

Monday, March 14,

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The Bainbridge Township Board of Trustees met in Regular session at the Bainbridge Town Hall on March 14, 2011. Those present were trustees Mrs. Lorrie Sass Benza, Mr. Jeffrey Markley and Mr. Matthew J.D. Lynch. Fiscal Officer Mrs. Cherianne H. Measures was absent. Mrs. Benza presided and called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Benza made a motion to go into executive session to discuss the collective bargaining strategy, per Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4).

Mr. Lynch seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The trustees recessed their regular meeting at 6:01 P.M. in order to go into executive session to discuss the collective bargaining strategy.

The trustees returned from executive session, after discussing the collective bargaining strategy, reconvening their regular meeting at 7:24 P.M.

#### MINUTES

The minutes of the trustees' February 28, 2011 regular meeting were approved as amended by Mr. Lynch and Mrs. Benza, Mr. Markley abstained because he was not present at the meeting.

#### PRESENTATION BY GUEST

##### Karl Kuckelheim & Steve Ciciretto – Heritage Park

Steve Ciciretto began by mentioning the toilet room addition is almost complete pending water sources and sanitary sewer. Mr. Ciciretto still favors a well to service the Bissell House instead of moving toward city water so that even if city water is pursued in the future the well would still be in place for watering the grounds. The memorial/monument design will cost \$10,280.00 to complete. Landscaping is still to be decided. There have been many interested parties wanting to donate time and materials to this project. Pettiti's Garden Center has offered to donate close to \$26,000.00 worth of plants to the project. Breezewood has offered to donate landscaping design services. The board of trustees wants to be sure that all of these efforts and donations are coordinated with our Parks superintendent to be sure that nothing goes to waste and everyone is working together toward the same goal.

Mr. Ciciretto then went on to explain how the excavation work will look once the project for the Fire Station expansion project begins which includes new parking and traffic patterns.

Mr. Lynch asked about the flags and the lighting that seems to be quite often not working. Mr. Ciciretto explained that the drainage pattern is such that water flows right into where the recessed lighting for the flags has been placed.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the estimate as presented by Mr. Ciciretto for the monument from Sheffield Monuments in the amount of \$10,280.00 to be paid out of the investment fund. Mr. Markley seconded the motion that was approved unanimously.

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Mr. Karl Kuckelheim then went over a list of improvements he would like to see inside of the Bissell House to make it more functional.

Mr. Kuckelheim also suggested moving the historical sign from where it currently is posted to the new Heritage Park site so it is more visible and logically placed.

Mr. Markley made a motion to authorize Mr. Kuckelheim to move the sign from its current location outside the Pilgrim Village development to the new Heritage Park location.

Mr. Lynch seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Mr. Kuckelheim also wanted to mention the fundraising effort of selling walkway bricks and asked the board if they would be willing to have the township front the cost of the raw materials and the historical society would reimburse the township as the bricks sold. The trustees needed more specific information before they would agree to this arrangement.

Mr. Kuckelheim wondered if there could be a Saturday session devoted to going over the costs for these improvements and logistics of just how this would all come together. Mrs. Benza suggested Mr. Kuckelheim request a Saturday session and the trustees would be happy to accommodate his request.

One last request from Mr. Kuckelheim was regarding who would have use of the Bissell House. His suggestion would be that it would only be available for civic groups.

Mr. Gil Meyers asked what the township has spent thus far on Heritage Park? The board was not sure exactly so Mrs. Benza asked if the Fiscal Office might be able to give Mr. Meyers that information.

Dr. Judith Gooding asked why the building should only be open to civic groups. Mr. Kuckelheim answered that there are already properties that are available for the general public's use, also there would be potentially valuable historical items housed on site that would need to be kept secure. Therefore, it may not be the best idea to grant the general public unrestricted access.

Ms. Almast Finn asked what the cost of the house was when purchased initially. Mr. Sam Desiderio, former trustee, stated that the house cost \$247,000.00 when it was purchased some years ago.

