

**RAVENNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 07, 2015**

The Ravenna Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Session at the Ravenna Township Trustee's Meeting Room, 6115 Spring Street, Ravenna, Ohio, on July 07, 2015. Trustee Hank Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. Roll call showed the following present: Trustees Hank Gibson, Pat Artz and Vince Coia; Fiscal Officer Gail Pittman; Department Heads Zoning Inspector/Liaison Jim DiPaola and Assistant Fiscal Officer Jon Summers. Fire Chief Mark Kozak and Road Supervisor Darrell Stephens were absent. Audience members were Mark Smith and Tom Furry.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 23, 2015. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

A motion by Pat Artz, seconded by Vince Coia to approve the minutes of the Emergency Board Meeting of June 23, 2015. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Hank Gibson announced the correspondence book was present and available for public viewing.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Pat Artz to approve payroll warrants for July 10, 2015 in the amount of \$44,143.35 and other warrants in the amount of \$10,555.86 with warrants over \$1,000.00 read aloud. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Financial reports were reviewed from the meeting of June 23, 2015 along with June bank reconciliation and June month-end reports and all were found to be in good order. A motion by Pat Artz, seconded by Vince Coia to accept the financial reports as presented. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

OLD BUSINESS:
TRUSTEES

Hank asked Mark Smith for an update on the work on his McElrath project. Mark said that they agree to pay for the tipping fees on the dumpsters. They have also formed a corporation to handle the operations and are waiting to have the owners of blighted properties sign them over. The Trustees talked with Mark about neighborhood issues and their ideas for improvement. Hank asked Jim whether there were any grant opportunities available. Jim said he is still looking into that. Vince told Mark he will get the phone number for Mark so he can talk directly with the dumpster company and nail down the tipping fees.

Audience member Tom Furry, living at 6318 Peck Rd, was present to see what the Trustees can do about his neighbor burning trash in a large fire pit. He complained that the continual fire is leaving ash all over his vehicles and throwing embers on his roof. Hank suggested he calls the Health Department. Tom said the Health Dept. won't do anything. He said that Fire Chief Kozak had come out and stated that the fire was not in compliance. Pat said that she will call the EPA regarding the burning and also about the neighbor on the other side with a mess in their yard.

Resolutions for the General and Fire levy renewals were discussed next.

RES #15-120 A motion by Pat Artz, seconded by Hank Gibson to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(A) authorizes the Trustees to levy a tax upon all taxable property in the Township for current expenses; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.192 authorizes the Trustees to renew an existing levy; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees desire to renew an existing tax levy for operating expenses for the Township of (3.5) mills for a period of five (5) years; and

WHEREAS, the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary expenses of Ravenna Township, Portage County, Ohio;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED, by the Ravenna Township Board of Trustees, Portage County, Ohio, all of the members duly appointed concurring, that it is necessary to renew said tax levy in excess of the ten mill limitation for the benefit of the Township and for the purpose of current expenses, at a rate not to exceed (3.5) mill for each one dollar of valuation, for the tax years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the question of such tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of Ravenna Township at the election to be held therein on November 3, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to certify a copy of the resolution to the County Auditor and the Board of Election, Portage County, Ohio. The Board of Trustees hereby requests that the County Auditor certify to the Board of Trustees the total current tax valuation of Ravenna Township and the dollar revenue that would be generated by the tax levy if approved by the electors.

R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES #15-121 A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of Ravenna Township, Portage County, Ohio: and

WHEREAS, there currently is a levy in excess of the ten mill limitation for the benefit of Ravenna Township for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials, therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines or fire alarm telegraph or the payment of permanent, part-time, or volunteer firemen or firefighting companies to operate the same or to purchase ambulance equipment or to provide ambulance for emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, as provided by Ohio Revised Code Section 505.39; 5705.19(1) and

WHEREAS, this levy will expire on December 31, 2015, and it is necessary to adopt a renewal levy; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code, Section 5705.192 authorizes the Board of the Township Trustees to renew an existing levy;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED, by the Ravenna Township Board of Trustees, Portage County, Ohio, all of the members duly appointed concurring, that it is necessary to renew said tax levy in excess of the ten mill limitation for the benefit of the Township and for those purposes described herein above and pursuant to O.R.C. 505.39 and O.R.C. 5705.19(1) at a rate not to exceed five (5.0) mills for each one dollar valuation for the tax years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 and be it further

RESOLVED, that the levy be placed upon the tax lists of the tax year commencing in 2016, first due in calendar year 2017, in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.35; after the November settlement next succeeding the election, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the question of such tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of Ravenna Township at the election to be held therein on November 3, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to certify a copy of the resolution to the County Auditor and the Board of Election, Portage County, Ohio. The Board of Trustees hereby requests that the County Auditor certify to the Board of Trustees the total current tax valuation of Ravenna Township and the dollar revenue that would be generated by the tax levy if approved by the electors.

