

MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Session –October 2, 2017

The Mad River Township Trustees met in regular session Monday, October 2, 2017.

Present: Trustees Kathy Estep, Bob McClure and Joe Catanzaro and Fiscal Officer David Rudy.

Trustee Estep called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Estep asked for a moment of silence to honor the victims of the Las Vegas mass shooting.

Trustee Catanzaro moved to dispense the reading of the minutes of the September 18, 2017 regular session, seconded by Trustee McClure. Motion carried 3-0.

Trustee McClure moved to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2017, seconded by Trustee Catanzaro. Motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Enon Fire and EMS

Acting Chief Elmer Beard stated the department had 1525 runs year to date. October 9 – 15th is Fire Prevention week and the department plans to visit Enon Primary, Indian Valley and multiple local daycare facilities along with the Husted department. The Enon Apple Butter Festival is October 14th and 15th and the department will have the EMA command post stationed there as well as patrolling the festival with law enforcement. Chief Beard reported that Captain JR Routt had resigned after 20 years of service to spend more time with family. He was involved in the roll out of the safe and sound program, working on the specifications for the new fire equipment, teaching numerous CPR classes and coordinated Fire & EMS week. The Lifepak 15's have already come in and training will be set up for the units so they can be placed in service as soon as possible. Chief Beard stated that October 28th from 6-8 will be beggars night and there will be an open house at the fire station. The results of the Clemons Nelson report had been reviewed with the officers and the rest of the department. Leading by example was addressed with the officers.

Husted Fire

Chief Larry Ridenour stated his department had been on 5 runs in the last 2 weeks, including a couple of gas odor incidents, an illegal burn, a 2 car auto accident and care flight being called for a burn victim. Chief stated that pump testing will be on October 11. Engine 59 was taken to Sutphen for a transaxle problem, which was not fixed, however the unit is not out of service and Sutphen will continue to address the issue. Chief wanted to remind the public that it was farming season and drivers need to be on the look-out for large equipment in the roadways. He also wanted to remind the public about open burning this time of year due to the dry weather.

Trustee Catanzaro asked about the phone system update. According to Tim Wendling the echo still exists on the 1995 line and is not as prevalent on the 1994 line. The next test is to disconnect the analog phone at the station on Thursday the 5th. The goal is to totally disconnect from ATT by October 7th. Also, according to Chief Beard the parts for the back-up generator have been ordered and the loaner is only being invoiced for actual hours used. The generator is currently set up to test for 30 minutes once a month.

Husted EMS

Chief Heather Kauffman was reported that September runs were up 67% from 2016. The run total for 2017 was 46 compared to 34 runs in the prior year. Year to date numbers are 325 in 2017 and 284 in 2016. The Hog Roast was a huge success with the proceeds going to help raise money for an auto pulse system. Chief Kauffman reported that 2 members of the department were currently in EMT classes and 1 member was in a medic class. The staffing situation has not improved, people are looking for full time work and better pay. Members of the department are covering when they can.

Road and Cemetery

Don O'Connor stated Dean Fenton had contacted him about a 36" culvert running through the Boone Station parking lot that was collapsing and deemed to be the township's issue. The department was working on catch basins in Hunters Glen and Holiday Valley. The cutouts and patching had been done on Fowler and New Horizon. Don stated that road mowing should begin soon and they were working on the ditching program for the fall. In the Cemetery, Don said they were working on forming some 20 foundations for the fall pour. He was looking to pour half of them on Wednesday. The hauling and dozing to level out the dirt was ongoing. Mowing and weed eating were continuing as well in the cemetery. The catch basin in Hunters Glen that collapsed will have to be replaced and that will probably occur in the next few weeks.

Fiscal Officer Rudy reported a correction in the cost of the Sheriff Levy on the November ballot. The cost will be \$28.00 per \$100,000 assessed value. He also reported that the audit review for 2015 and 2016 was at the Senior Manager level and should be completed soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Estep stated that the Trustees did attend the officer and departmental meetings in the past week. The Clemons Nelson interviews were intended to ask people to be critical of the department to address all the concerns. There was good discussion with the department and the trustees will plan to attend future meetings to continue to address concerns to improve the department. Trustee McClure stated that the results seemed to focus on two themes, pay and leadership. Trustee Catanzaro agreed with the voiced opinions.

