

Granville Township
Minutes of Regular Meeting June 8, 2011

Present: Trustees Paul Jenks, Bill Mason and Dan VanNess, Fiscal Officer Norman Kennedy, and Melanie Schott.

Guests: Travis Binckley
Jeff Hussey
Casey Curtis, 157 Fairview Av
Brian Miller, Sentinel
Janet Worth, 2020 Burg Street
Alice Lewis, 2284 Burg Street
Richard Pyka, 2034 Burg St

Trustee Mason indicated late this afternoon there had been an electrical problem at the Township Service Complex and the meeting had to be moved to the Fire Station. Brian Miller had put a notice in the electronic version of the Advocate and a notice was placed on the Service Complex door.

Trustee Mason called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes for May 11, 2011:

Trustee Mason suggested when F.O. Kennedy distributes the initial draft of the minutes from the previous meeting there should be a deadline for the Trustees' to edit them and get them back to Kennedy so they may be approved at the following Township meeting. He indicated the content should not be changed, but rather better words to explain what occurred at the meeting or corrections to copy. It has been suggested F.O. Kennedy send out draft copy of the minutes by at least the Friday before the next meeting. The Trustees' should return any edits/remarks back to Kennedy by the following Monday morning. Kennedy would then consolidate the revisions and be able to send a final copy to each of the Trustees' for their review before voting on the minutes at the meeting. Mason indicated there will be times for whatever reason this schedule may not be met, but its use the majority of the time will prevent confusion over the handling of minutes. All of the Trustees agreed with this proposal.

On a motion by Trustee Jenks and a second by Trustee VanNess, by a unanimous affirmative vote the minutes of the May 11, 2011 meeting were approved as previously submitted and revised.

Correspondence:

F.O. Kennedy stated that he received information regarding a Licking Land Trust sponsored hike at Spring Valley Park on June 19th from 2:00-3:30.

F.O. Kennedy indicated he received a letter from the Prosecutor's Office stating the 1.0 mil Open Space levy expires this tax year meaning it will last be collected in 2012. Based upon the State law the levy could be placed on the ballot this November and/or

two times in 2012. If the levy is not replaced or renewed by November 2012 the levy will expire and cease to collect. The filing deadline to place a levy issue on the November 2011 ballot is August 10th. Kennedy pointed out with the multi-step process involved with a levy the Trustees would need to vote no later than the first meeting in July to request required information from the County Auditor. After receiving information from the Auditor the Trustees would then have to vote to place the matter on the ballot.

An email complaining about high grass, weeds and ticks was forwarded from Zoning Inspector Warren May regarding a property on River Road. Kennedy indicated there have been problems with these particular property owners in the past and therefore he asked OSU Extension County Director Howard Siegrist to visit various properties and determine if there are ORC defined noxious weeds growing on the properties. Siegrist visited the properties and determined there is Canadian thistle and Johnson grass growing on these properties which he indicated are noxious weeds. Kennedy asked what the Trustees wanted to do with respect to the matter. After a short period of discussion, on a motion by Trustee Jenks and a second by Trustee VanNess, by a unanimous affirmative vote the Trustees' agreed to send letters to the property owners involved requesting they cut the grass and noxious weeds on their properties.

Public Comments:

Janet Worth indicated she has lived on twenty-five acres on Burg Street across from Granville Intermediate School since 2001. She indicated she ultimately wants to pursue commercial efforts in farming and she knows there are Township properties designated as Agricultural Districts. F.O. Kennedy stated the Township previously had one property enrolled as an Agricultural District, but this was permitted to expire as it was of no use for Township purposes. All Township owned properties, which are using for farming purposes, are enrolled under Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) for property tax purposes which is the same as when the properties were acquired. Ms. Worth stated the concepts in the Agricultural District are wonderful and she also has CAUV designation, which helps with taxes. Ms. Worth stated she and neighbors feel there is a huge threat for development near them, especially for areas along Loudon and Burg Street over to North Street. Ms. Worth stated she believes the Trustees' are doing their best to acquire land to protect her property and her neighbor' property, but thinks the sewer line to the Intermediate School is a threat for development in the area. She was excited to have talked with Trustee VanNess regarding the potential of having multiple properties along Burg Street across from the Intermediate School put into Conservation Easements. There was also discussion of a pathway using her property and Denison property behind her to connect the school properties instead of using New Burg St. It appears to her the Trustees haven't moved any farther because things have gotten stalled.

