

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Daniel Frederick
Gerald Nickoli
Mike Shover

FISCAL OFFICER

Zachary Rospert



MILAN TOWNSHIP

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Milan, Ohio 44846
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ZONING INSPECTOR

Colleen Arthur

MILAN TOWNSHIP

www.milantwp.org

The Milan Township Board of Trustees met for the second meeting of the month on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 7:00 P.m.

Present were Trustees Dan Frederick, Jerry Nickoli and Mike Shover, F.O. Zach Rospert, Fire Chief Brian Rospert, Asst. Fire Chief Tom Jesberger, Maint. Supervisor Dave Fox, Crewman Matt Hudson, Don Kreidler, Z.C. Chairman Bill Muthig, Z.I./Sec. Colleen Arthur, C.J. Kamm, Erie County Commissioner Matt Old, Greg Cumston & Jason Wolfkill.

Mr. Frederick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. as all rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL: Mr. Rospert called the roll: Mr. Frederick, present, Mr. Nickoli, present, Mr. Shover, present.

MINUTES: Mr. Nickoli moved and Mr. Shover seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting, held January 2, 2019. The motion carried unanimously

EXPENSES: Mr. Nickoli moved and Mr. Shover seconded a motion to approve expenses as presented by the Fiscal Officer. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved electronic payments 244 (2018) and 2-11 (2019) and warrants 18685-18723 in the amount of \$116,509.90.

GUESTS: C.J. Kamm, Mayor of Berlin Heights, introduced himself as a candidate for Erie County Municipal Court Judge. Mr. Kamm noted that he seeks the position being vacated by Paul Lux at the County Court building on Mason Road here in Milan. Mr. Kamm cited his twelve years of government experience consisting of eight years as Berlin Heights Mayor and four years on the Counsel. He also brings thirteen years of experience as an attorney practicing criminal and civil law. There was a brief conversation about the types of cases he would hear and which political subdivisions are served at that location. Mr. Kamm would hear civil cases up to \$15,000 in damages, criminal and misdemeanor matters. Mr. Frederick thanked Mr. Kamm for his introduction.

County Commissioner Matt Old spoke in support of Mr. Kamm's run for office, stating that the appointment of judges is important to how the County sets up the budget in support of specific programs.

Mr. Old also noted that regulations concerning the closure of Kelley Road to through truck traffic and placement of proper signage are on the Commissioners' agenda. He sees no objections to this action as requested by the Trustees. No one had any further questions on this issue.

FIRE

FFDFB: Organizational meeting.

Mr. Frederick asked Fire Chief Rospert to conduct the election of representatives from the Fire Department to serve on the Fire Fighters' Dependents' Fund Board. Ballots were cast at a previously scheduled regular meeting of Department personnel.

Chief Rospert opened the ballot box and read the ballots choices aloud as Mrs. Arthur tallied the vote. Chief Rospert and Asst. Chief Jesberger won by clear majority. The Chief noted that Mary Lou Koch is still receiving benefits from the Fire Fighters' Dependents' Fund. Mrs. Koch's eligibility is verified quarterly. For 2019, the Fire Fighters' Dependents' Fund Board consists of Trustees Nickoli and Frederick, Chief Rospert and Asst. Chief Jesberger and representing the community at large; Cindi Rospert.

NEW MEMBER: The Department's Officers interviewed Jason Wolfkill and made a unanimous decision to add Mr. Wolfkill to the department. Based on the Officers' recommendation, Mr. Shover moved to hire Jason Wolfkill as a member of the Milan Township Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Nickoli seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Wolfkill will start classes at EHOVE in late February or Early March.

EQUIPMENT: The Chief noted that in August the Board appropriated \$6,000 for rope. Since that time the cost had gone up considerably and the Fire Association has agreed to pay an extra cos of \$1300.

MR. BRIAN ROSPERT:Mr. Frederick stated that would like to take the opportunity to thank Brian Rospert in his role as Milan Village Administrator for all the cooperation and support he has given the Township in assisting with the elevator preparation and getting the construction box situated on Park Street.

ZONING

PENDING: Mrs. Arthur reported that she has had no update from Lake Erie Arms.

ZONING CHANGES: Mrs. Arthur is awaiting the submission of appeals paperwork from CertainTeed for a zoning change to I-2, on newly acquired lots and hopes to schedule this hearing in February. She anticipates that Tracy Smoker will submit paperwork tomorrow.

Mrs. Arthur met with Arvin Gill, Lake Erie Furniture. He will be asking for a zoning change to R-2 (two family residential district) on ten acres with the intent to build some duplexes and possibly an apartment house at the back of his property on Route 250. The Township currently has no such district on the zoning map, but it is in the Resolution. All of the needed infrastructure for an R-2 district is in place there.

Mrs. Arthur asked that the Board enter executive session to discuss a legal mater concerning a property. Mr. Nickoli made a motion to enter into executive session so that the zoning inspector may provide information regarding a dispute that is subject to pending or imminent litigation involving the Township as allowed by ORC 121.22 exception G (3). . Mr. Shover seconded the motion. Mr. Rospert conducted a roll call vote: Mr. Nickoli, aye; Mr. Shover, aye; Mr. Frederick, aye. The Board went into executive session at 7:18 p.m. Regular session reconvened at 7: 25 p.m.

