June 2, 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. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the trustees present in the township hall.

Roll call of Board attendance: Trustee Barb Culp, Trustee Pam Hudson, Trustee Bob Jackson.

(Trustees Culp and Hudson were present in the hall and practiced social distancing while Trustee Jackson attended via teleconference.)

Approval of prior meeting minutes:

As all trustees have already read the minutes and made the following corrections:

* Pledge was not recited due to the flags not being in the building.
* Correction from Larry “Carry” to Larry Carr.

Minutes were approved as corrected.

Approval of Bills:

Trustee Culp presented $21,919013 in bills. Trustee Culp moved to pay the bills presented. Trustee Hudson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Trustee Culp added the total receipts since the last meeting totaled $11,964.45.

Committee/Department Reports:

**Road Report**:

* Trustee Jackson advised that the road crew is becoming more active and that they are anxious to get started on Schrambling Road. He advised that they will be repairing mailbox approaches so there is no issue with mail delivery and that some ditching will be done as they go. He also advised that some in-house repairs were made to the dump truck and asked the community to bear with them.

**Zoning:**

* Trustee Culp advised that she spoke with Zoning Inspector Rich Rea over the weekend regarding the condition of vacant homes in Pierpont and advised that they will be keeping an eye on them.
* Trustee Culp advised that the June Zoning Commission meeting is cancelled due to the County Planning Commission having not resumed meetings.
* Trustee Jackson added that he sees no reason the Zoning Commission could not meet so long as they complied with guidelines.
* Trustee Culp requested the Fiscal Officer to send an email to the County Planning Commission for an update.

**Parks Commission:**

* Trustee Culp advised that the next meeting is in July

**Revitalization Committee:**

* Trustee Culp advised the next meeting is June 15th and they will be discussing broadband.

Unfinished/Old Business

* Trustee Jackson advised that our budget had been impacted by COVID-19 and the township has held back on stone purchasing. He advised that they will put gravel on Schrambling and Anderson Road as soon as they can.
* Trustee Hudson asked Trustee Jackson for an update on ditching on Schrambling to which Trustee Jackson replied they will work on it as they go and will also improve the surface with gravel.
* Trustee Culp advised that letters were sent to those landowners on Hall and Beckwith regarding debris in the ditches and they had not yet received a response. She advised that they may need to seek the guidance of the County Prosecutor.

New Business

* Trustee Culp advised that she had been in contact with Cheri Hoover and they would like to close the south driveway entrance to the school during the Farmers Markets and use the township driveway for entrance and exit. All Trustees agreed to this.
* Trustee Culp also advised that she spoke with Jake Hudson of Hudson Communications on installing some surveillance inside the meeting room which could be used to broadcast meetings. Camera would also have audio and video could be posted on website. They also discussed some outside surveillance and advised that they would like to continue to post the meetings online to keep everyone involved.
	+ Trustee Jackson discussed the CARES Act (Senate Bill 310) which provides for the distribution of funding to local governments for communications and PPE. He moved that they send a resolution in support of SB 310 to John Patterson – seconded by Trustee Culp. Roll call was recited – Trustee Hudson – aye; Trustee Culp – aye; Trustee Jackson – aye. Resolution passed.
* Trustee Culp advised that they received a letter from the Beautification Committee regarding the need for road signs stating “Keep Pierpont beautiful – please do not litter” and requested contribution from the Trustees. Trustee Jackson advised that they would need to check with ODOT and the County before erecting any signs.
	+ Trustee Hudson advised that she tries to drive township roads once a month. She drove down Hall Road and removed the litter.
* Trustee Culp brought up the issue of the dump truck and advised that it has been fixed by the road crew several times. She would like to keep their eyes open for a new dump truck in the near future. Trustee Jackson stated that the sole use of that truck is for the cemetery and asked how often it gets used. Trustee Culp advised that between February-April of this year, we had 7 full burial funerals. Trustee Jackson felt that it was hard to justify spending money on something that is seldom used and would like to use it until it “blows up”. Trustee Culp mentioned that if they do find a new truck, maybe it could have a blade on it as well.
* Trustee Culp brought up the latest edition of the newsletter and hoped everyone received their copy. Trustee Culp would like to hear more from residents on Horners forest and advised that they have extra copies if anyone living outside of Pierpont would like a copy mailed to them. Trustee Jackson advised that he received numerous responses from residents.
* Trustee Hudson added that the Memorial Day service was very nice and they thought approximately 43 cars were in attendance. Trustee Culp reminded everyone that it could still be watched online.
* Trustee Jackson reiterated that they had held back on purchasing stone due to budget warnings from the Auditor. He moved to issue a 2nd purchase order to Simak Trucking for $5,000 for 57 limestone. Trustee Hudson seconded the motion. Motion passed.
	+ Trustee Jackson also stated that they were prepared to make their $30,000 payment for the Kobelco and thinks that we will have the funds by the time the payment is due in July.
	+ Trustee Jackson also moved for a purchase order to Nelson Sand and Gravel for $8,000 for the purchase of 411. Trustee Culp seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous:

* Trustee Culp advised that the former interim Fiscal Officer Tony Long was very ill and asked everyone to say a prayer for him and would provide an address if anyone wanted to send a card.
* Trustee Hudson advised that the road department had sprayed some hogweed.
* Trustee Culp advised that the township had just received approx. 40 washable masks from BWC.
* Trustee Culp advised that the Fire Dept. is still making pizzas and calzones from 4-7PM. And that the Farmers Market will resume on June 20th from 7AM-12PM. She also reminded everyone of the public library located outside the township building.
* Trustee Jackson added that he received a call from Gaylord Millard who received a packet from NOPEC for the trustees and he would pick it up.

Public Comment

Public comments were taken from the Facebook live video.

1. Creek Road resident Ruthella Coder wanted to know why the township was spending so much money on Pennline Road when it is not often traveled. She advised the road is ‘bad news” and often sees PA troopers chasing people down it. Trustee Culp responded that she does not believe our township should have any “no maintenance” roads and that Pennline Road is in much better shape than it was 15 years ago. Trustee Jackson added that the township was sued several years back and they were ordered to make repairs to Pennline Road. Trustee Jackson also explained that the County Commissioners gave the additional land to the township. Trustee Culp added that the Township has only spent $1,344 on the project and that was for the culvert. They also advised that the dirt was given to the township to use in accordance with County blueprints. Trustee Jackson advised that they need to be compliant with the Court order. Trustee Hudson advised that the road will be built up to Creek Road. Ms. Coder also wanted to see a copy of the Court order.

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