Trustee Jenks stated this is a case where there are unlimited wants chasing limited needs to a certain degree. He stated the Trustees have many who want in the open space program and the Trustees have "x" number of dollars and must therefore determine which should be done first. Trustee Jenks went on to explain they have asked the

Township's Open Space Committee to put together a scoring system to use in evaluating possible properties for Conservation Easements. He stated they have been working diligently with Trustee VanNess to divide into areas those properties which would block annexation, create areas for parks, and provide for open space. Trustee Jenks stated the members of the Open Space Committee are volunteers. Trustee VanNess stated the Open Space Committee is meeting tomorrow evening and Ms. Worth would be welcome to go and express any thoughts she might have. Trustee VanNess indicated creating an Agricultural District can provide an added layer of protection for farmland from eminent domain actions.

Ms. Worth indicated some people get irritated with farmers and their equipment on the roads. She wants to be an advocate of farming in Granville. She stated she understands the Trustees have an interest in recreation. Trustee Jenks stated the Township no longer has the recreational levy – it this is now with the Granville Recreation District. He indicated the Open Space Committee is putting together a map of what the Township currently owns and it's awesome to view this and see what they have already taken off the market. He stated they think it is appropriate they get the best bang for the taxpayer's dollar. Trustee Jenks indicated he is aware of some property owners north of Ms. Worth's who have expressed interest in the open space program. He believes the Township can't buy easements on all properties in the Township and the Trustees must choose which properties plug the holes the best and the fastest. Ms. Worth stated she understands and her point is not just for the Trustees to buy land development rights, but to make more effort with landowners on ways to focus more on the beautiful farmland we have in Licking County. She suggested farm owners, such as herself, be educated on how they can make more money, rather than choosing to sell their land. Trustee VanNess stated the Trustees do value Ms. Worth's point and he takes it very seriously. He added the Trustees hope in the next month and a half to have a point system in place on properties to consider for purchasing. Until then the Trustees' are holding back on acquisitions. Trustee Mason stated the Trustees feel a need to validate what they do with taxpayer funds. He thinks the Township has not been able to do this to date. Trustee Mason stated the scoring evaluation system would demonstrate the reasons why property "A" is a better to buy than property "B." Trustee Jenks stated he hears Ms. Worth's plea to buy agricultural easements, but beyond easements she is asking the Trustees' how they can encourage an agricultural way of life. He stated that he would have to defer to Trustee VanNess and his expertise in this area and encouraged any ideas to be given to him. Trustee VanNess stated they are going back to more organic farming. Trustee VanNess suggested working with Howard Siegrist and Pat Deering at County Soil & Water. Ms. Worth also complimented the Trustees for being among the first Township's to have an Open Space Levy in Ohio.

Elected Officials Reports – various other reports are located throughout the minutes. Trustee Jenks indicated he will be attending the US EPA grant training kickoff meeting on June 9th and will report on various other topics later in the meeting.

Trustee VanNess indicated he attended the Memorial Day service at the cemetery, along with Trustee Mason and F.O. Kennedy. He complimented the staff for how nice the

cemetery looked. Trustee Jenks thanked the Fire Department for fixing the flag pulley problem.

Trustee VanNess stated he has talked with James Scott and Randy Roton from Columbia Gas and plans to set up a meeting with them and the Prosecutor's Office to work on the proposed easement.

Trustee Mason attended the GACC ribbon cutting ceremony and has visited a number of properties throughout the Township.

Roads Department:

Superintendent Binckley reported the employees are now working on roadside mowing as the paving preparation has been completed. Kokosing Construction began paving on June 6th and should be finished by June 13th. He is overseeing the paving crew while they are working.

Superintendent Binckley indicated he has a proposal for a security system for the Township Service Complex from D.M.O. for \$3,070. This is the lowest estimate received for a fire and burglar alarm system and with this particular company there are options to make upgrades in the future. Trustee Jenks stated is the same company the fire department uses for monitoring and he recommends approval of the proposal. There is a one-year warranty on the equipment and monitoring is \$18.33 per month.

On a motion by Trustee Jenks and a second by Trustee VanNess, by a unanimous affirmative vote the Trustees agreed to purchase a security system from D.M.O. for \$3,070 and to purchase monthly monitoring for \$18.33 per month.

Superintendent Binckley stated that he would be meeting with Tim Lollo regarding the water issues at Beechwood Drive.

Trustee Jenks reported he continues to meet with residents of Beechwood Drive, regarding concerns about mowing, standing water and right of way issues along with a complaint about septic tank discharges. Superintendent Binckley will be talking with County Engineer Lollo regarding several of the matters and the septic tank issue will be referred to the County Health Department.

Trustee Jenks indicated residents should be encouraged to sign up at the Township website to receive email notifications for road closures, roadway maintenance, tree trimming, etc.

Parks Department:

Trustee Jenks reported he and Superintendent Binckley are working with the Village Water Department regarding one of the lines at Spring Valley Park. The Village has agreed to remove a meter on a Township line and will reinstall it at no cost in the future once the matter has been resolved.

Trustee Jenks reported someone requested the use of a sand volleyball court at Spring Valley Park where one had been used by the Spring Valley Pool. He discussed this request with Judy Preston from the Township's Land Management Committee and she didn't feel this could be done. He asked Trustee VanNess to check with the Licking Land Trust which maintains a Conservation Easement on the Park to see about potential use because there are poles still in place where the volleyball court was formerly located. Trustee Jenks stated that Andy Wildman is working with the person who made the request and the GRD would like to know if they are able to allow the use of the court. The Park is broken into two parcels in order to specifically designate what portion of the Park was purchased with Open Space money. It must also be determined where the former court is located in relation to the boundaries.

Trustee Jenks indicated a request was received to create a mulch running path at Raccoon Valley which was referred to the GRD. Trustee VanNess indicated a mulched path could be problematic as this part of the park sometimes floods. Trustee Jenks stated in his discussions with Andy Wildman (GRD Executive Director) he indicated if the GRD were able to do a track he would use something other than mulch.

Cemetery:

There have been two funerals since the last Township meeting.

Trustee Jenks reported the Fannins will be at Old Colony working on headstone restoration and John Klauder had put together a proposal for plantings which will be funding by the Union Cemetery.

Fire Department:

Chief Hussey presented the name of Reese Stevenson as a new probationary volunteer member.

On a motion by Trustee Jenks and a second by Trustee Mason, by a unanimous affirmative vote the Trustees' agreed probationary hiring of Reese Stevenson as a volunteer firefighter.

Chief Hussey indicated he has been following up with the company which provides Emergency Notification System about a method to automate the weather warnings. They now offer this option for an additional \$2,500 per year, the cost of which would be shared with the Village. He will continue to investigate the various options and have more information at a future meeting.

The upcoming local community emergency incident drill will be held next Wednesday at 10:00AM in the Village Hall.

Old Business:

Rotary Bridge Project

Trustee Mason stated he visited the proposed location for the Rotary Bridge designed to link the TJ Evans Bicycle Path with the Township's Raccoon Valley Park. He expressed surprise at the amount of erosion occurring in this area where the bridge abutments would be placed and thinks perhaps additional protection might be needed. He suggested the other Trustees' walk this area to view it. Trustee VanNess indicated there is substantial erosion all along Raccoon Creek in this area.

SW Quadrant Pathway Project:

Trustee Jenks indicated Doug Helman does not expect to hear anything from ODOT regarding grant awards until September. He reported eleven grant applications were submitted from District 5 alone.

Golfland:

Trustee Jenks indicated he looked at the Raccoon Park ball field property and it appears the matter of errant golf balls appears to have been resolved. He reported the GRD walks the property in the morning and evening and has documented the number and location of any golf balls found on Township property. Apparently no balls are reaching the fields, but there is still some landing on Township property. Trustee VanNess asked if the owner of Golfland is still not pleased with his new driving mats. Trustee Jenks stated this has not been discussed any further.

Township Pohm/Beckman Property Issue:

Trustee VanNess indicated he sent a proposed Memo of Understanding to Mr. Beckman and distributed a copy to the Trustees. Trustee Mason stated this looked fine to him, but thought the deer tree wire language should be clarified. The Trustees' did not make any changes to the proposed MOU. Trustee Mason stated Mr. Beckman will have sixty days to remove the fence.

On a motion by Trustee VanNess and a second by Trustee Mason, by a unanimous affirmative vote the Trustees' accepted the Memorandum of Understanding prepared by Trustee VanNess and agreed this should be executed by both parties.

Granville Township Sanitary District (a/k/a Mosquito Control District)

Trustee Jenks reported the interim Director has still not picked up the District's paperwork from the Township Service Complex.

