

Mad River Township Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:30. All Trustees present, Fiscal Officer not present. Trustee McClure took minutes.

Motion to dismiss with reading of minutes of previous meeting made by Trustee Catanzaro, seconded by Trustee McClure. All aye. Motion to approve the minutes of previous meeting made by Trustee Catanzaro, seconded by Trustee McClure. All aye.

Reports:

Deputy Wise is dealing with several nuisance properties. Two weeks ago a car was broken into in Lindair Acres. No others have occurred recently. Additional nuisance properties were discussed including properties on Fowler Rd., Kimmel, Lucas Dr., Hustead Rd., Tecumseh Rd., and the chickens and dog tied out on Dayton Rd.

Chief Tracy Young presented his written report showing 652 runs to date. He discussed the recent use of the Tornado Sirens explaining that they are activated whenever the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning for Clark County. He is looking in to having dispatchers have the ability to activate the alarms. He is working on improving the system. Citizens were reminded that the sirens are only a first line of defense and they should take shelter when they are heard and seek additional information by way of TV or radio. Our Fire and EMS vehicles will be in the Memorial Day Parade in Enon on Sunday at 2 pm.

Chief Bill Young reported that they had been on a few runs and had provided mutual aid for Yellow Springs and Pitchin. Their grant application had been denied.

Don O'Connor has been in contact with ODOT regarding the signs that were obtained with grant money. They will be needing to rent a fork lift when they are delivered. Road mowing will begin after Memorial Day. Foundations have been poured and the spraying has been done. The VFW will be putting flags on Veteran's graves starting on Thursday. They will need electrical chords for the ceremony on Memorial Day.

Old Business:

Motion by Mr. Catanzaro, Second by Mr. McClure to approve two indigent burials. All trustees voting aye.

Trustee McClure announced the Tax Incentive Meeting on May 22 at Springview. Trustee Catanzaro will attend.

Trustee Catanzaro was contacted by Tim Howard regarding the Broadway Rd. speed limit.

Trustee Estep reported slowing increasing ridership on the WestCAT Bus service. Glenn Massie and she did a presentation at Elderly United Enon Branch about the service. The annual tree dedication ceremony will be done by Pastor Jeff Mohr after the Memorial Day parade. One tree was purchased this year. It is in honor of Roland and Martha Pyles. The Village of Enon has purchased the equipment with the ODNR Grant money for Galloway Park. Mad River Township will not be able to partner with the Clark County Engineers Office for an OPWC Grant work on Old Mill Road because they will be using Federal money for the Dayton Rd. match.

New Business:

Trustee Estep said she had invited Calvin Hahn to attend the Trustee meeting to discuss his plans for the Stine Rd. property. He indicated that he would not be able to attend.

Public May Address the Board:

Kay Harcourt questioned the volume of the tornado siren in Lindair Acres. Elmer Beard responded that the sirens are there to warn people who are outside, not to be heard by people inside their homes.

Russell Harrod reported that the VFW has concerns about the Shellabarger Cemetery. He asked that a member of the board meet with the VFW to discuss their concerns.

Russell Oost discussed the Shellabarger Cemetery. He is a descendent of Reuben Wingate, a Revolutionary War soldier who is buried in the cemetery. Caleb Wingate, a veteran of the War of 1812 is also buried there. Mr. Hahn is trying to get possession of the cemetery, claiming that it was abandoned. He asked the Oosts to remove the headstones. Mr. Hahn assured the Oost family he would not touch the cemetery until the matter was resolved. Mr. Hahn then did excavating through the cemetery uncovering more stones. Mr. Oost put rope around the area. Mr. Hahn's workers took down the ropes. The Sheriff's Department was called to the scene. Mr. Hahn has filed a quiet claim title to obtain ownership of the cemetery. Mr. Oost said the property has not been transferred from ownership by Reuben Wingate, so it should belong to his descendants. The survey shows it as a separate from the remainder of the property purchased by Mr. Hahn. Mr. Oost does not understand why Mr. Hahn wants this .2 acre of land and says he is making this public because he feels a cemetery has been desecrated and this is wrong.

Francine Wingate Adams, another descendant of Reuben Wingate, addressed the board regarding the history of the Wingate family.

Mary Donlin, said she lives across from the destruction. She is upset about the loss of natural beauty. She watched an active cooper's hawk nest be destroyed. She would like to prevent this useless destruction from happening again.

Mrs. Estep spoke about contacting the Ohio EPA, Clark County Soil and Water, the Arm Corps of Engineers, the Clark County Department of Community Development, the Clark County Engineers Office, the Clark County Prosecutor, the Ohio Township Association, and the Ohio State University Agricultural Extension Agency for assistance in this matter.

Mr. Oost spoke again about the cemetery law asking for assistance from the township.

Mrs. Estep read an email from the Assistant Prosecutor that gave the legal explanation as to why the township was forbidden to be involved in a private family cemetery such as the Shellabarger Cemetery.

Mr. Oost spoke again asking for the support of the trustees in his efforts to reclaim the cemetery.

Diane McCubbin said that a petition should be started to support Mr. Oost and she would help.

Ned Clark asked if we know what Mr. Hahn's plan is. He believes it might be a HUD project such as low income housing. He thinks Mr. Hahn should come to a meeting and let people know what his plan is.

Mrs. Estep said that Mr. Hahn has not yet filed any plans or request for rezoning with Clark county Community Development.

Mr. Clark stated that Mr. Hahn should respect the veterans buried in the cemetery and let them rest in peace.

Mr. Catanzaro moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. McClure. All aye.