Regular Meeting of the Goshen Township Trustees

October 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm with the pledge to the flag. Trustees Robert McCracken, Teresa Stratton, Robert Spencer, and Fiscal Officer Tom Knoedler were present.

Approve Minutes:

Motion by McCracken, seconded by Stratton, to approve the minutes of September 9th regular meeting as distributed. All voted YES

Approve Bills:

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

- Payroll $57,624.42
- Warrants $63,583.37
- Electronic payments $33,950.51
- Total $155,158.30

All voted YES.

The September 2019 bank statement is not yet in balance.
The September credit card statement was reviewed by Trustee McCracken.

Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax rates and certifying them to the County Auditor.

Motion by McCracken, seconded by Stratton, to accept. All voted YES.

Resolution 2019-1014a: NOPEC Energized Community Grant Program

A resolution authorizing all actions necessary to accept NOPEC Energized Community Grant(s)

All voted YES. Signed by McCracken and Knoedler

Road Report:

Matt Springer reported that there were 1,455 miles put on vehicles in September, 216 gallons of diesel and 75 gallons of gasoline were used, and there was one burial. In September, chip seal of Seacrist Road (Garfield to Pine Lake) and Pine Lake Road (Duck Creek to Perry Twp line) was completed and 208 tons of asphalt were applied to other roads. Patching of other roads is almost complete, with 4 to 5 loads left to be put down.

Randy started mowing road sides again. Road crew helped the police department take down a car port that they had purchased and cut brush off the trails at Bricker Park.

Matt will get quotes for a new cemetery/parks mower to be included in the 2020 budget. Matt will be in contact with Dave Karlen on Dave’s request for a culvert installation. The application has been submitted and approved. Matt will oversee the installation of the culvert.
Fire Report:

Chief Day reported that in September there were 22 fire runs and 17 EMS runs – 10 in Goshen, 4 in Butler and 3 other. There were no inspections in September. The Chief also submitted the September Fire & EMS call log.

Derek has heard complaints of slow response time and wanted to remind the public that the department is a volunteer department and there is no one sitting at the station waiting for the phone to ring. Volunteers must leave what they are doing and get to the fire station to get the necessary equipment to respond to a call. He also noted that he only has 18 volunteers on the department.

Derek also discussed rumors that the trustees want to take over the department. Only Bob and Rob were aware of this rumor and stated that there has been no such discussion by the Trustees.

Recycling:

The September tire drive, electronics drive, and Customer Appreciation Day was held on Saturday, September 21st. Five hundred seventeen (517) car, truck, and other tires were collected. Also collected were: 111 CRT’s/Monitors, 31 PC towers, 36 laptops, 24 flat screens, 9 tablets, 51 cell phones, 333 lbs of wire, and 47 lbs of aluminum. The township has received the $1500 check from the Green Team for this recycling event. Paul thanked the many people who assisted with collection and greeting the public and to the public for their support. Paul also turned in $47.00 from can recycling.

Police Report:

In September 2019 there were 7,653 miles put on vehicles and police handled 333 events.

The department held a “Coffee with a Cop” on October 2nd with approximately 45 attending.

Steve and John Calko attended the Attorney General’s conference which had an excellent class on handling marijuana stops and laws.

Steve has signed the Dispatching Contract with the Joint Communication District (COG) for another year at the same annual cost.

Public Comment:

Tom Rhodes had complaints about the recycling rules – what can be recycled now vs what had been acceptable in the past and noted that Fire Department volunteers give up so much family time to perform their volunteer duties.

John Biery thanked the Trustees for allowing the road crew to close the tractor pull track at the Goshen Ruritan property and thanked the county for getting some county roads in the township patched and resurfaced. (Goshen Ruritans also sent a Thank You card to the Trustees).

Trustee Spencer:

Rob noted that Smith township used their boom mower to mow around the pond at Bricker Park.
**Trustee Stratton:**

Teresa deferred to other items on the agenda that will be discussed.

**Trustee McCracken:**

Indigent burial rules were discussed as the township may be affected this month. Tom will contact the OTA for suggestions.

Someone from the township will be required to attend a Worker’s Comp class next year before summers end. When class scheduling is published, this will be re-discussed.

Bob has been shopping for 2020 health insurance. The best plan available is Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield D57,RX8 with higher deductibles, but at a 11.55% lower cost than our 2019 plan. This could save the township around $9,000 next year. Also, other plans are projected at an increase up to 44%. Mrs. Stratton moved, seconded by Mr. Spencer, to purchase this Anthem BC/BS plan from Morris Insurance. All voted YES.

The Heidi Owen property in Garfield went to Sheriff’s sale on 10/01 with no bids. It will be offered again on 10/15. If the property again does not sell, the property will be turned over to the Land Bank, then to our township with all liens and taxes removed. Goshen would then have to demolish the house. Bob has two interested parties for the land. This item was tabled until Bob again talks with one interested party when he returns from a trip.

Regarding the public nuisance at Meissner’s service station, Teresa was given a phone number for Bill Meissner (Sonny’s son) who is now overseeing the property. She will contact Bill.

French Street / 4th Street drainage problem: Bob and the Trustees would like to meet with the affected homeowners on Friday to discuss how to fix the problem and the associated costs.

The repair to the gym roof and windows that was allowing birds to get into the gymnasium has been completed. The NOPEC grant will be used to pay for this repair work.

Trustees then discussed unused equipment: used chairs, copiers no longer on contract, the Fiscal Officer’s Dell printer, etc. Trustees will donate the Dell printer and any copier that is wanted and have anything unusable scrapped. This will greatly clean up the storage office.
Adjournment:

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 11, 2019 at 7:00pm.

With no further business to conduct, McCracken moved, seconded by Stratton, to adjourn at 8:05pm. All voted YES.

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Robert McCracken, Chairman                Teresa Stratton, Vice Chairman

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Robert Spencer, Trustee                   Thomas Knoedler, Fiscal Officer