Trustee VanNess indicated he continues to work on a letter to Judge Marcelain to thank him for his time and indicate the Township Trustees' would like to find a permanent solution, rather than the current temporary setup. Trustee Mason agreed the Township position is that they would like to see the matter resolved and ultimately the sanitary district eliminated, but they will give this a chance as the Director has merely been appointed for a six-month timeframe. There was discussion about how the District might be dissolved.

Financial Matters

F.O. Kennedy presented the May bank reconciliation to the Trustees for review and approval.

On a motion by Trustee Jenks and a second by Trustee VanNess by a unanimous affirmative vote the following appropriations transfers were approved:

| | |
|---|----------|
| From 2191-220-599-0004 Fire – C/O | 2,000.00 |
| To 2191-220-190-0003 Fire – FFIC pay | 2,000.00 |
| From 2041-410-599-0004 Cemetery – C/O | 1,000.00 |
| To 2041-410-599-0001 Cemetery – mulch | 1,000.00 |
| From 2031-330-360-0003 Roads – C/O | 500.00 |
| To 2031-330-360-0101 Roads – Alarm sys monitor serv | 500.00 |

On a motion by Trustee Jenks and a second by Trustee VanNess, by a unanimous affirmative vote the following warrants, withholding vouchers, debit memos, EFT's and if applicable, then and now purchase order certificates were approved for payment and processing:

| | | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---------|-------|---------------------------|---------|
| DM51 | Medical Mutual | 7363.44 | DM52 | Windstream | 415.43 |
| DM53 | AEP | 1027.86 | DM54 | Village Granville | 99.15 |
| DM55 | Columbia Gas | 967.88 | E3984 | Bain | 368.28 |
| E3985 | Barnhill | 516.31 | E3986 | Binckley | 1475.46 |
| E3987 | Borden | 1852.52 | E3988 | Bowman | 2355.68 |
| E3989 | Bryan | 1037.79 | E3990 | Butt | 735.48 |
| E3991 | Clemens | 1148.74 | NA | Connor | 0.00 |
| E3992 | Coyle | 276.40 | E3993 | Curtis | 1559.70 |
| E3994 | DuBeck | 452.50 | E3995 | Duncan | 508.89 |
| E3996 | Essick | 487.84 | E3997 | Hall | 1474.54 |
| E3998 | Harrison | 250.20 | E3999 | Henry | 629.02 |
| E4000 | Hill, B | 1538.09 | n/a | | .00 |
| E4001 | Huhn | 867.71 | E4002 | Hussey | 2537.50 |
| NA | Jenks | 0.00 | E4003 | Jones, A | 176.39 |
| E4004 | Jones, B | 481.60 | NA | Kennedy | 0.00 |
| E4005 | Kindell | 536.60 | E4006 | Lynn | 482.42 |
| NA | Mason | 0.00 | E4007 | May | 603.20 |
| E4008 | Meisenholder | 570.87 | E4009 | Monroe | 1077.55 |
| n/a | Pack | .00 | E4010 | Reece | 1293.57 |
| E4011 | Riley | 142.62 | NA | Schott | 0.00 |
| E4012 | Smith | 256.86 | E4013 | Thomas | 220.76 |
| E4014 | Thompson | 1424.10 | NA | VanNess | 0.00 |
| E4015 | Watling | 279.16 | 7899 | GIT | 1014.21 |
| 7900 | Deferred Comp | 1605.00 | 7901 | AFLAC | 762.84 |
| 7902 | Sprint Comm | 175.53 | 7903 | McDonald Auto Repair | 552.84 |
| 7904 | ELM Recycling | 3107.76 | 7905 | Hope Timber Garden Center | 260.00 |
| 7906 | Mini-Mix | 187.50 | 7907 | Ctec | 548.00 |
| 7908 | Boundtree Medical | 485.85 | 7909 | Premier Safety & Service | 207.54 |
| 7910 | The Fire House | 464.50 | 7911 | Alpha Link | 42.50 |
| 7912 | MSA Inc | 314.10 | 7913 | US Banc – Equip Finance | 99.00 |
| 7914 | Verizon Wireless | 87.96 | | | |

I hereby certify that the funds were on hand or in process of collection and properly appropriated for payment of the aforementioned warrants.

Norman S. Kennedy, Fiscal Officer

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.