MAINTENANCE

Mr. Fox noted that signs have been ordered for Kelley Road.

The Road Crew recently trimmed trees on Old Mudbrook Road.

MCINTIRE ROAD: Mr. Fox addressed the Board as to how best to handle closing McIntyre Road in the winter. It has been the policy to plow the road to Mark Miller's property. The hill is not plowed in the winter. There was an accident the other night and Mr. Fox feels it would be prudent to close the road during inclement weather. The Township still has signs indicating that the road is not maintained November – April and a 'road closed ahead' sign at Route 113. The Sheriff would then inform high school students that the road was closed. In addition to the obvious safety hazards, Mr. Fox worries about wear and tear on the trucks and the roads. He also noted that closing the road puts no one in peril of not getting emergency aide. Mr. Nickoli agreed that the road should be closed. Mr. Shover asked why it had not been closed in recent year. Mr. Fox said he didn't know why they had stopped closing

McIntyre Road. Mrs. Arthur remarked that she could check older minutes, but recollected that there was a legal reason for not closing the road seasonally, but that there were circumstances when the road could be temporarily closed for emergencies. Mr. Frederick stated that the Trustees would need to state a reason for the road closure. Mr. Nickoli asked if cars were having a hard time crossing the road. Mr. Fox said it's not too bad right now but it becomes very difficult in the spring. He noted that he didn't think the road was ever closed when Mr. Rockwell was Road Supervisor, but it was often closed during Mr. Jesberger's tenure. They may need to check with the County Engineer or Prosecutor's Office for some advice. Mr. Nickoli moved and Mr. Shover seconded a motion to authorize Road Supervisor Fox to close McIntyre Road during unfavorable weather conditions. The motion unanimously carried.

WATER STREET: Mrs. McPhearson asked that the Township place stone in the pot holes on Water Street. Mr. Fox noted that Water Street is essentially just a driveway to her house. It was decided to wait until spring for any improvements.

OLD BUSINESS

ELEVATOR: Mr. Frederick noted that the elevator had arrived. He wished to thank Wikel Trucking for providing a donated storage container to the Township to house the equipment used during installation of the elevator and thank Great lakes Electric for donating their time in installing the new light fixtures in the Trustees Room.

ST. CHARLES STREET: Mr. Frederick sent a letter to Mr. Larry Schell outlining the Township's concerns with the condition of St. Charles Street and the request of Mr. Joe Schell to add 150' of stone to the existing road for ease of access for both Mr. & Mrs. Joe Schell and emergency responders. Mr. Schell responded by saying he would not object to the stone on St. Charles Street; so the Township may move ahead.

KELLEY ROAD: The Township is awaiting action by the Erie County Commissioners; as Mr. Old spoke of earlier in this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

OLD RECORDS: The Township records currently held in the small back room off the Trustees' Room need to be moved to the Township Offices in order to proceed with the renovations. Mrs. Arthur noted that she needs to move some items out of the old zoning secretary's office before those records can be moved to that location.

OTARMA RECOMMENDATIONS: Mr. Rospert met with an OTARMA representative to review ways in which the Township might improve operations. She made the following suggestions.

An inventory check lists be kept for vehicles and daily safety inspection monitored in each truck.

She visited the Edison Park and noted a back rail should be installed on the bleachers if the bleachers are over 30" high.

She suggested the Township keep a road sign inventory.

The Township should include a hold harmless clause in the Township Hall User Agreement.

She suggested that the Township check with prosecutor and keep a record of all drivers of township vehicles. It was noted that usually only firefighters with the rank of engineer drive the fire trucks. It could reduce the premium.

She suggested having criminal background check for fire fighters.

She will send a report to the township.

FINANCIAL

FUND SUMMARY REPORT

Fiscal Officer Zachary Rospert presented the 2018 Fourth Quarterly Fund Summary Report to the Trustees. The report is a breakdown of all revenue, expenses and balances for Milan Township in 2018.

Mr. Rospert highlighted areas of the report noting that large ticket items were paid from the Permanent Improvement Fund and not so much from the General Fund. He noted that revenue from the sale of the truck was put into the Permanent Improvement Fund. Still, the fund maintained a balance forward.

Mr. Rospert stated that, hopefully, NEXUS funds will come in. Also, the continuing Fire Levy is generating income to make it possible to purchase a new fire truck without using the General Fund.

Mr. Muthig, a member of the Edison School Board, said that the auditor told the Board that NEXUS began operation Oct 31, 2018. The School Board was advised that they may see a partial payment from NEXUS, but not to count on funds for 2019. There were figures generated by NEXUS, but these may not be actual figures when all is said and done.

In relation to NEXUS, Mr. Fox noted that it was fortunate that Tim Lloyd, of the County Engineer's Office, did not sign off on the road condition where NEXUS made road cuts. Wikel Road has sustained lingering damage. NEXUS wanted the townships to sign off, but this will not happen until the roads are back in satisfactory condition.

As there was no further business brought before the Board, Mr. Frederick declared the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Mr. Daniel Frederick, Chairman

Mr. Zachary Rospert, Fiscal Officer