March 28, 2020

Regular Meeting

\*Pursuant to HB 197, the Township Building is closed to the public and this meeting was held via teleconference and broadcast for public attendance on Facebook Live on the “Pierpont, Oh” Facebook page\*

Chairman Barbara Culp called the meeting to order. Due to being present via telephone, the Pledge of Allegiance was not recited.

Roll call of Board attendance: Trustee Barb Culp, Trustee Pam Hudson, Trustee Bob Jackson, and Fiscal Officer Jennifer Hoover. Also in attendance were several township residents via Facebook Live. (Culp, Hudson and Jackson were present via teleconference).

Trustee Culp began the meeting by thanking Jake Hudson for his assistance in setting up the guest WIFI and the teleconference.

Trustee Jackson welcomed all who were watching the meeting and reminded them that this is not business as usual.

Trustees Culp and Hudson reminded everyone to stay safe, stay home and wash your hands.

Approval of prior meeting minutes:

There was no discussion held – Trustee Hudson moved to forego the reading of the minutes approve the meeting minutes of March 3, 2020. Trustee Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Hudson moved to approve the meeting minutes of the March 7, 2020 Emergency Meeting. Trustee Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills:

Trustee Culp moved to approve the payment of $40,886.59 in bills. Trustee Hudson noted that this amount included the final payment on the Western Star truck and seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Culp read through the receipts received since the last meeting totaling $133,636.06, which included a payment from the County Auditor.

Committee/Department Reports:

**Road Report**- Trustee Jackson advised that the road workers were placed on temporary furlough due to COVID-19 but noted that they still have an obligation to work on the roads when needed. Trustee Culp moved to furlough the road workers, effective March 23, 2020, until such time as the governor recalls his order. Trustee Hudson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Revitalization**- The Revitalization Committee met on March 16, 2020 with a representative from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Options were discussed and presented for a nature area/park at the proposed sewer plant property.

**Fiscal Report** – Nothing to report.

Unfinished/Old Business

Trustee Culp advised that the first Pierpont Township Newsletter was mailed out and the total cost was less than $500. She would like to send another one out in June and advised that she had received positive feedback and suggestions on content for future newsletters.

Trustee Culp also advised that the Census Hotspot originally scheduled for March 24, 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19 and further advised that only 19% of township residents had completed their census. She also stated that you do not have to wait for your census paperwork in the mail – you can go online and complete your census now.

Trustee Hudson mentioned that the RAM clinic was also cancelled.

New Business

Trustee Culp advised there is now a guest WIFI network available at the Township Hall and it can be accessed right in front of the building. Password is: pierpontisgreat. Trustee Hudson reminded everyone to stay in their vehicles to use the WIFI and that this was not an opportunity for a social gathering.

Trustee Culp moved to hire Rita Carr, Dave Carr and Steve Koivisto to maintain Evergreen Cemetery for the 2020 season at a rate of $11/hour. Trustee Hudson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Culp presented a resolution to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ashtabula County Commissioners to compensate the County to evaluate, plan and design a wastewater treatment facility for the Township, in an attempt to move the project forward. Compensation is in the sum of $15,244.01.

Culp: yea Hudson: yea Jackson: yea

All in favor, resolution passed.

Trustee Culp also presented a resolution to hire private legal counsel, Thomas Simon, to represent the Township in all matters relating to the Pierpont Township Sewer System Project. Trustee Jackson advised that Mr. Simon comes highly recommended and further advised that he is the former solicitor for Ashtabula City and has had dealings with the EPA and sewer systems.

Culp: yea Hudson: yea Jackson: yea

All in favor, resolution passed.

Miscellaneous:

Trustee Culp advised that she would like to schedule another regular meeting for April 1, 2020 at 9:00AM. This meeting would also take place on the Pierpont, Oh Facebook page for public participation.

Trustee Jackson suggested sending a letter to Auditor of State Keith Faber regarding our township’s lack of access to internet connection/cell service for all members of the public to participate in meetings electronically. He also suggested copying the letter to the Commissioners.

The public was reminded that the Trustees are still working and are here to help in any way possible. Viewers were asked to contact them with any needs they may have at this time.

Public comments

Several viewers advised via comment that they could hear the meeting.

There being no further business, Trustee Hudson moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Jackson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

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Fiscal Officer Chairman of the Board

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Trustee Trustee