Mr. Markley stated that the board had anticipated that the cost of the park may be as high as \$750,000.00.

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Brian Feliciano – Union Insurance Group

Mr. Feliciano stated that the Health Care committee was given proposals and recommendations regarding health insurance for the upcoming renewal. The township's data has been marketed to all carriers and no carrier really came close to Medical Mutual. The township was granted approval to switch to an HRA plan effective February 1, 2011 by Medical Mutual even though renewal is not until April 1, 2011. The renewal numbers have come back with premiums increasing 30%. Mr. Feliciano stated that he is seeing the average renewal rates increase by closer to 15%. He is not sure why the increase is so high for this group other than possibly utilization. The reports provided illustrate an HRA plan for the township with a utilization rate of 40%. Mr. Feliciano assured the board that a 40% rate is actually a conservative estimate because the average is typically closer to 25-30% utilization for a group this size. However as the data illustrates if the township had stayed with an HSA plan the cost of that plan including the employer contributions would have cost the township an additional \$85,000.00 over last year's costs. Given the savings the township is likely to experience and the ability to track expenses in greater detail Mr. Feliciano agrees with the Health Care Committee's recommendation to stay with Medical Mutual's HRA plan with deductible levels staying the same as last year: \$2,500.00/single and \$5,000.00/family. In addition, the township would contribute: \$2,250.00/single and \$4,500.00/family so the out of pocket exposure to the employees would remain the same as last year and the township would remain first payer so essentially the employee would pay the last part of the deductible.

Mr. Lynch then put up a transparency illustrating what the township has paid for health care each year since 2008. The extreme increase from 2008 to 2009 could not be explained, as the township no longer uses the broker from that time frame.

Mr. Feliciano mentioned that the HRA plan is a good choice because it can be customized from year to year to absorb more savings or pass along more benefit as the case may be.

The trustees requested additional information in the form of a benchmarking report and possible scenarios where the HRA might save the township further in the future from Mr. Feliciano to be available by Thursday's meeting so they can make their final decision.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTSFINANCE REPORT

Fiscal Office Employee Tammy Most presented the financial report for the month of February, 2011.

NOTE: A copy of said financial report is attached to and becomes a permanent part of these minutes.

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PARKS/PROPERTIES DEPARTMENT

Mr. David Mitchell, Property Superintendent, presented the monthly report for the Parks/Properties Department for the month of February, 2011.

Mr. Ciciretto also wanted to make everyone aware that along with all the Fire Department expansion plans is the eventual demolition of the garage that is behind where the Bissell House used to be located; which is currently still housing various equipment presumably from the Fire Department.

ROADS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Walter Rudyk, Roads Superintendent, presented the monthly report for the Road Department for the month of February 2011.

Mrs. Benza suggested a possible open house for the Road Department to allow residents to view the facility.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ted Seliga asked why discussion of implementing a Service Department was not on the agenda. Mrs. Benza replied that the trustees are not ready to implement a Service Department as of yet.

Mrs. Ann Meyers thanked Mr. Mitchell for taking down the sign that was falling down and wondered if someone might donate a begonia plant like the one pictured in the sign that could be placed by the sign or possibly in place of the sign.

Mr. Henri Preuss suggested that all the signs should be on some type of maintenance schedule.

Mr. Gil Meyers asked whether the township is prepared or even discussing charging the residents for ambulance transport. Mrs. Benza and Mr. Lynch agreed that the discussion is ongoing and that change may be implemented sooner than later.

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FISCAL OFFICE – NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Markley made a motion to approve the entire list as prepared by the Fiscal Officer. With items 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8 to be transferred to the respective departments from the investment funds.

