

**RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP  
LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO  
BOARD OF RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 1st, 2010

The regular meeting of the Richfield Township Trustees was called to order by Arthur Nevers at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 3951 Washburn Road, Berkey, Ohio.

**ROLL CALL:** Trustee  
Chairman: Arthur Nevers – present  
Vice-Chairman: John Hassen- present  
Donald Eisel - absent

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

The clerk provided copies of the minutes from the February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting, current Cash Summary Report, and Pending Warrants Report.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

John Hassen made a motion to approve the February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010 minutes as corrected. Arthur Nevers seconded the motion. Roll call: Nevers-yes, Hassen -yes. Motion approved.

**PRESENTATION OF THE BILLS:**

The attached listings of warrants (5724 -5747) were presented for approval:

Arthur Nevers made a motion to approve payment of the attached listing of invoices and the corresponding pending warrants. John Hassen seconded the motion. Roll call: Nevers-yes, Hassen-yes. Motion approved.

**ZONING:**

The property owner at 5026 Kilburn Road has requested a permit to erect a 40' x 80' barn; he stated he has received a pink slip from Sheila Nash. Mr. Smith will confirm before issuing the permit.

Mr. Smith reported that Sheila Nash visited the property at 11460 W. Central Avenue. Although no one was present, physical appearance of the site suggest that someone is living on the property. Mr. Smith said that Ms. Nash would return to the site in the next couple weeks. There are no sewer facilities on the property.

Ms. Condon contacted Mr. Smith advising him that the blight mentioned in an anonymous complaint is not on her property. The property in question is owned by Duke Wheeler. A letter will be sent to Mr. Wheeler advising him of the violations.

Mr. Smith and Trustee Nevers attended the Lucas County Planning Commission public hearing on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 for the amendment to the Richfield Township zoning Resolution regarding public election signs and action by Board of Township Trustees. It was approved unanimously by the Plan Commission.

Mr. Smith attended the Ohio Township winter convention and attended several sessions on zoning updates, including a session on "Role of Zoning Bodies".

**FIRE:**

The Chief has applied for the Ohio EMS grant for 2010-2011.

Chief Tate attended the Lucas County Fire Chiefs meeting on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Waterville.

Gas usage for February was 23.3 gallons including maintenance.

Mr. Tate received two resignations from volunteer fire fighters Eugene Fries and Brandon Moeller.

John Hassen made a motion to accept the resignations from volunteer fire fighter Eugene Fries. Arthur Nevers seconded the motion. Roll call: Nevers-yes, Hassen-yes. Motion approved.

John Hassen made a motion to accept the resignations from volunteer fire fighter Brandon Moeller. Arthur Nevers seconded the motion. Roll call: Nevers-yes, Hassen-yes. Motion approved.

Discussion was held on purchasing a new computer for the fire department; prices will be obtained and presented at a future meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion was held on the recent injury of a Richfield Township employee while cleaning out the ditches. After lengthy discussion Trustee Hassen recommended the Township contract out or go through the Lucas County Engineers to have the ditches cleaned. Mr. Hassen was concerned over safety issues and proper training.

Trustee Nevers stated he spoke to the employees and they were okay with continuing with the project. He further stated he would hold a meeting with the employees prior to resuming the project on how to prevent accidents, by getting safety training and certified on chainsaws.

Trustee Nevers will obtain price quotes to have the ditches cleaned out and present at the next meeting.

Further discussion was held on the Workmen's Compensation Claim; Ms. Johnston explained per workmen's compensation if the claim goes above \$15,000.00 the premiums would increase; to keep the cost down the Township has an option to pay the employee his salary instead of going through Workmen's Compensation. Further discussion will be held at the next meeting when all Trustees are present.

Trustee Hassen attended the Ohio Township winter convention and gave a brief update on grants; he attended several sessions including one on "New Trustees"; he further stated in one session they discussed employees and were told no one Trustee can make a decision on an employee.

Trustee Nevers attended the Ohio Township winter convention and attended several sessions including Ohio Ethics Law, Effective Decision Making, Working with Media, Leadership Skills and Styles, Intergovernmental Relations.

Ms. Johnston attended the Ohio Township winter convention and reported on several legal updates from the Auditor's office along with a few pending legislation bills; in addition she provided updates on IRS laws.

Ms. Johnston and Trustee Hassen provided information on the Ohio Commission on Local Government Reform and Collaboration session they attended. The Commission on Local Government Reform and Collaboration is developing recommendations on ways to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of local government operations to achieve cost savings to taxpayers and to facilitate economic development. The Commission is represented by various public bodies including a township trustee. The meetings are held the last Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at Malone University in Canton, Ohio and are open to the public; the public is invited to speak or present testimony to the Commission. Discussion has been held at the meetings on eliminating townships or decreasing the number of counties in an effort to combine services to save money. The report will be issued to the Senate no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. The website is [www.ohioreformandcollaboration.org](http://www.ohioreformandcollaboration.org) .

Trustee Hassen discussed doing a mass mailing of the minutes to residents of Richfield Township. Discussion was held on the cost involved with making all the copies and postage. Mr. Hassen suggested doing a mass mailing and placing a return card in the envelope for residents to mark if they would like to continue to receive the minutes every meeting; he will obtain price quotes on a mass mailing and present at the next meeting.

A suggestion was made to place a box outside the maintenance building with copies of the minutes.

The Trustees have received calls from residents questioning why the minutes are not in the Evergreen paper all the time; Ms. Johnston explained because it is a free service they will only place the minutes in the paper if there is room. A resident suggested we contact the paper for a price quote in placing the minutes in the paper so they will be in there consistently. Ms. Johnston will obtain prices and present at the next meeting.

The minutes can be read on the township website: [www.richfieldtownshiplucascounty.com](http://www.richfieldtownshiplucascounty.com). Discussion was held on placing information about the website in all the minutes. Further discussion was held on doing a Township newsletter quarterly, twice a year or yearly.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Trustee Hassen reported he has a scheduled conference call with Representative Barbara Sears's office regarding grants for natural gas lines.

**ROADS:**

Trustee Nevers received a call from John Ersham regarding dirt for fill on the Miller Road project. Mr. Nevers will check with the Lucas County Engineers office.

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

The following information can be viewed on the Richfield Township website at: [www.richfieldtownshiplucascounty.com](http://www.richfieldtownshiplucascounty.com).

1. Trustee minutes
2. Zoning minutes
3. Zoning including: fees, applications, complaint forms, and the zoning book.
4. Meeting dates and times
5. Contact information for Trustees, Zoning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals.
6. Wolfinger Cemetery information including cemetery fees and rules & regulations.
7. Fire and Rescue
8. Town hall rental rules and fees
9. Roads and Maintenance
10. Rubbish Contractor information for garbage pickup
11. Community Links.

There being no further business Arthur Nevers made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., which was seconded by John Hassen. Roll call: Nevers-yes, Hassen-yes. Motion approved.

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Richfield Township Fiscal Officer

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