Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mr. Welch, here; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, here; Mr. Estep, here.

Minutes of the October 7, 2015 Meeting:
The regular meeting of the Blendon Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30pm. Mrs. Heichel moved to approve and waive the reading of the minutes for the October 7, 2015, regular meeting. Mr. Flaherty seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes. The Blendon/Westerville Fire Chief Miller was in attendance.

Purchase Orders and Cemetery Deeds were signed by the Board.

Administrator’s Report: Mr. Rhoads, continuing with our Bicentennial History, noted that on this day, October 21, 1797, the US Constitution was launched in Boston, and on this day in 1967, over 100,000 people gathered to protest the war in Vietnam. The schedule of meetings were discussed for the following week.

Communications:
1. Update Reports to the Board- emailed.
2. Notice from Aqua Ohio- SIC Charges.

New Business:
1. Police Commendation Medals – Chief Belford read a letter of Recommendation for Award of the Police Commendation Medal for bravery beyond duty for Sgts. Gregory Boggs and Erick Moynihan, and Officer Kevin Flynn. The officers performed their duty bravely, honorably, professionally, and with the safety of the public, and the safety of the distraught male subject as paramount. They put themselves in danger, without hesitation, for the safety of the public they serve. Mr. Flaherty moved to award Sgt. Boggs, Sgt. Moynihan and Officer Flynn, the Award of the Police Commendation Medal for incident on July 4, 2015. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes.

2. Resignation of Detective Phillips-Chief Belford noted that Det. Phillips has an opportunity with another police department that she could not refuse, therefore has tendered her resignation. Mr. Flaherty moved to accept the resignation of Detective Tammy Phillips from the Blendon Township Police Department, effective October 31, 2015. Mr. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes. The Chief and Board wish her well. Sgt. Moynihan is in the office until a replacement is made at the first of the year, when the new FOP contract is in place.

3. Resolution 2015-07 Police Levy- Mr. Estep discussed with the Board, a 5.75 mill permanent levy to take us through 2019, for police protection. This is the first step to asking the Franklin County Auditor to give us the dollar amount the levy would generate. Mrs. Heichel moved to approve Resolution 2015-07 declaring the necessity of a 5.75 mill tax and requesting the Franklin County Auditor to certify the total tax evaluation and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated. Mr. Flaherty seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes.

4. Resolution 2015-08 Fire Levy Ballot Language – Mr. Estep stated that we received the certification back from the Franklin County Auditor with the evaluation of 2.8 mills would generate approximately $481,235.94, into the fire district. Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt Resolution 2015-08, authorizing to the electors to Blendon Township, the levy of 2.8 mills into the fire district, effective for 2016, and collected in 2017. Mrs. Heichel, seconded: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes.
New Business—continued:

5. Franklin Soil and Water Presentation—Mr. Giamarco introduced Mrs. Jennifer Fish and Mrs. Niki Lemin for their yearly updated presentation. After passing out the Executive Summary for Franklin County and Township Storm water Management Program outline, Mrs. Fish discussed the responsibilities of the township and highlights of target for the storm water program.

6. 2016 OPEC Healthcare Renewal—Mr. Rhoads and Mr. Estep discussed the changes in the healthcare program, with the 25% increase renewal, the contribution rate employees would follow is what the FOP allows, and starting in January 2016, Single $50.00; Spousal $75.00; Family $100.00 for all full-time employees. Mr. Flaherty moved to approve the renewal plan option for healthcare as presented and implement the employee monthly payments of $50.00 on singles, $75.00 on couples, and $100.00 on families, effective January 1, 2016. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes.

7. Resolution 2015-10 SWACO Board Appointment—Mr. Rhoads discussed with the Board the nomination of Steven Bowshier as the representative of the Franklin County Townships on the SWACO Board of Trustees. Mr. Flaherty moved for the adoption of Resolution 2015-10, appointing Mr. Steven Bowshier to the SWACO Board as representative to the Franklin County Townships for a two year term ending June 20, 2016. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes.

Director/Staff Updates:

Mr. Giamarco noted they are still working on gutters and curbs for Lisbon/Acapulco streets finishing water lines, hopefully by November 10th. We are ready for the Halloween Party on Saturday. One last round of curb and gutter complaints should be done in the next few weeks.

Fire Chief Miller added that he and a fire truck will be at the Halloween Party as well.

Mr. Flaherty discussed the Westerville Fire Committee met this week with both he and Bryan Rhoads in attendance and liaison until a Chairperson and also a Co-Chairperson from Blendon is established. Resident involvement is welcomed, and literature for ballot should go out immediately for the March election to cover information for the absentee voters as well.

Mrs. Heichel discussed our planned dedication for Phelps Acre on Saturday, October 24, 2015 @ 10:30am. Guest speakers are planned with refreshments. All are invited.

Mrs. Harter discussed funerals in the cemetery and the community garden and farmers market are finished for the season. Ridgewood Park is very busy with the good weather.

Mrs. Jordan discussed the Senior Center Health Fair is scheduled for Thursday, 9:30-12:30.

Open Floor:

Mrs. Carolyn Cordray, Caracas Drive, discussed the Farmers Market location, the Halloween Party requesting volunteers, and also presented the Board with a monetary donation for candy distribution by the police department on Boggar’s Night. Mr. Flaherty made a motion to accept a donation from the HRAA for candy. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes with a “thank you”.

Pay Bills: Mr. Flaherty moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes. The attached list of checks was approved for payment. Mr. Welch stated the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2015, at 6:30pm at the Blendon Senior Center. Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm.