

## THE WOODVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE'S REGULAR MEETING - November 1, 2017

This regular meeting of the Woodville Township Trustees was held on November 1, 2017. Those in attendance: Trustees: Chairman Bill Hammer, Paul Heineman, Ken Green, Fiscal Officer Lori Kepus, Road Supervisor Jim Busdiecker, Zoning Inspector Steve Michaelis, and Fire Chief Bill Andrews.

Others in attendance: Firemen: Dave Miller, Joe Kopp, Matt Reardon, Robb Kopp, Paul & Cheryl Ward, Ben Meyer, Ben Brien, EMS Paramedic Tim Toflinski, Township Zoning Commission member Bob Schroeder, Candidates for Township Trustee Paul Runion & Nate Liskai, Village Council member Patrick Dunn, Village and Township Residents: Matt Hammer, Dan Liskai, Frank & Mary Reardon, Kelly O'Connor, Wilma Obermyer, Rick Marlowe, and Jeff & Debbie Mercer.

Trustee Hammer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Trustee Green made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2017 regular meeting. Trustee Heineman seconded. All answered yes to roll call. Motion passed. Trustee Heineman made a motion to approve the warrants. Trustee Green seconded. All answered yes to roll call. Motion passed.

**EMS** - Trustee Hammer opened the discussion on the current status of the township's EMS situation. The Trustees presented a survey of the options for EMS coverage for Woodville Township as was requested through public discussion of three options that were presented at the Trustee's October 18th meeting. A complete listing of the three options is written into the October 18th meeting minutes. Through discussion at that meeting, it was determined that the two most advantageous options for the residents of Woodville Township should be presented to the entire public through a survey:

1. Contract with our current provider, North Central EMS, a private company dedicated to only Woodville Township for 24/7 EMS coverage housed at the Woodville fire station at a higher cost to tax-payers, or
2. Contract with the Sandusky County EMS and become a part of the county's EMS system for 24/7 EMS coverage housed at the Woodville fire station at a lower cost to tax-payers.

After review, the audience in attendance stated that they were beginning to feel that a survey would be too confusing and felt that the township trustees should present just one option to the public which would be voted on at the May 8, 2018 election. The Trustees agreed with this new plan, but concluded that they will wait until the results of the election next week as possibly two new trustees could be elected to this board, and those trustees elected would be making the final decision next year on how to pursue this matter.

A decision by the trustees must be made in December or early January. Kepus stated that a resolution to put an issue on the ballot must be filed with the County Board of Elections by February 7, 2018 to be on the May 8, 2018 ballot.

It was noted that in 1984, the township's first levy (1.5 mills) to bring full-time EMS service to Woodville passed by 91%. In 1993, a replacement with an increase to 2 mills passed by 51%. The current levy was passed in 2012 and was a replacement with an increase to 4 mills and it passed by 56%. Historically, increases in levies do not fare well with tax-payers. The possibility that the Trustees may need to ask residents for another 1-2 mills is a difficult decision. A good educational campaign would be needed.

By law, elected public officials cannot publically support or oppose a ballot issue. It has to be done by members of the public. Some in attendance stated they would be willing to serve on a levy committee to help get the word out to the public about what was going on with our EMS and why there is a need for money.

Some clarifications of audience comments needed to be made. It was stated that the trustees had already voted to contract with the Sandusky County EMS. The Trustees clarified that this has not been done. The Trustees may have stated their feelings about the issue which favored both choices, but the Trustees have not voted on a final option for EMS services to be presented to the public at the ballot box.

Someone asked why the Trustees did not take quicker action on bringing this issue to the public. In January, 2017, the Trustees knew the EMS levy was expiring at the end of 2018 and asked North Central to put together a financial proposal for the next five years for EMS services so the Trustees would know what type of levy would have to be put before voters. On April 19, Don Ballah of North Central EMS attended the Trustee's meeting and stated that beginning this year there would be a \$50,000 increase in the contract price bringing the yearly cost for EMS personnel to \$333,283. The Trustees immediately began to try to figure out what their options were. This process took months of planning. Kepus prepared a history of events of the Woodville Township EMS system since 1976.

In June, the Trustees received another option from North Central that could reduce expenses on the North Central contract I- reduce the paramedics housed at the fire station to one full-time paramedic while relying on the fire department's first responders to help if a second person were needed. Transports to the hospital would be made by the nearest ambulance available.

In July, a letter was prepared and presented to the Sandusky County Commissioners requesting \$175,000 to \$200,000 to help offset this increase without having to ask the voters for more money. This was not done until July as it was decided by the Trustees to approach the Commissioners closer to their budget preparation time. The Commissioners countered with a new proposal that was received in October. The Commissioners did not offer a subsidy, but gave the Trustees a new proposal that would save the township money, but the township's EMS system would no longer be exclusive to Woodville. The firemen stated that they feel response time will suffer with the county EMS.

The Trustees were not yet able to finalize any options making it impossible to go to the voters in November as issues had to be certified to the board of elections by August 9. The current EMS levy does not expire until December 31, 2018, so there is still one year to find a solution.

**ZONING** – Zoning Inspector Steve Michaelis presented one approved zoning permit: John Kerbel, 3603 TR 56, Woodville, for a 64' x 42' pole barn. The barn will be used for agriculture use so there was no permit fee.

