Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, here; Mr. Welch, here; Mr. Flaherty, here; Mr. Estep, here. The regular meeting of the Blendon Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30pm. Mr. Flaherty moved to approve and waive the reading of the minutes as presented for the January 11, 2017, meeting. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes. Blendon/Westerville Deputy Fire Chief also attended. The Purchase Orders and Cemetery Deeds were signed by the Board.

Administrator's Report:

Mr. Rhoads updated the Board on the following: Met with Sen. Bacon to discuss deleting land and residential building bills and noted it may be a tight budget this year. The JEDZ Board met and Mr. Rhoads is Chairman, Mrs. Collie is Vice-Chairperson. Approval to spend $20,000.00 for fiber optics and set aside money to help businesses was implemented. Has Plans to meet with the owner of Glengary Shopping Center, along with Jason Bechtold of Westerville, concerning the future of the shopping center.

Communications:

1. Update Reports to the Board - E-mailed from the Directors
2. Mr. Welch recognized Lt. Lephart for his quick response to clearing and cleaning up an accident before school started, per a received email stating that the school was very pleased with his actions.
3. Mrs. Heichel received a letter from Ohio Connections with an update on our historical marker for Phelps Acre, arriving this April.

Old Business:

1. 2017 Community Calendars - Mr. Flaherty presented the Board with information regarding the cost and preparation of camera ready art for our calendar. After a brief discussion, Mr. Flaherty moved to have Robin Enterprises print 3,500 calendars for a cost of $5,062.00 plus $817.00 mailing cost. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty. It was noted that with the monies from JEDZ and CIC, there may be no cost the taxpayer.
2. Resident Survey - Mr. Flaherty discussed deadlines met along with working on the process on the website, with final testing. Samples presented and printing scheduled, we are looking at an early February mailing. It was suggested we include “We want to hear from you” on the card and remove a complicated statement regarding who fills it out and state “one survey per household”. The Senior Center computer would be available along with a survey pick up at the Administration Office, when presenting the 4-digit code.

New Business:

1. 2017 Temporary Annual Appropriation Resolution Mr. Estep briefly discussed several items with a total expenditure of $9,211,450.00, including expenditures of 85% bond money. Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt the 2017 Temporary Annual Appropriation Resolution, as presented, in the amount of $9,211,450.00. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes.

Director/Staff Updates:

Mr. Giamaro discussed spending the last two weeks moving into the new buildings with the temporary occupancy permit in hand, including shelving and wall units to hang the Stihl equipment. He is trying to spend the winter months getting organized.

Mrs. Heichel requested a change in a meeting date. Mr. Flaherty moved to approve changing the June 14th meeting date to June 16th, Friday at 6:30pm. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes.

Mrs. Harter noted the packets presented to the Trustee's, as a convenience to review the many topics that have been discussed regarding the cemetery over several previous meetings.

Mrs. Bowman discussed the new bathrooms in the Senior Center and how beautiful everyone has commented. The newest program at the center is the stick horse races and winning prizes. She is planning more day trips, as they are also popular with the seniors.
Director/Staff Updates: continued...
Lt. Lephart discussed training regarding trauma and learning how and why some people act the way they do, to help us defuse situations. He also asked everyone to keep a little girl from our community in their prayers, as she will need them. Both her parents have died and she has been placed with Franklin County Children’s Services.

Open Floor:
Mr. McCoy, 3660 Harbin Drive, discussed with the Trustees, possible development of an apartment complex at the north-east end of Harbin Drive, and the traffic it will incur. The Trustees discussed their limitations in regards to any final development and the role Franklin County plays in these decisions. Mr. Rhoads, discussed a senior living development is considered, as an alternate to a high traffic office complex. Mr. McCoy asked that it be made into a park, and preserve our water runoff, but Mrs. Heichel noted that we did not own the land and is not in favor of development. Mr. Flaherty discussed Limited Home Rule that is limited, no carte blanche to do anything, along with many Public Hearings that are required to receive approval. We still plan to expand our authority over time. Mr. Rhoads is going to contact Mr. McCoy, as opportunities to speak at hearings arise.
Mr. Metz, 5585 Westerville Road, discussed signage stating “Westerville Road with a left arrow and State Street with a right arrow”. Mr. Giamarco is working on it. Also, Mrs. Heichel plans to show the streetscape development to Mr. Metz after the meeting.

Pay bills: Mr. Flaherty moved to pay the bills. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes. The attached list of checks was approved for payment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:07pm Mrs. Heichel moved to enter into Executive Session for the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes.
OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:29pm. Mrs. Heichel moved to promote Mrs. Charel Bowman to Director of Blendon Senior Center, effective February 6, 2017, at a salary of $45,000.00 per year. Mr. Flaherty seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes. Mrs. Heichel moved to promote Mrs. Amy Rose to full-time Director Assistant of the Blendon Senior Center, effective February 6, 2017, at $16.00 per hour. Mr. Flaherty seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes. Congratulations to both, for their well-deserved promotions.

Mrs. Heichel requested a change in a meeting date. Mr. Flaherty moved to approve changing the May 17th meeting date to May 15th, Monday at 6:30pm. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes.

Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Mrs. Heichel noted that the next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, February 8, 2017, at 6:30pm.

Approved by: 
Wade L. Estep, Fiscal Officer

Approved by: 
Janice D. Heichel, Chairperson