Pledge of Allegiance

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

Consent Agenda: 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 March 22, 2017, meeting. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes. Blendon/Westerville Fire Chief also attended. Signatures: The Purchase Orders and Cemetery Deeds were signed by the Board.

Administrator’s Report:
Mr. Rhoads updated the Board on the following: Westerville Road project is coming along with bricks in median and walls up, and looking good. The bill with Senator Bacon and Franklin County Commissioner’s Association is still in discussion, due to the concern of losing funds for Franklin County, of which we can provide better service to our residents. Thursday is the monthly MORPC meeting, and working daily on our new website, page by page.

Communications:

1. Update Reports to the Board- E-mailed from the Directors.

New Business:

1. ODNR Grant—Mr. Rhoads discussed the grant available this year with a 75% match and just needs the Board’s approval to proceed. Several suggestions for the grant would be running and walking trails at Ridgewood Park, a pocket park at Cleveland Heights or tree plantings throughout the community. Mr. Flaherty moved to authorize Mr. Rhoads to proceed with the ODNR Grant. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes.

2. OPWC Grant—Mr. Rhoads discussed roadway and structure projects improvements with a 90% match. It was suggested since the grant is awarded late in the year, to possibly combine two years and have robust funding for 2018 roadway projects. Mr. Flaherty moved to authorize Mr. Rhoads to proceed with the OPWC Grant for use in 2018. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mr. Flaherty, yes.

Old Business:

1. Resident Survey Update—Mr. Flaherty discussed the computation of the surveys collected and plans are to have a report for the next meeting.

2. Aqua Rate Increase—Mr. Welch discussed the final amounts for the increase of 5.7%, effective March 22, 2017. $2.70 increase average for water only, no sewer. Hydrant flushing has started in Huber Ridge and Sunbury Woods, next week.

Director/Staff Updates:
Chief Belford discussed Earth Day on Saturday, April 22, 2017, 11:00am – 1:00pm. Shred-It Day is also planned to include tires, prescription drugs take back and documents. Our officers will collect the drugs and turn them over to the EPA.

Mrs. Bowman discussed a successful Garage Sale last weekend. They collected $4,002.52, with more to come. She was very thankful for all the volunteers and all went smoothly. The seniors loved the new chairs for the center as they are very attractive. Dave Lilley was a big help in unpacking them, along with others. The new foyer chairs look wonderful. Saturday at 9:00am sharp is the Easter Egg Hunt, along with the Easter Bunny and, of course, free breakfast of pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee.
Director /Staff Updates: continued....

Mrs. Harter noted a complimentary letter regarding Mr. Wayt and his follow up to a feral cat problem. Mr. Lilley passed out the remaining calendars to the apartments on Harbin Drive, and the Gazebo has a wedding planned for July 1, 2017.

Mr. Estep stated the auditors will be in April 18th to start our regular two year audit.

Mr. Rhoads noted his has sent in the final CIC documents for the audit and it should be closed.

Chief Miller discussed the participation in the “Mass Casualty Program” for a mock trial as if there were a major incident. Many organizations were involved. It was considered a success with over 200 volunteers. The Smoke Detector Program with the Red Cross and Westerville Fire is scheduled for April 22nd, and they plan to pass out and install smoke detectors for free in the community.

Mr. Giammarco, discussed the completed re-tiling and assembly of furniture for the Police Department, delivery of garden mulch for the tilted Community Gardens, and worked on the drainage ditch behind Acapulco, where tree roots were infringing as it should eliminate any flooding.

Open Floor:

Mrs. Cordray, 3734 Caracas Drive, noted the Spring Garage Sale will be Saturday, May 6th, 8am-4pm or later, if necessary.

Mrs. Meyer, 6512 Sagebrush Court, discussed with Mr. Rhoads and Mr. Giammarco the drainage on Westerville Road, with a plan to add low maintenance trees and landscaping that will replace the brush and dead trees. It is being professionally landscaped.

Mrs. Ricker, 5561 Oslo Drive, discussed drainage and signage with Mr. Rhoads.

Mrs. Clegg, 3614 Makassar, discussed a school crossing issue at Sunbury Road. Chief Belford is planning to check with the school to see if we have any students in Sunbury Woods. Also, an accident report will be issued soon regarding data from most accident calls, but critiquing distracted drivers is difficult to decipher. Fire Chief Miller noted a non-emergency phone number 624-882-2213.

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.

Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm.

Mrs. Heichel noted that the next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, April 19, 2017, at 6:30pm.

Approved by: Wade L. Estep, Fiscal Officer

Approved by: Janice D. Heichel, Chairperson