MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Session – March 20, 2023

The Mad River Township Trustees met in regular session Monday, March 20, 2023 at the Mad River Township Fire Station and via the Mad River You Tube platform.

Present: Trustees Bobby McClure, Todd Pettit, Jay Young and Fiscal Officer David Rudy.

Trustee Pettit called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm, led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed the audience in attendance.

Trustee Young moved to suspend the reading of and approve the minutes of the March 6, 2023 regular session. Seconded by Trustee McClure, motion carried 3-0.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Enon Fire and EMS**

Chief John Heath stated the department has 376 calls for service in 2023, 48 since the last meeting for an average of 4.76 calls per day. There were 10 overlapping calls and mutual aid received of 1 and mutual aid given was 4. The department was called to Fairborn to assist on a 2nd alarm apartment fire and also provided EMS coverage during the fire. The new MARCS Radios have been delivered and are operational. Each riding seat on the apparatus have MARCS radios. Chief presented 2 FF only applications, with one working on EMT. There is still a push to hire new members. One member is in training to be a Hazard Recognition Officer, which will help with business inspections in the township. The new Battalion has been stripped and will be in service soon. John asked the trustees to approve the holding of a spot in line for the production of a new Medic unit for delivery in early 2025. The current pricing for a new medic is around $359,000.00.

**Road and Cemetery Department**

Don O’Connor said the department has been working on street sign maintenance, including the installation of high visibility signs at the 4 way stop at Green Meadows and Southern Vista. The department is looking to rent a Bobcat with a brush head to clean areas around the township when the road mower can not get. The cemetery clean-up has begun, including the removal of the grave blankets and decorations. Some graves still have Christmas decorations. A number of funerals are planned for the next week. The spring foundation orders are being processed.

**Sheriff Deputy**

Deputy Brandon Baldwin presented the updated parking resolutions approved by the county prosecutor’s office to the trustees for approval. Brandon noted the number of people running the 4-way stop sign at Green Meadows and Southern Vista was unacceptable and he will begin to ticket drivers for future violations. From February 20, 2023 to March 20, 2023, Brandon had 34 calls for service, 7 arrests, 24 traffic stops, 5 assists of other departments, 48 business checks, 138 citizen contacts and 1,844 miles on the cruiser. After the trustee approval, the parking regulations will be in effect.

**Hustead Fire**

Chief Matt Hirtzinger reported the department had 37 runs for the year. The generator for the rescue truck was down. The trucks are being serviced and a sensor on the turbo of the engine needed replaced. The EMR class is almost complete and Hazmat Awareness training will happen soon. No parts have come in for the tanker.

**Hustead EMS**

Chief Heather Kaufman had no report.

Fiscal Officer Rudy presented checks for the trustees to sign and said he will need a resolution to approve the permanent appropriations for 2023.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Young spoke about the electric aggregation. The current contract expires the end of May. Trustees signed with Dynegy Energy for a 2-year contract at a rate of .0683 cents / kWH. Trebel expects the rates offered by First Energy will double in the next couple of months. In June, the supplier will change to Dynegy, unless the resident opts out of the program. The quickest way to opt of the aggregation program is to contact First Energy directly. Gas continues to move down and the hope is to lock in for one year in the low $.40 cents.

Trustee Pettit had a zoom meeting with CemSites about transitioning the cemetery records to computer. He was looking to have the capability to see who owned which grave site, what lots are available and other information. The cost to set up the cemetery on the computer program, with no entering of the owner data, is around $30,000 to $35,000. Trustees agreed to invite the company to present at a future meeting.

Trustee McClure noted the work on Enon Xenia was ahead of schedule and the waterline had been installed to Southern Vista. He noted the intersection of Rebert and Enon Xenia would be closed the week of spring break, April 3-8.

Trustee McClure mentioned that asphalt was up $30 per ton, which will increase the road resurfacing projects.

Trustee Pettit noted the Citizens Against Mining annual meeting will be March 22, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Greenon Elementary cafeteria.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Trustees Young moved to approve the permanent appropriations of $6.3 million for calendar 2023. Seconded by Trustee McClure, motion carried 3-0. (Resolution 2023-004)

Trustee Pettit mentioned the Great American Clean-Up and the availability of a trailer provided by the solid waste district for residents to use to help clean-up areas in the township. Anyone interested can contact Bonnie at 937-521-2025.

Trustee Young moved to adopt the revised parking regulations. Seconded by Trustee McClure, motion carried 3-0. (Resolution 2023-005)

Trustee Young moved to get on the list for the ordering of a new Medic Unit from Hortons. Seconded by Trustee Pettit, motion carried 3-0.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Mrs. Kathy Clark had questions about the aggregation program and noted that the account on her letter was not her account. Trustee Young stated again the new rate will be .0683 cents / kWH through the June 2025 billing cycle. The contract was signed last week and has probably not had time to be updated on the website yet with the other aggregation rates. Kathy stated that her last gas aggregation contract expired October 2021. Trustee Young confirmed that and stated that everyone had gone back to Columbia Gas for supply. The township has not been under a gas contract since then due to the lack of quality contract rates being available.

Mr. Ryan Weaver asked the trustees about the potential benefits to the area from the new proposed limestone quarry. Trustees noted that it would be a local source of stone and that currently most of the stone is trucked in from other areas, which increases the cost of the product. He asked the trustees if they had an opinion for or against the quarry. Trustee Pettit said he had meet with an ODNR blasting expert and a hydrologist, noting there will be no dewatering at the quarry. A depth of the quarry has not been established at this time. The ability of the trustees to make recommendations and to place restrictions on the operation of the quarry was discussed. Mr. Weaver wanted to make sure that the concerns of the residents with property in the area were addressed. Trustee Young stated he believes in property rights as long as the owner follows all of the steps required by all government agencies, who are the experts.

Mrs. Marian Ladislaw appreciated the discussion on the aggregation programs and had concerns about the proposed law to increase speed limits in Ohio. Trustees noted they are able to have speed studies set up on local roads.

At 8:36 pm, Trustee McClure moved to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of public employees. Seconded by Trustee Pettit, motion carried 3-0.

At 9:53 pm, Trustee Young moved to reenter regular session. Seconded by Trustee Pettit, motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Young moved to hire the following individuals pending the drug and background investigations: Kevin Stephens and Charles Witt-Thompson. Seconded by Trustee Pettit, motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Pettit moved to re-hire David Helton as part time road and cemetery help at a wage of $15.00 / hour. Seconded by Trustee McClure, motion carried 3-0.

At 9:55 pm, Trustee Young moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee McClure, motion carried 3-0.