-a-half-acre site. He said although the density is considered moderate, the Zoning Commission still decided it was too dense and made a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to deny the zone change and tabled the PUD1 review until after the Trustees make a final decision on the zone change.

Mr. Miller reported the third case, 2020-09P2, for 8469 Blue Ash Road, is for a proposed new tenant, Door Dash, in the building currently being used as a multi-tenant space. The Zoning Commission made a recommendation to approve this with a couple of conditions noting a concern about late night operations.

Mr. Miller said the cases must be heard by the Board of Trustees within 30 days after the Zoning Commission and the next regular Trustees Meeting on January 19th falls outside of that timeframe. He requested a special meeting to hear the cases. He said he spoke to Debbie Campbell who would like to have some checks approved and proposed January 12th for a Special Meeting date.

All three Trustees agreed with that date.

Expiring Zoning Board Terms

Mr. Miller reported there are three Zoning Board members with expiring terms. All three are willing to continue serving, attend meetings regularly and contribute to the Board.

The Trustees agreed to renew the terms.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James to renew the four-year term for Zoning Commission member Anne Flanagan. Mr. LaBarbara called roll. All Aye.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James to renew the one-year term for Zoning Commission Alternate Bill Swanson. Mr. LaBarbara called roll. All Aye.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James to renew the four-year term for Board of Zoning Appeals member Steve Scholtz. Mr. LaBarbara called roll. All Aye.

Board of Zoning Appeals Alternate

Mr. Miller reported Alternate Tracy Hughes was moved up to member of the Board of Zoning appeals after the retirement of Mr. Eichmann and he advertised for a new alternate. He said he received several resumes for the alternate position. He then recommended Mr. Michael D. Schwartz who he noted is an excellent candidate with much Planning and Zoning experience.

Mr. Weidman made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, to appoint Mr. Schwartz to the position of alternate on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Weidman noted Mr. Schwartz is the best candidate for the job.

Mr. James agreed and thanked the others who also reached out with interest in the position.

Mr. LaBarbara agreed.

Mr. LaBarbara called roll. All Aye.

Mr. Miller reviewed a property for which his office had received a complaint on an ATV and not gotten response from the owner.

Mr. James asked if there had been attempts to contact the owner.

Mr. Miller answered, yes, with no response.

Resolution – 8564 Plainfield Lane Nuisance Vehicle Resolution

“A 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 and Dispensing with the Second Reading” was presented by Mr. Miller. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman seconded by Mr. James to approve the resolution and dispense with the second reading. Mr. Warrick called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2020-96 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Mr. Miller reported on a property on Sycamore Road for which his office had received a complaint about a junk vehicle and not gotten response from the owner.

The Board asked questions about the vehicle. There was discussion about what qualifies as a junk vehicle and getting the VIN number. It was decided to hold off on the junk vehicle resolution pending running the plates.

Mr. James asked if anything further has happened on charrette.

Mr. Miller answered he had received a 90% draft yesterday from Market Metrics, our economist, which he will be getting out to Trustees soon. He said he is working on scheduling for focus groups.

LAW DIRECTOR ITEMS

Mr. Desai reported he has worked with Mr. Warrick and Mr. Kellums and has three addresses for which he is working on applying for tax exempt status as Township owned property used for public purpose. He said the applications are with Mr. Warrick and need Mr. LaBarbara's signature. He said the applications must be turned in by the end of the year.

Mr. Desai reported on the lawsuit involving the Board of Zoning Appeals decision in the Moeller High School Parking lot case. He said Kathy Willis appealed the decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals to grant Moeller permission to build a parking lot. Mr. Desai said the BZA decision was upheld by Magistrate Berding and was then appealed again by Ms. Willis. He reported Judge Dinkelacker upheld Magistrate Berding's decision to uphold the Board of Zoning Appeals decision. Mr. Desai said tomorrow is the thirty-day deadline to appeal that decision noting he hopes the attorneys for Moeller and Ms. Willis are able to settle the matter.

Mr. Desai stated litigation involving Deer Park Auto will be discussed in executive session.

Mr. Desai stated there is a resident building without a permit. He reported Zoning Inspector Kevin Clark spoke to attorney Rob Butler about the possibility of filing an injunctive action to comply with permit requirements.

Mr. James asked for the location of this violation.

Mr. Miller answered it is on Jud Drive. He added the property owner refuses to comply or work with us in any way.

There was a discussion about this issue and why Mr. Butler is involved.

Mr. James asked Mr. Miller about a resident's concerns about lighting at Moeller High School. He said he understood Mr. Miller and Mr. Clark used a light meter and found the light at the property line to be compliant, however, a resident bought his own light meter which showed it non-compliant.

Mr. Miller answered it is a borderline violation. He said he spoke to a representative from Moeller about the problem and Moeller was to angle the lights or shield them to help with the glare. He stated this will be reviewed again after the meeting to check if that was done. He said he had followed up with the resident about it.

ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS

2021 Budget Presentation

Mr. Warrick reported on the 2021 budget pointing out the opening balances noted are through mid-November and the actual opening balances will be available January 1st. He reviewed what was included in the revenue lines noting the JEDZ income will be moved over at the beginning of the year to be managed by Department Heads mainly Tracy Kellums, Rob Penny and Administration. He pointed out the appropriation amount the Trustees will be asked to approve in a resolution, is \$52,032,171.00. He then discussed using monthly budget reports by UAN in 2021.

Mr. Warrick said the net amount in the budget doesn't look great because it shows the Township spending \$9,000,000.00 of reserves. He pointed out large one-time only expenses including \$5,000,000.00 which is part of the 25% of unencumbered TIF funds we may use due to COVID-19. He noted there is also over \$3,000,000.00 in this budget to retire the debt on the new maintenance storage building which he believes we can get from TIF dollars. Mr. Warrick said even if the Board approves the appropriations, no action will be taken at this time.

Mr. Warrick went on to discuss the JEDZ money noting it will now be moved at the beginning of the year instead of at the end of the year to help us get a handle of what our spending should be and tighten our belts. He went on to discuss using TIF funds instead of operating funds by, for example, purchasing new equipment instead of paying for costly repairs.

Resolution – Adopting Appropriations for Calendar Year 2021

The resolution “Adopting Appropriations for Calendar Year 2021 and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. James, to approve the resolution.

Mr. James requested next year we convey some of this information to the public earlier.

Mr. LaBarbara thanked Mr. Warrick saying in the past we haven’t had this kind of presentation.

Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2020-97 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Resolution – Authorizing Membership in the Coalition of Large Urban Townships

The resolution “Authorizing Membership in the Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. James, to approve the resolution. Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2020-98 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Resolution – Authorizing Payment for Association Dues

The resolution “Authorizing Payment for Association Dues and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. James, to approve the resolution. Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2020-99 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Resolution – Amending 2020 Appropriations

The resolution “Amending 2020 Appropriations, Dispensing with a Second Reading and Declaring an Emergency” was read.

Mr. Weidman made a motion to amend the resolution to add the \$145,570.00 available funds. Mr. James seconded. Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Weidman made a motion to adopt the amended resolution. Mr. James seconded. Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2020-100 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Resolution – Requesting the County Auditor to Make Advance Payments of Taxes

The resolution “Requesting the County Auditor to Make Advance Payments of Taxes and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was read. A motion was made by Mr. LaBarbara, seconded by Mr. James, to approve the resolution. Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2020-101 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Resolution – Retaining the Law Firm of Donnellon, Donnellon & Miller as Legal Counsel and Retaining Deepak K. Desai as the Township Law Director

The resolution “Retaining the Law Firm of Donnellon, Donnellon & Miller as Legal Counsel and Retaining Deepak K. Desai, an Attorney with Donnellon, Donnellon & Miller, as the Township Law Director, Dispensing with a Second Reading and Declaring an Emergency” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. James, to approve the resolution.

Mr. James said the amount being paid as the fixed fee is higher than last year, but this year it will cover 24 meetings as part of the base rate instead of 12 meetings. He said he wants that to be clear for the public that we are coming out ahead in terms of what hourly billing might have been, therefore, this is a better deal for the Township.

Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2020-102 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Mr. Warrick said the Fiscal Officer salary is set by the State and is currently \$32,161.00 annually.

Resolution – Setting the Township Fiscal Officer’s Salary and Benefits

The resolution “Setting the Fiscal Officer’s Salary and Benefits and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was read. A motion was made by Mr. , seconded by Mr. to approve the resolution. Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2020-103 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Mr. Warrick stated the next resolution establishes mileage allowance noting we use the IRS mileage rate.

Resolution – Establishing Mileage Allowance for Township Employees Providing for Reimbursement Expenses

The resolution “Establishing Mileage Allowance for Township Employees Providing for Reimbursement and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman , seconded by Mr. James to approve the resolution.

Mr. James asked what sort of vehicular usage this could be since we have a fleet of Township vehicles.

Mr. Warrick said we don’t use it much at all as we try to use Township owned vehicles.

Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2020-104 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Mr. Warrick said the Trustees salaries are also set by the State noting Mr. Weidman and Mr. LaBarbara will make \$22,676.04 in 2021 and Mr. James, who came into office at a different timeframe, will make a little more at \$23,475.96.

Resolution - Providing for Compensation to the Township Trustees

The resolution “Providing for Compensation to the Township Trustees and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. James to approve the resolution. Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2020-105 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Mr. Warrick said the next resolution allows for insurance for the Trustees noting the life insurance benefit payout varies according to age.

Providing Insurance Benefits to the Township Trustees

The resolution “Providing Insurance Benefits to the Township Trustees and Dispensing with a Second Reading” was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. James, to approve the resolution.

Mr. James noted the resolution states the medical and dental insurance provided to the Trustees is no greater than that offered to full time employees and asked if the rates for life insurance are the same as other employees.

Mr. Warrick answered no, the Trustees life insurance benefit is greater.

Mr. James asked if this is the same as it has been in the past.

Mr. Warrick answered yes.