Mrs. Benza seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The list as presented is as follows:

Purchase Order Requests

1. Ullman Oil for Gas Pump Replacement	\$11,250.00
2. VanCuren for Tree Removal in Right-of-Way	\$14,950.00
3. Arms Trucking for Cinders	\$ 1,797.90
4. MNJ Technologies for Fire Department Computers	\$ 2,332.56
5. DELL for Fire Department Computer Software	\$ 1,136.00
6. JFD Landscaping for Overseeding at River Road & Settlers	\$ 1,405.07
7. JFD Landscaping for Landscaping stone at River Rd. islands	\$ 3,502.21
8. JFD Landscaping for Large Landscaping rocks at River Rd.	\$ 1,633.83

Invoice Approval Requests

Littler Mendelson – for legal service for general labor	\$ 528.00
Littler Mendelson – for legal services for Teamsters negotiations	\$ 412.50
Littler Mendelson – for legal services for FOP negotiations	\$ 297.00
Littler Mendelson – for legal services for OPBA negotiations	\$ 511.50

PARKS/PROPERTIES – OLD BUSINESSSpecial Events Committee

Mr. Mitchell has a few individuals who have submitted their names for consideration to be on the Special Events Committee: Donna Yuse, Historical Committee; Cindy Movens, resident; Carol Fitch, Women's Club; Jeremiah C. Polz, resident; and Margo Vinkovich, Women's Club.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to appoint the above mentioned individuals for a 1 year term and public meeting rules are applicable so minutes will need to be kept and notice of meetings given.

PARKS/PROPERTIES – NEW BUSINESSEmployment of Public Employee

Mr. Mitchell has one applicant he is ready to present but is asking for two. Mrs. Benza suggested that if he can have the second applicant ready to present to the board he bring it to Thursday's meeting. Mr. Markley wanted to caution Mr. Mitchell as to whether he has thoroughly examined his staffing needs so that if he is granted this additional help he will be able to accomplish all the tasks that will be required.

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Improvements

Mr. Mitchell wanted to make sure the board was aware that there has been a party who is interested in possibly pursuing purchasing the Centerville Mills property. Mr. Markley stated that the party would be required to pay back the Federal grant money received for the purchase of the property as well as buy back the conservation easement which would inflate the purchase price significantly. Mr. Lynch said the property is not for sale and does not expect this interest to amount to much.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – OLD BUSINESSWalMart Alcohol Transfer Request

After little discussion the Trustees agreed to sign the letter to approve the Economic District which is understood to be the first step in the process of transferring this license.

ROAD DEPARTMENT – OLD BUSINESSTanglewood Trail

Mr. Rudyk, Road Superintendent began by stating that he has included \$30,000.00 in his 2011 budget to repair and restore the right of way to access Tanglewood Trail from Route 306. This basic fix as estimated by the Geauga County Engineer would include restoring the roadway to accommodate traffic and prevent the collapse of the road. This project also will encompass 17 feet of the pond on each side of the road. The homeowner's association would be responsible for replacing the pipe which is estimated to be 57 linear feet at a cost of \$10,000.00. The pipe is required in order to maintain the water levels since there is only one water source.

Mr. Sam Desiderio, representing the homeowner's association of Tanglewood presented his plan as discussed with the Geauga County Engineer which includes maintaining the current design by reinforcing the current wall with steel H beams and 8x8 pilings and then inserting a pipe inside of the current one, assuming there is one. This project is estimated to cost \$40,000.00 which would be the same price to the township of \$30,000.00 with the homeowner's making up the difference.

Mrs. Benza suggested, after some discussion that Mr. Rudyk go over Mr. Desiderio's plans with the County Engineer to get assurance directly that this plan will work and the cost estimate is accurate.

Mr. Ted Seliga suggested each of the trustees go visit the site and make sure the plan they choose makes best use of taxpayer dollars before rushing into a decision that might end up costing more in the long run.

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ROAD DEPARTMENT – NEW BUSINESSTownship Clean Up Days

The trustees were in general agreement to schedule the Bainbridge Township Clean-Up Days for June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon, per the recommendation of the Road Superintendent.

2011 Proposed Road Projects

Mr. Markley made a motion to request the Geauga County Engineer's Office to draw up specifications and advertise for road construction projects for Depot Road, Geauga Lake Road, Kenston Lake Drive, Woodberry Blvd., Crown Pointe and Wembley Court, per the recommendation of the Road Superintendent.