The Township Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. November 8th at the fire station to discuss implementing changes to the Township Zoning Resolution including zoning requirements for the creation of flag lots, an addition to the resolution to allow "light commercial" businesses as a permitted use in an "agriculture district," and other minor clarifications to several sections of the resolution, but these minor changes will not change the substance of the resolution.

**CEMETERY** – Workers continue mowing and the cemeteries have been sprayed with weed killer. A new LED security light was installed at the maintenance building in Westwood Cemetery. Workers also repaired the grass area in the back section of Woodville Cemetery on Lime Road that was tore up by someone's car a few weeks ago. The Township has heard nothing regarding who may have done this damage. Kepus reported that someone dumped a couch at Woodville Cemetery. Busdiecker stated that workers will put the couch in the township's dumpster.

**ROADS** – Road Supervisor Jim Busdiecker reported that he continues with road mowing and will also be focusing on trimming trees and trimming brush back from the road with the boom mower. He stated that Buckeye Sanitation forgot to bring the garbage dumpster last Saturday, so he took the garbage from the November 4 collection to the Port Clinton Landfill with the township truck. Buckeye said they will be back on schedule in the future.

Kepus reported that the township received an email from the county engineer's office stating that NEXUS has paid the township's road permits fees for the pipeline project including 14 drive access permits in the amount of \$4,200.00 and 6 road crossing permits in the amount of \$1,200.00. It has not yet been decided how to distribute that money to the township. NEXUS has started working on their permanent site on TR 93. NEXUS believes that the main pipeline construction will begin next March. It was also stated that NEXUS has a strict haul route, and if anyone sees them using other routes than the designated haul routes to please let the county engineer know as soon as possible.

Kepus stated that she applied for a \$500 MORE grant from the township's insurance provider, the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Agency (OTARMA) for safety purchases made this year by the road department including a full body harness for the bucket truck, backup warning lights for the snow plow, and the fee for the recertification class for pesticides taken by the road supervisor.

Bob Schroeder again asked that the overhanging Evergreens at the corner of TR 93 & US 20 be cut back as they are creating a hazard. The property owners (Liskai's) agreed to address this issue.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** – Chief Bill Andrews reported on the following:

- Matt Depner has signed up to take his 36-hour fire-fighter's course at Vanguard. The cost is \$475 which is paid by the township.
- The department's fire extinguishers were serviced by Automatic Fire Protection Services.
- The brush truck (X-5) will receive an oil change at Baumann's in Genoa in the near future.
- The fire department would like to replace 8 SCBA bottles this year if possible. Each bottle costs approximately \$1,000.
- The department will have a demonstration of Morning Pride turn-out gear on November 6.
- The department will be receiving prices for a new rescue boat soon.
- The department has nothing definitive to report regarding a recruiting campaign for new fire-fighters.
- The department's next pancake and sausage breakfast is November 12.

Today, the department participated in a table top evacuation drill at Woodmore High School to help administrators and teachers learn how to respond in an active shooter situation. Chief Andrews stated that Assistant Chief Mark Grove has a good relationship with Woodmore Schools and has organized many great safety-related activities for the students over the years.

Trustee Heineman stated he would research changing the locks at the station. There are five doors.

Chief Andrews said he would like to take a 60-day risk-free trial of the "I am Responding" pager system. A one-year subscription is \$800. A three-year subscription is \$725 a year. A five-year subscription is \$650 a year. This is a system that will allow fire-fighters to respond to all calls on whether they are available to respond.

The fire department would like to purchase an iPad. They have been told that the county's new 911 dispatching system will allow them the capability to see the dispatcher's screen on an iPad. This would allow fire-fighters to see all of the information regarding a call in real time which will allow them to prepare for the emergency they are responding to before they arrive. Trustee Green made a motion to purchase a 32GB Apple iPad from Verizon in the amount of \$359.99 and enroll in their service agreement for \$39.99 monthly. Trustee Heineman seconded. All answered yes to roll call. Motion passed. Chief Andrews stated the unit was not needed until next June.

**FISCAL OFFICER** – The Trustees signed the township's balanced bank reconciliation for the month of October and were presented with the updated Fund, Revenue, and Appropriation status reports.

Trustee Hammer made a motion to approve the following transfers to appropriately allocate funds: \$2,500 from the Road & Bridge Fund Other Expenses Account to the Road & Bridge Fund Machinery & Equipment Account; \$675.00 from the General Fund Operating Supplies Account to the General Fund Capital Outlay Account; \$2,025 from the Fire Levy Fund Machinery & Equipment Account to the Fire Levy Fund Capital Outlay Account; and \$3,000 from the General Fund Operating Supplies Account to the General Fund Other Expenses Account. Trustee Green seconded. All answered yes to roll call. Motion passed.

Kepus presented the lowest options found by Sprouse Insurance for the township's health care insurance renewal. The Trustees agreed to continue with the same policy which increased 10% (\$116) a month from last year. Trustee Green made a motion to approve the renewal of the township's health insurance premium with Medical Mutual in the amount of \$1,187.75 each month. Trustee Heineman seconded. All answered yes to roll call. Motion passed.

At 9:03 p.m., with no further business, Trustee Heineman moved for adjournment. Trustee Green seconded. This meeting was held in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code's Sunshine Law.