Mr. James said there are certain legal restrictions about voting on your own compensation. He asked Mr. Desai if he was good with this.

Mr. Desai said the only restriction is that it cannot be more than a \$50,000.00 benefit.

Mr. Warrick confirmed we are compliant with that cap.

Mr. Desai said he looked at the group life and health insurance statutes and the uniformity only applies to group health insurance it is not there with the group life insurance.

Mr. James asked why we are providing life insurance for the Trustees.

Mr. Desai stated it is authorized under the Ohio Revised Code. He said if the Board wants to make a policy change, they have the authority but Title Five allows life insurance to be available not just for Trustees but for all employees.

Mr. James asked if we are providing employees with life insurance albeit in different amounts.

Mr. Warrick answered yes.

Mr. James said he will not make waves about it this year, but he would like to look into it moving forward.

Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.
Resolution No. 2020-106 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

Mr. Warrick said the Records Commission Meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday, December 17th at 3:00 p.m. He said he, the Chairman of the Board, the Fiscal Officer, Debbie Campbell and Beth Gunderson will be present, and others are welcome.

Mr. James said he would like to join the Zoom meeting. He said if it is a public meeting, it should be live streamed to the public, recorded and available for viewing on YouTube, noting even though there is a cost involved it is worthwhile.

TRUSTEE ITEMS

Mr. Weidman spoke about the COVID-19 vaccine becoming available noting the Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency has three freezers ready for vaccine storage. He said hopefully availability of the vaccine will increase in the future in Hamilton County. Mr. Weidman wished all our residents a very Merry Christmas, a happy and safe holiday season and a better new year.

Mr. James said his first year on the Board has been interesting. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy Hanukkah and thanked the Township staff and leaf crew.

Mr. LaBarbara stated one of his wife's nurses at Jewish Hospital was recently hit by a car when she was walking on the crosswalk on E. Galbraith Road. He said the accident is being researched. He said three others were hit in same location noting the problem is cars coming out of the medical building are turning left while people in the crosswalk have a walk light. He said he has passed this on to Mr. Kellums and Mr. Reutelshofer who are talking to Hamilton County about it since Galbraith is a County Road. Mr. LaBarbara also wished hope 2021 calmer year.

ANNOUNCEMENT CHANGES

Mr. LaBarbara said he understands the Parks Committee Meetings is cancelled. He said the next Trustees Meeting will be January 19th at 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session with Law Director Deepak Desai as permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 to consider the compensation of a public employee was made by Mr. LaBarbara and seconded by Mr. Weidman.

Mr. LaBarbara invited the following people into the Executive Session with the Trustees: Administrator Ray Warrick and Tracy Kellums.

Mr. LaBarbara called roll: Vote: James: Aye; LaBarbara: Aye; Weidman: Aye

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session with Law Director Deepak Desai as permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 to discuss pending litigation was made by Mr. LaBarbara and seconded by Mr. James.

Mr. LaBarbara invited the following people into the Executive Session with the Trustees: Administrator Ray Warrick, Tracy Kellums and Skylor Miller.

Mr. LaBarbara called roll: Vote: James: Aye; LaBarbara: Aye; Weidman: Aye

Mr. Desai noted we are doing two executive sessions permitted by the Ohio Sunshine Laws for compensation and pending litigation.

Mr. James said Mr. LaBarbara said the next meeting will be January 19th and noted the Board also discussed a Special Meeting on January 12th.

Mr. Miller asked what time the zoning public hearing should start.

There was discussion about the best time to hold the public hearings. It was decided to begin the public hearings for the zoning cases at 6:00 p.m.

End regular session: 10:50 a.m.

Begin Executive Session: 10:55 a.m.

End Executive Session: 11:40 a.m.

Back in regular session: 11:42 a.m.

Mr. LaBarbara called roll all three Trustees indicated they were present.

Mr. Weidman made a motion to approve the Settlement Agreement with Deer Park Auto at \$8,000.00 and amend the existing agreement to \$15,000.00 per violation. Mr. James seconded. Mr. LaBarbara called roll. Vote: All Aye.

The resolution "Establishing Rates of Pay and Benefits for Township Employees" was read. A motion was made by Mr. Weidman, seconded by Mr. James to approve the resolution.

Mr. James said we value our Township employees very much and have a great staff and the pay rates resolution reflects that.

Mr. Weidman agreed saying the staff does a super job and thanked them for the great job they do.

Mr. LaBarbara agreed and thanked the staff also.

Mr. LaBarbara called the roll. Vote: All Aye.

Resolution No. 2020-107 passed this 15th day of December, 2020.

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

End regular session: 11:45 a.m.

/s/ Jim LaBarbara

Jim LaBarbara, Chairman

/s/ Thomas C. James, Jr.

Thomas C. James, Jr., Vice Chairman

/s/ Thomas J. Weidman

Thomas J. Weidman, Trustee

/s/ Robert C. Porter, III

Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

/s/ Ray Warrick

Ray Warrick, Administrator

Workshop Minutes 12/15/2020