

Middleton Township Trustees

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Mr. Vetter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken. Trustees Moulton, Cromley and Vetter and Fiscal Officer Limes were in attendance. The sign-in sheet for employees and visitors is attached with the approved minutes.

Noted on the sign in sheet is a statement indicating the meeting may be recorded or streamed live to the internet by a visitor - not at the authority of the township trustees.

VISITOR COMMENTS

- Tom Stalter, Northwestern Water and Sewer District, addressed the Trustees with regard to the township's 'private' sewer line. He provided details on how the line was established, noting the township choose to install the line and not force local residents to tap in at the time of construction. The line size would allow for public use along the line (from St. Rt. 582 north to the township complex).
Once the line becomes public, all residents along the route will be asked to connect. Mr. Stalter did not believe anyone would be able to petition for a waiver from the Health Department. The Health Department has been contacted with regard to the potential for this line to be made public. The cost of the line could be assessed to a property's real estate taxes for a 20-year period of time. The total cost per property owner could total \$15,000.
The township and NWWSD have details to work out with regard to cost of the original line, the price for the grinder pumps, installation and frontage fees. Mr. Stalter was hopeful they could bid the project as one to keep costs down. More details and figures will be made available once a decision is made to move forward by the township.
- Mr. Stalter reported on an Army Corps of Engineers grant that should be available to fund a sewer line project in the Village of Sugar Ridge. The residents outside the village limit would not be included in the funded portion of the project. More funds may be available through the County Engineer to help share the cost for residents north and south of the village on Mercer Road. The project is due to be bid yet this year.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

- **Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Cromley seconded a motion to approve the meeting time change to 9:00 a.m. for the September 1 meeting of the Board of Trustees. Motion approved.** Mrs. Limes will notify the newspaper and website editor.
- **Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Moulton seconded a motion to approve a special meeting for Wednesday, September 1 at 8:45 a.m. for the purpose of reviewing zoning resolution updates from the zoning commission and the Wood County Planning Commission. Motion approved.**
- **Mr. Vetter, Mr. Moulton seconded approval of accounts and payroll as submitted. Motion approved.** A payment register is attached to the approved minutes.
- Mrs. Limes provided the June bank reconciliation for review.
- The cost recovery for fire department equipment and personnel from the fire at the business at 18487 N. Dixie Hwy, Bowling Green was discussed. Mrs. Limes noted that a resolution should be passed so the township can proceed with collection. In the meantime, Chief Asmus has received a call from an insurance company trying to locate an invoice and needed to speak with Linda Holmes. It was determined the cost recovery resolution would be tabled until further discussions with the Assistant Prosecutor.
- Mrs. Limes and Mr. Moulton reviewed a meeting held with R.J. Rajner, Savage and Associates, with regard to the township insurance policies. All employees will need to fill out a form on-line so insurance can be 'shopped'. No changes will be made to the carrier, it is an effort to reduce premiums.

EMS DEPARTMENT

- Chief Matt Bechstein reviewed the July run report.
- Repairs have been made to the ambulance at Thayer.
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Cromley seconded a motion to approve the purchase of a new ambulance, to be designed as a duplicate to the existing 680. Motion approved.** Mr. Bechstein will begin the process of pricing and state bid. It is noted the new ambulance will be able to be outfitted with equipment on the existing 682, bringing down the initial cost of the squad.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

- Zoning Inspector Chase Greulich updated the Trustees on the property at 13975 Reitz Road that has a business running out of buildings at the back of the property. A lawyer for the resident has questioned the township requesting them to relocate. Linda Holmes, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, has been notified and has requested the photos and any additional documentation from the zoning office.
- The Board of Zoning Appeals will hear a variance request on Monday, September 13 with regard to front yard parking for a potential business along St. Rt. 582 in the Overlay District.
- A utility company has requested a right-of-way permit. The board indicated they do not want to start the process of issuing that type of permit due to the number of homes involved in the subdivisions. Mr. Greulich will let the company know they can proceed without the permit.
- Mr. Greulich informed the board that the zoning commission did not make any updates to front yard parking in the zoning resolution.
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Cromley seconded a motion to approve Laurie Limes as the Zoning Clerk for 2021, serving the zoning commission and board of zoning appeals hearings, with a meeting stipend of \$200/meeting. Motion approved.** Mrs. Limes will handle meeting minutes, notifications to the board members and work with the zoning inspector and chairmen of the committees.
- **Mr. Cromley moved, Mr. Moulton seconded a motion to approve Kip McDowell as the township zoning inspector at \$25.50 / hour, with a 90-day probationary period. The township will assume Mr. McDowell's accumulated sick leave from his current employer and allow three weeks' vacation. Motion approved.** Mr. Moulton will make the offer to Mr. McDowell and a timeline for Mr. McDowell's start date will be handled based on his acceptance and notice to his current employer.
- It is noted that Chase Greulich will no longer be serving as Zoning Inspector once Mr. McDowell assumes the role. Mr. Greulich's full-time role with the township will be determined at the next meeting of the Board.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

- Jeff Eckel, Road Supervisor discussed the Reitz Road patching project. Quotes were reviewed from Bowers Asphalt and Morelock Asphalt.
Mr. Cromley moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve Bowers Asphalt quote to repair 1950 linear feet – nine (9) foot wide sections – at a cost of \$49,500. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- The Trustees reviewed quotes for a concrete driveway at the township complex entrance. Quotes were received from Nofziger and Sarver Bros. A review of the quotes and comparisons of product were held.
Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve hiring Sarver Brothers at the quoted price, noting the township would pay for 50 yards of concrete. Motion approved. The driveway will be 20' x 50' to accommodate the fire trucks.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Moulton seconded a motion to approve the sewer line on St. Rt. 25 from St. Rt. 582 to the township complex be made public to residents along that corridor. Motion approved.**

Mr. Cromley moved, Mr. Moulton seconded adjournment of the meeting at 9:30 pm. Motion approved.

Fred E. Vetter, Chairman

Donald E. Cromley, Vice Chairman

Michael Moulton, Trustee

Laurie L. Limes, Fiscal Officer