R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

FISCAL OFFICER

Fiscal Officer Gail Pittman was present and reported the following:

Financial reports have been distributed to the Trustees and department heads in Excel spreadsheets.

The Budget Commission has approved the reallocation of inside millage for the 2015 tax year to be collected in 2016.

The Attorney General issued an opinion regarding health insurance reimbursements on June 30th and we are awaiting interpretation by Chris Meduri to see how, or if, it affects the Township.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Road Supervisor Darrell Stephens was absent and Vince Coia reported the following:

Darrell is still gathering information on the costs of crack sealing.

The brush chipper is still down and we continue to borrow the city's chipper.

Jim mentioned that he'd had a call from the Westwood Condo Association asking about Township policy regarding brush chipping and Spring cleanup. Discussion ensued noting that they were Township property tax payers and should get the spring cleanup benefits, but they were on private roads and their association fees are supposed to cover the lawn and brush maintenance.

RES #15-122 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to include the Westwood Condo Association neighborhood in the annual Spring Cleanup. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

Zoning Inspector/Liaison Jim DiPaola was present and reported the following:

The BZA meets on July 22, 2015 to hear a variance request on side and rear yard setbacks for an accessory building for Jim Vair on Summit Rd.

The Zoning Commission meets on July 15, 2015 to continue discussing language changes to the Zoning Code.

LIAISON

The computerized lighting program for the flag pole is up and running. The first Patriotic display of red, white and blue ran on July 4th. The Patriotic display runs about 20 minutes.

Overhead Door submitted a quote to repair and do preventative maintenance to the five (5) overhead doors in the fire department. The cost is \$1,301.20.

RES #15-123 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Pat Artz to approve the quote from Overhead Door for repair and maintenance to the five garage doors in the fire department at a cost not to exceed \$1,400.00. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Wright Heating submitted a quote to install a new commercial dehumidifier for the Administration and Zoning offices. The cost is \$2,535.00. The current residential dehumidifier is grossly undersized to handle the current demand and shuts down several times a day. The lowest humidity we have been able to obtain with the small unit is 65%. High humidity will damage electrical components and records.

RES #15-124 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to approve the quote from Wright Heating to install a new commercial dehumidifier at a cost not to exceed \$2,600.00. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Mark Kozak was absent and Jim DiPaola reported the following:

RES #15-125 A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve and accept the "Memorandum of Understanding between the Ravenna Township Board of Trustees and Ravenna Township Fire Fighters Association". R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES #15-126 A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve and accept the corrections to the RTFF CBA contract for spelling, grammatical and clerical errors as presented by Chief Kozak. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

The Chief has offered a part time firefighter/paramedic job to Ryan Bowers and is awaiting the results of his background check and physical. The Chief is also interviewing another applicant.

All shifts for July have been filled.

Surplus equipment continues to be sorted and sold.

Update on vehicle status:

Squad 2411 brakes and rotors have been replaced. The grounding issues have been repaired and new batteries installed.

Squad 2412 is going for an alignment on Thursday.

We continue to wait on the estimate for graphics for Tanker 2418.

NEW BUSINESS**TRUSTEES**

The Portage County Commissioners are considering a resolution in support of a moratorium on injection wells in Ohio on July 9th and are welcoming any comments on the draft resolution.

The Ravenna Balloon A-Fair sent a fund raising flyer requesting sponsors.

FISCAL OFFICER

The Portage County Treasurer has notified us that we are to receive estate tax payments totaling \$6,387 from the estates of Marion Desimio and William O’Neill.

A hardship adjustment request from LifeForce was considered. The Board agreed to accept \$5.00/month payment.

RES #15-127 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to approve the following PO’s and BC:

- a. PO #161-2015 in the amount of \$1,600.00 to Superior Dental for dental insurance for the remainder of 2015 from the Fire Fund.

R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES #15-128 A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve and accept the OPW Project Grant Agreement dated 7/1/15. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

AUDIENCE

There were no additional comments from the audience.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

ATTEST:

CHAIRMAN

TRUSTEE

FISCAL OFFICER

TRUSTEE