

MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Session – January 27, 2020

The Mad River Township Trustees met in regular session Monday, January 27, 2020.

Present: Trustees Bob McClure, Joe Catanzaro and Todd Pettit and Fiscal Officer David Rudy.

Trustee McClure called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Catanzaro moved to suspend the reading of the minutes of the January 6, 2020 regular session, seconded by Trustee Pettit. Motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Catanzaro moved to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2020 regular session, seconded by Trustee McClure. Motion carried 3-0.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Enon Fire and EMS**

Chief Tim Wendling reported the department had 129 runs YTD. They had 5 second runs during the fire call in Parkridge Acres. Other runs included a rollover on Rebert Pike, an ejection on the highway and a gunshot. Regarding the fire in Parkridge Acres, 21 members of the fire department responded along with mutual aid from Husted, Springfield Twp, Bethel Twp and Wright Patt. Chief thank Husted and all for their help. When the first members arrived, the home was approximately 90% involved with fire shooting from the roof and front door and they determined the home was unoccupied. The wind was gusting to 49MPH, which forced them to focus on saving the house next door, which they did. Chief reminded the trustees of the applicant presented at the last meeting. He asked the trustees for permission to proceed with the purchase of a new medic through the State Term Schedule with Horton. Trustees McClure and Catanzaro commended the department on protecting the houses close to the fire.

### **Husted Fire**

Chief Larry Ridenour reported 12 runs in the last 3 weeks including alarm drops, illegal burns, mutual aid to the structure fire in Parkridge, trees and lines down and auto accidents. One of the auto accidents involved a vehicle that broke into multiple pieces after hitting a tree on Jackson Road. The driver was able to walk away from the incident. Chief reported the house in Parkridge was fully engulfed and they saw smoke from Arthur Road. The engine almost hit a downed tree on route and notified the tanker to take another route. The wind driven fire was one Larry had not seen before with large embers falling on roofs of houses down the street. The rescue tools have been serviced. Two of the members of the department will take an SCBA tech class.

### **Husted EMS**

Chief Heather Kaufman was not present.

### **Road and Cemetery**

Don O'Connor stated the department checked the roads on Sunday morning and salted the bridges and normal hills. Don is concerned about the potential for potholes. They are keeping 2 trucks loaded with salt to make sure they are ready to respond. In the cemetery, there have been a number of funerals. Don would like to look at replacing 2 mowers that were purchased in 2008. Don has looked into the older sections of the cemetery at unused graves. In section 1 and 2, there are about 80 unused graves and Don noted that a number of the owners are no longer in the area. According to ORC 517.073, there is a process that the township can take back those graves. Trustee Catanzaro asked which type of mowers Don would like. Don stated he likes the Grasshoppers with the front mount deck. Trustee Pettit asked if they were diesel or gas. Don stated they were diesel.

### **Sheriff Deputy**

Deputy Brandon Baldwin left the meeting to respond to a call. Trustee McClure read Brandon's report, which noted 48 calls, 4 arrests, 22 traffic stops and 17 assists in the last 3 weeks. Brandon did have a tire blowout on I70. Trustee McClure stated that the purchase of the new SUV for the deputy is needed. Brandon will attend Street Cop Training at Clark State. He is also working on nuisance properties in Green Meadows and Holiday Valley.

Fiscal Officer Rudy stated he was working on the 2019 year end as well as the final budgets and appropriations for 2020.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Catanzaro moved to hire Katharine Lewis pending completion of pertinent background and reference checks to be completed by Clemens-Nelson Associates and subject to a one-year probationary period as mandated by the policy manual, seconded by Trustee Pettit, motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Petit moved to proceed with the purchase of a new Horton medic on a Ford F550 chassis, through the State Term Schedule, seconded by Trustee Catanzaro, motion carried 3-0. (Resolution 2020-002). Chief Wendling stated the process would take 6 to 7 months, but Horton may be able to complete it sooner, due to the current situation of the medic that was damaged in the accident.

Trustee McClure stated that he has received 1 bid for a PA system to address the issues some members of the audience have presented in past meetings.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee McClure stated the trustees need to start planning the road repairs for the year with Don.

### **Public Comments**

Mrs. Marion Ladislaw was glad the trustees are looking into a speaker and asked if she could get more information on the Parkridge house fire.

Mr. Scott Sells noted the house was 90% involved when the first engine arrived. He noted he spoke with 5 residents in the area who were very appreciative of the department in the handling of the fire. He read a thank you note from one of the residents whose home was saved by the department. He thanked the Trustees for the great equipment and support the department receives.

Mr. Ned Clark spoke about the man arrested for the fire in Parkridge. He noted that he supports the first responders carry a firearm to protect themselves and he read an article where 2 firefighters were shot when they responded to a fire. He also spoke about Trustee Catanzaro not living where he is registered to vote according to the Board of Elections.

Mr. Chad Brown appreciated the trustees moving forward with the purchase of the equipment for the Sheriff Deputy and fire department, but asked if the trustees had looked to keep some of the money local.

Mr. Chris Price commended the fire department for the response to the fire in the tanking area for not losing any other homes.

At 8:11 pm, Trustee Catanzaro moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Pettit. Motion carried 3-0.