Trustee McClure reported that discussions with county prosecutor Andrew Pickering, the trustees were advised against joining the lawsuit on behalf of the residents as it is not in the townships legal authority to do so. Andrew referenced a prior case in regards to zoning. Trustee Estep stated the Trustees will continue to voice their opposition to the quarry. She also mentioned a rumor about the company providing public water, so she had contacted the County Health Department who verified that was not factual.

Trustee Estep discussed the Sheriff Levy on the ballot even though it states Policy Levy, it is for the purpose of hiring a Sheriff deputy for 40 hours a week. In the past, the deputy was a great deterrent for crime. The Trustees want to give the voters one more opportunity to vote. Trustee Estep formed a committee for the purpose of spreading the word about the levy and is currently looking for donations. Trustee McClure stated that they are not trying to push additional taxes on the voters, but felt with possible confusion the last time the levy was on the ballot, it is in the interest of the citizens to give them the opportunity to vote on it.

Trustee Estep stated that the meetings with the Clark County Crossroads land use plan are available online. The county is moving in the same direction as Mad River Township with regards to land use and farmland preservation.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Estep stated that he had confirmed with Pastor Brimmer at the Rocky Point Chapel about using the Chapel for the dedication of the Rocky Point Bridge Historical Marker. She will contact the Active Citizens of the Township group whose donations made the sign possible as well as the Enon Historical Society. She asked Don to coordinate with Dean Fenton on the placement of the sign.

Trustee Estep announced that Scott Schmidt had emailed her confirmation that the OPWC grant was approved for the final paving project on Old Mill road from Rebert to Fairfield. The grant would be for \$150,000 of the projected \$250,000 cost. Barring budget concerns at the State level the project should be a go.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mrs. Kathy Voytko mentioned the public records request for the Budget information from Fiscal Officer Rudy and had a few questions concerning line items on the budget. She also asked if room for pay rate increases for fire and EMS was being looked at. She asked if the issues and concerns of the fire and EMS

departments were know prior to the report from Clemons Nelson and finally why the levy was chosen to address the single deputy vs one for the fire/ems personnel.

Mrs. Kathy Clark was appreciative of the agenda provided.

Mr. Ned Clark asked if there was a ballot issue for the quarry, who had the power to stop it and who was suing.

Mr. Kaufman asked if the Mosier road issues had been addressed.

Trustee McClure stated that the Trustees were looking at ways to bring in additional revenues by increasing the run rates and they were giving the new rates 6 months to see if the change would boost revenues to help provide money to give raises.

Trustee Estep did not see the situation as either/or. The Trustees were trying to increase revenues for the EMS/Fire department. The sheriff levy was more for the voters who voiced concerns over the language confusion on the last ballot. The township only will vote on the Sheriff (Police) Levy and she hopes the word will get out to the residents this time.

Trustee Catanzaro stated that he was not wanting to put the levy on but the residents of the township spoke requesting the chance to vote on the Sheriff deputy coverage. With regards to the EMS department raises, he feels there was some miscommunication of the numbers about the possibility of giving raises. He is not against looking to place a small levy on the ballot in the future to increase the wages of the personnel. Trustee Catanzaro also stated that something needs to be done at the state level with regards to the department not being paid for the hazardous and expensive motor vehicle accidents on the highway.

Mrs. Kathy Voytko asked Chief Beard if the interstate runs are the most expensive runs for the department. Chief Beard stated that there is added cost, since the fire apparatus will always accompany the medic unit to act as a road block at the scene.

Mr. Ned Clark asked if the President of the Board of Trustees supports giving the voters a chance to vote for the Sheriff Levy and what it would cost her. Trustee Estep replied that she would be paying for the Village Policy Levy if it passes which is more than the Sheriff Levy. She stated that she supports the Village and the Township and supports both levies to pass. Trustee Estep stated that she always tries to represent the best interests of the township.

At 8:39 pm, Trustee Catanzaro moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee McClure. Motion carried 3-0.