April 7, 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 opened the meeting by asking Trustees Jackson and Hudson if they had any comments. Trustee Hudson reminded listeners to let them know if they needed anything and to keep up with the social distancing. Trustee Jackson welcomed listeners and asked that we continue to pray for those in the medical field. And also wished everyone a happy Easter. Trustee Culp encouraged staying home, if possible.

Approval of prior meeting minutes:

There was no discussion held – Trustee Culp moved to waive the reading of the April 1, 2020 minutes and accept them as written. Trustee Hudson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills:

Trustee Culp presented $27,726.55 in bills. Trustee Hudson moved to approve the payment of those bills. Trustee Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee/Department Reports:

Trustee Culp reminded everyone that all committee meetings have been cancelled until further notice due to COVID-19.

**Road Report**- Trustee Jackson advised that they had previously furloughed the road workers but they should have been placed on administrative leave, with pay. Trustee Jackson moved to make that adjustment and add an addendum to the April 1, 2020 meeting minutes to reflect the correction. Trustee Hudson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Trustee Jackson also advised that the road workers are back to work but stated that they did not have sufficient PPE for them. Trustee Culp advised that she received forms from the County EMA to complete in an attempt to obtain PPE for them. She advised that she did find about a weeks’ worth of face masks and wipes and she also ordered more facemasks from a neighbor who is making them. Trustee Culp further reminded everyone not to approach our road workers while they are working.

Trustee Jackson advised that township employees had been advised on social distancing and notices were posted in the garage.

Trustee Hudson added that Paul Mechling wanted to reiterate the fact that the April Parks Commission meeting is cancelled.

Unfinished/Old Business

Trustee Culp addressed whether the township would proceed with hosting Clean-Up Days on May 1st and 2nd. Trustee Hudson suggested that they postpone the event and Trustee Jackson concurred. All agreed that they would postpone clean-up days until it is a little safer to do so.

Trustee Hudson reminded viewers to complete their Census as it is very important for our funding.

New Business

Trustee Culp advised that the deadline to use the NOPEC community grant has been pushed back to November 30, 2020. Last year, the $250 was given to the Pierpont Community Action League for use for food at the Celebrate Pierpont event in October. Trustee Culp advised that she would like to apply for the grant again for the same purpose. All were in agreeance.

Trustee Culp further advised that there is a NOPEC energy savings grant available but the application has not yet been made available. She would like to apply once again when it is available.

Trustee Culp advised that she received a question on Horner’s forest on Turner Road. A resident had asked her if they could enter the forest to cut out the tree tops. Trustee Jackson advised that he would like to see us implement some type of a permit so we know who is out there and that they need to have some type of policy/disclaimer in place. Trustee Hudson agreed that some guidelines should be put into place (i.e. at least 2 people at a time, no fires…). At this time, the Fiscal Officer read several comments from the Facebook Live feed. One resident suggested that the Parks Commission create a policy for the property and Trustee Jackson agreed. It was suggested that the Parks Commission send their individual ideas to the trustees before the next meeting. Trustee Hudson advised that she would tell Paul Mechling.

Another resident asked if you could go out and walk the property – trustees advised yes, it is a public park.

Trustee Culp also brought up fishing in the pond on the property. Trustee Hudson advised that people fish on the property routinely. It was suggested that fishing also be addressed in the forest policy.

Trustee Culp presented a 2.0 Mill road and bridge levy that is up for renewal. If approved, it would bring in $39,147 per tax year. A resolution of necessity was presented by Trustee Culp. Trustee Jackson moved to approve the renewal. Trustee Hudson seconded the motion. Roll call was recited: Culp: aye Hudson: aye Jackson: aye

All in favor, resolution passed.

Trustee Culp advised that they had just had their 7th funeral this winter season and that the cemetery still needs some work. Major improvements were done last year. She advised that there needs to be work done around the gravestones and that there are ruts from the winter months to be filled in. She also advised that the two Wheel Horse mowers are 25 years old and presented a quote from Bortnick Tractor Sales for a Kubota tractor with a 48 inch mower and front end loader. She suggested that the trustees consider purchasing the tractor for the cemetery and other uses. The price she presented was between $14,000-$15,000 with 0% financing for 5 years and advised that the monthly payment would be approx. $250.00. Trustee Jackson stated that the age of the mowers was discussed two (2) years ago and also that having a bagger on the mower would be beneficial. He also advised that motor parts for one of the Wheel Horse mowers are no longer available through Marcy Equipment due to their age. Trustee Jackson advised that the new tractor would be able to mow, maintain driveways and maintain the ruts created in the yard. He also stated that cemetery workers would be able to repair any holes or ruts without the assistance of the trustees or road workers. Trustee Jackson agreed that they should consider purchasing.

Trustee Hudson agreed that they need to have updated equipment.

Trustee Culp advised that she and Trustee Hudson would also be able to use this tractor with ease.

Trustee Jackson advised that Marcy tractor advised that they could not provide this size tractor, nor could John Deere, so they were limited in seeking quotes from other dealers.

Trustee Culp made it clear that she did consult with Marcy Equipment.

Trustee Jackson moved to purchase the Kubota tractor. Trustee Culp seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Hudson mentioned that the Memorial Day parade will likely not happen and Trustee Culp advised that they would wait until it got closer before making any decisions.

Trustee Jackson reviewed the bids received for the 2020 Stone bid. The township received 3 bids for 57 limestone delivered to the yard. Trustee Jackson opened and presented the following bids:

Benson Trucking $23.77/ton delivered

Arms Trucking $23.27/ton delivered

Simak Trucking $23.01/ton delivered

Trustee Jackson advised that all provided their Bureau of Worker’s Compensation information and would provide proof of insurance if requested. Trustee Jackson moved to award the 2020 stone bid to Simak Trucking. Trustee Hudson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Miscellaneous:

Trustee Culp advised that the next meeting is April 21, 2020 at 6:00PM.

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

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Fiscal Officer Chairman of the Board

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Trustee Trustee