MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Session – March 6, 2023

The Mad River Township Trustees met in regular session Monday, March 6, 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 February 21, 2023 regular session. Seconded by Trustee McClure, motion carried 3-0.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Enon Fire and EMS**

Assistant Chief Ben Beair stated the department has 332 calls for service in 2023, 84 since the last meeting. There were 18 overlapping calls or 21%. Mutual aid received was 2 and mutual aid given was 3. Ben presented new applications for the trustees to review for hiring. The Rescue 50 is on schedule for a mid-June return to service. John has contacted Horton to spec a new medic. The earliest delivery would be in February 2025.

**Road and Cemetery Department**

Don O’Connor noted wall for the salt bin was moved. The F-550 will be ready for pick-up tomorrow. The department dealt with flooded areas in the township, including a washout on edge of Fowler Road near the Henry property. Arrowhead Trail has been swept of gravel. The cemetery clean-up will begin on March 15th. There have been 2 to 3 funerals a week. The foundations are scheduled to be poured the last week of April or 1st week of May. There was discussion on cutting trees near Cook Street.

**Sheriff Deputy**

Deputy Brandon Baldwin had no report.

**Hustead Fire**

Chief Matt Hirtzinger had no report.

**Hustead EMS**

Chief Heather Kaufman had no report.

Fiscal Officer Rudy presented checks for payment for the trustees to sign and the most recent credit card statements for Trustee Pettit to review. He will be working on the final appropriations for 2023.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee McClure noted the Enon Xenia Road project was moving along well. Trustees have received calls of speeding on Southern Vista. It was noted that the signage on the road is incorrect.

Trustee Young discussed gas and electric aggregation. He mentioned that Joe Garrett stated that gas is moving quickly and asked the trustees to vote to allow 1 of the trustees to approve and sign a contract to lock in the rate. The residents are reminded that they may opt out of the aggregation at any time. Trustee Pettit moved to allow Trustee Young to approve and sign the contract for aggregation when presented by Trebel. Seconded by Trustee McClure motion carried 3-0. (Resolution 2023-003)

Trustee Pettit has a meeting with a company to discuss putting the cemetery records on the computer.

Trustees talked about bids for chip and seal and including a large number of the roads in one bid packet in order to obtain a more competitive price. There was some discussion about contacting Bath Township on the possibility of putting Mud Run on an OPWC grant application.

Trustee Pettit noted that there is an option to bring in a large amount of good clay fill dirt to the new sports park complex to help with the excavation needed.

Trustee Pettit noted that Citizens Against Mining would be holding their annual meeting and update on March 22, 2023 in the Greenon Elementary Cafeteria at 7:00 pm.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Trustees are obtaining a bid to upgrade the lighting in the firehouse and office space to LED.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Mr. Mike Verbillion spoke about the possible limestone quarry off of Dayton Road and the concerns about the traffic concerns, water quality and blasting. He noted that the trustees should ask the BZA to add conditions, including time the quarry could operate, how many trucks per day, etc., prior to the approval of any permit.

Mr. Brian Hunter, an Old Mill Road resident, voiced concerns about the depth of the mining and also asked if there was a way for better communication for the meetings at the county level, including the BZA.

Dr. David Zainey spoke about the risks of the limestone quarry in the township to the well water. He mentioned a prior karst formation study in the Boone Station area, noting the area has less than 25 feet of good top soil. There was an abandoned quarry on the proposed property. He noted that proper well maintenance needed to be done by the area residents to preserve the water quality. Other concerns included air pollution that could pose health risks to residents with underlying conditions.

Mr. Ryan Weaver, a resident living close to the proposed quarry, separated by the railroad tracks, voiced his concerns about who would be liable for testing if issues arise with the water quality and also the increased traffic.

Mr. Tab Hunter has concerns about the water aquifer.

Mr. Chuck Griever spoke about the water quality on his well, which he noted was his second on the property.

Mr. Fred Messaros, the owner of the property, stated that no dewatering would be done and he would go to the depth allowed by the permit. There would be hydro drilling test wells drilled on the property. He also mentioned that to his knowledge no water contamination has occurred due to a limestone quarry. He offered to answer any questions residents had.

Joe Garrett arrived to the meeting and spoke about aggregation. He noted that electric rate would be going up in June due to the way the auctions have been going. The range he was looking for was .665 to .704. He noted that a .02/KW change in pricing would be about $2.00 per 1,000 KWs used. As for the gas pricing, the storage numbers have been up due to the milder winter, so the pricing is going down. He noted that the suppliers used to hold a quote for a number of days, but due to the movements of the pricing, the quotes are held for a period as short as 1 day.

At 8:59 pm, Trustee Young moved to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of public employees. Seconded by Trustee Pettit, motion carried 3-0.

At 10:21 pm, Trustee Young moved to reenter regular session. Seconded by Trustee McClure, motion carried 3-0.

Trustee McClure moved to hire the following individuals pending the drug and background investigations: Drew Ripploh, Kamden Haney, Zackery Halsapple and Kilar Hughes. Seconded by Trustee Young, motion carried 3-0.

At 10:23 pm, Trustee Young moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee McClure, motion carried 3-0.