Mr. Lynch seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Annual Township Highway System Mileage Report

The trustees certified in the Annual Township Highway System Mileage report from the Director of Transportation that the total eligible number of miles for Bainbridge Township in Geauga County to be 86.184 as of January 1, 2011.

Bids for Road Material

Mr. Markley made a motion authorizing the Fiscal Officer to place the necessary legal advertisement in the News Herald for sealed bids for furnishing the township with road materials pending changes of dates and authorizing bid openings to be done by the Fiscal Officer with the Road Superintendent present.

Mrs. Benza seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Emergency Purchase Order – Lake Truck Sales

Mr. Rudyk presented the trustees with purchase order request for Lake Truck Sales for the emergency repair of a rear axle that was only recently discovered.

Mr. Markley made a motion to approve the invoice for Lake Truck Sales for the repair of a rear axle not to exceed \$1,780.64, per the recommendation of the Road Superintendent.

Mrs. Benza seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

TOWN HALL – NEW BUSINESSGeauga County Township Association Quarterly Dinner

Mrs. Benza announced the next Geauga County Township Association Quarterly Dinner meeting will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup> at Ledgemont Elementary School at 6:30 P.M. with the guest speaker from State Farm Bureau Member and Former Thompson Township Trustee Chuck Lausin. The cost is \$15.50 per person. Those attending from Bainbridge Township will be: Mrs. Benza, no; Mr. Markley, no; Mr. Lynch, yes; Mrs. Measures, no.

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Estate Tax Resolution from the Chagrin Valley Intergovernmental Council

Mr. Lynch began by saying that as a trustee he believes his job is to represent the residents of this township. With that said he wanted to express that his vote would be to repeal the estate tax immediately. If there is a project or piece of equipment the township would ordinarily use estate money for instead it would be a matter put before the voters to decide. Which, in Mr. Lynch's opinion, is as it should be in a democracy.

After some discussion Mr. Markley and Mrs. Benza agreed that the tax should be repealed but favored a phase out over time instead of an immediate repeal. Mr. Lynch and Mrs. Benza agreed that wording of the resolution is problematic because it is unclear.

Tinkers Creek Membership Request

Mr. Markley addressed the matter of membership in the Tinker's Creek Watershed by saying the township has a very small amount of water in the creek and asked that the dues be reduced to reflect that. The membership dues came back at \$100.00.

Mrs. Benza made a motion to join the Tinkers Creek Watershed for \$100.00 for a year's membership.

Mr. Markley seconded the vote that passed unanimously.

Bainbridge-Solon JEDD

There is a meeting this coming Friday March 18, 2011. Each of the trustees were invited but Mrs. Benza cannot attend. Mr. Markley and Mr. Lynch will attend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Judith Gooding asked the board about the department heads making cuts in their budgets and whether the board has any idea how much money the departments have received from the investments.

CHECKS DATED MARCH 1, 2011 THROUGH MARCH 14, 2011

The trustees examined and signed checks and invoices for same dated March 1, 2011 through March 14, 2011 consisting of warrants 15770 through 15861 for a total amount of \$ 175,069.90. Payroll records were examined and signed for February 12, 2011 through February 25, 2011 including payroll checks 6729 through 6834 for a total amount of \$135,281.71.

NOTE: A register of said checks is attached to, and becomes a permanent part of these minutes.



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CORRESPONDENCE

- Chagrin River Watershed Partners Letter regarding the Aurora Branch of Chagrin River Sundance Systems, Inc. Introduction Letter
- Walter & Haverfield Letter regarding mediation schedule
- Geauga Soil & Water Conservation District Site Inspection for Tanglewood Lake
- Geauga Soil & Water Conservation District Site Inspection for Tanglewood Lake
- Geauga Soil & Water Conservation District First Notice of Violation for Tanglewood Lake

Since there was no further business to come before this meeting of the Bainbridge Township Board of Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cherianne H. Measures,  
Fiscal Officer, Bainbridge Township

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Date

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Date

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Date

Minutes Read: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_