

Minutes February 9, 2016 Meeting

The Salem Township Board of Trustees met February 9, 2016 in regular session at the Salem Morrow Fire Station Conference Room for the purpose of transacting the business of the Township. President Ralph Blanton called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with members Heath Kilburn and Kirk Ramsey present. Mr. Blanton led all those present in the pledge to the flag.

Others present: Don Lynch, Jana Vaught, Ron Stratton, Susan Ramsey, David Fornshell, Mike Kassalen and Sonny Caldwell.

The minutes were read and approved, and posted on the bulletin board.

Cemetery Updates

01/29/16 Della Ward Sec 5 Lot 97 #2 SW Corner Vales FH

Warren County Prosecutor, David Fornshell, was present to give his annual report on the work being done by the prosecutor's office. He passed out copies of the report and said it was available on-line on their website. He gave highlights of the points in the report including his visit to testify in front of the judicial committee in the Ohio House of Representatives in support of HB 57. Expenditures are still lower than in 2010. The office has sponsored an anti-theft training for community organizations. He stated that 70% of their cases involve heroin, and for the first time there was a prosecution for murder against a supplier. They have been successful in two Parole Watch cases which prevented two criminals from being released from prison.

Heath Kilburn asked him how many calls he had received regarding the township's chip/seal project. He said he had probably received 10 calls from unhappy residents. Heath also mentioned the recent death of one of the longtime employees of the prosecutor's office, Mark Duvelius.

Don Lynch asked him who in his office could be called on a zoning problem. Mr. Fornshell told him that his office acted as the lawyer for townships and advised them what to do, but does not say "yes" you have to do this or that.

Ralph Blanton had received a zoning permit for a pole barn.

Sonny Caldwell, a resident of Ward Road, issued a complaint for the amount of junk and the burning his neighbor is constantly doing. Chief Harrison told him the neighbor has contacted the fire department to see what he is allowed to burn, and he is following those requirements on the burning.

Ron Stratton remarked on the process a zoning inspector must follow to make an inspection on a property. He said the inspector is limited in what he can do legally.

Fire Department

Chief Harrison gave a report for the 2015 year. There were 954 runs, of which 303 were fire and 641 EMS runs. In January there had been a water rescue, structure fire in the

village, and they had been called to help with an ice rescue on Cowan Lake. They are also doing fire safety inspections on businesses and buildings.

Zoning: Mike Kassalen, zoning inspector, came forward to suggest that Jana Vaught would make a good candidate to take his place as zoning inspector. Ralph Blanton thanked Ms. Vaught for coming and told her they would have her fill out an application for the position. An ad has been placed in the Pulse Journal for this position. Also the trustees asked that Mike post the job on the website. They will keep it open until the next meeting.

Don Lynch made comments on the Gooch property and permits again. He said every deck and level should have its own permit, and that the permit that was issued is not accurate.

Ralph Blanton addressed the issue by saying the property is behind the telephone pole and that the issued do not require a variance.

Roads

On the culvert project on Ireland Road, it was reported that the electric lines are still in the way and will have to be moved again. The issue on Ghiels Carroll Road on the Rossburg Road end is getting really bad. The road is slipping away at the top of the hill. Major work will need to be done to fix this problem.

As the request from the county for summer road work has been received, the trustees discussed whether they should do any paving since the two projects will be quite costly. Kirk Ramsey made a motion not to do any paving or chip sealing this year due to the expense of the repairs on Ireland and Ghiels Carroll Roads. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

Fiscal Business

Debbie Harper, Fiscal Officer, gave the board a copy of the request from the Warren County Drug Task Force for a payment of \$1.00 per resident from the township. After a brief discussion, Kirk Ramsey made a motion to not pay this request as it had not been done in the past. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion. Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

The fiscal officer prepared checks #16779-16821, 92132-92141 which totaled \$36,241.60.

The board examined the bills that were ready for payment and Kirk Ramsey made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

For this reporting period the fiscal officer deposited receipts in the amount of \$3,045.75 which included receipts #8913 - #8917.

With no further business to come before the board, Kirk Ramsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea