

Regular Meeting of the Goshen Township Trustees

March 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm with the pledge to the flag. Trustees Robert McCracken, Roger Heineman, Todd Beeson, and Fiscal Officer Tom Knoedler were present.

Approve Minutes:

Minutes of February 9th meeting were presented. Motion by McCracken, seconded by Beeson, to approve these minutes as distributed. All voted YES.

Approve Bills:

Motion by McCracken, seconded by Heineman, to approve payment of:

Payroll	\$ 46,427.89
Warrants	\$ 1,288.89
Electronic payments	<u>\$ 37,841.60</u>
Total	\$ 85,558.38

All voted YES.

The February 2015 bank statements are in balance and were reviewed by the Trustees.

Road Report:

The Fiscal Officer reported for Road Foreman Stryffeler that there were 2787 miles put on vehicles in February, there was one burial, 710 gallons of fuel were used, and 90 tons of salt/grit were spread.

Fire Report:

Fire Chief Derek Day reported that there were 8 fire runs in February and 44 EMS runs – 22 in Goshen, 16 in Butler, 1 in Knox, and 5 others.

Derek also expressed concern about the condition of county roads, noting slower response times by fire and EMS units due to poorly plowed roads, the deteriorating condition of all roads, and potential damage to expensive fire and EMS vehicles due to potholes. Derek was told to keep sending complaints to the Mahoning County Engineer.

The Goshen Township road department has on occasion plowed county roads and salted hills and intersections as a safety for township residents. Bob then read a letter from Rich Sandberg, President of Teamsters Local 377, telling Goshen to “cease and desist from doing this work and let the Mahoning County Road department do their own work. Goshen Township workers doing the County’s work costs my employees money, and they [the county] are better equipped to treat the county roads”.

Trustees agreed to instruct Road Foreman Stryffeler to continue to plow the county roadways when needed for resident’s safety.

Recycling:

Paul had nothing new to report this month.

Police Report:

Chief McDaniel reported that there were 413 events handled by the department in February and 6,183 miles were put on vehicles.

Joshua Hall has turned in his resignation, effective March 5th. Motion by McCracken, seconded by Beeson, to accept the resignation. All voted YES.

Per the Chief's recommendation, Ryan Patrick Connolly of Canfield was proposed as a Reserve Officer. So moved by Beeson, seconded by Heineman. All voted YES.

Chief McDaniel then asked to promote part-time officer Isaiah Thomas to full-time, effective immediately. So moved by McCracken, seconded by Beeson. All voted YES.

Public Comment:

Tom Rhodes, a volunteer fireman, agreed with the trustees regarding township employees providing safe road conditions for residents. Tom stated the county roads have not been kept cleared nearly as well as township roadways. Tom also thanked the township road employees for the good job they have done this winter keeping township roads plowed and salted.

Resident Abe Bricker had a question about the First Energy Solutions aggregate program and confusion for residents. Trustees explained the program to Mr. Bricker.

Abe also noted the new "Ag-Link" program for Ohio Farmers which recently came available and suggested local farmers be made aware of the program. Unfortunately, the program was just announced, but applications will be accepted online until March 16. This provides NO window for farmers who have yet to hear of the program. The Fiscal Officer will put this program on the township website.

Trustee Heineman:

Roger noted that the only roads tentatively slated for paving by the county this summer are:
Pine Lake Road between S.R. 14 and Duck Creek Road
Garfield Road between S.R. 534 and Duck Creek Road

Trustee Beeson:

Todd expressed displeasure with the format of this year's annual meeting between the Mahoning County Engineer's office and township trustees, noting all 14 townships were invited to the same meeting. The meeting was basically a county presentation with no one-on-one township discussions. Todd described this presentation as a polite way to avoid hearing complaints from the townships.

Todd also noted that to apply for the building improvement grant, he must go to Massillon to apply. Todd will take a day from his job to make that trip and will report back at a future meeting.

Trustee McCracken:

Payment of uniform allowance was once again discussed. Chief McDaniel reported the most police money is spent during the Red Diamond annual sale in May. It was agreed to distribute \$600.00 in April and \$300.00 in December.

Bud Winn from New Philadelphia, OH, whose hobby in genealogy, has requested permission to post two images from our cemetery website on the Find-A-Grave website. The Fiscal Officer will contact him and make available a link to all cemetery information from our website.

The Green Team Recycling Site Lease Agreement was signed for \$6771.00.

A letter of appreciation was received from Berlin Township Trustees thanking Goshen for the good working relationship between townships and “shared services” between road department personnel.

A bill from Roto-Rooter for a service call was discussed. The service call to open frozen lines was unsuccessful. Trustees agreed to pay for the service call, even though the problem was not fixed.

The Sebring/West Branch Hot Stove Baseball league has not looked at the ball field yet, due to snow on the field. Their use of the ball field will be discussed at another meeting.

Milton Township is not interested in a shared tire drive with Goshen and does not want to hold any tire drive themselves. Goshen will again host the tire drive in late summer.

Volunteer Energy, Columbus OH, is quoting \$.499/ccf for natural gas thru 03/21/2016. The Fiscal Officer was given permission to further pursue changing natural gas providers.

Adjournment:

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, 2015 at 7:00pm.

With no further business to conduct, McCracken moved, seconded Beeson, to adjourn at 7:50pm. All voted YES.

Robert McCracken, Chairman

Todd Beeson, Vice Chairman

Roger Heineman, Trustee

Thomas Knoedler, Fiscal Officer