
**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OCTOBER 22, 2009
MINUTES**

The Springfield Township Board of Trustees held a meeting Thursday, October 22, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Springfield Township Town Hall, 2459 Canfield Road, Akron, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vince Mealy. Fiscal Officer, Bruce Killian, called the roll. Roll Call: Mr. Young (here); Mr. Mealy (here); Mrs. Davis (here).

ADMINISTRATION

**ADM 291-09 Vince Mealy, I move to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to approve:
October 8, 2009 work shop.
October 8, 2009 Trustees minutes.
Seconded by Deborah Davis. Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).**

ADM 292-09 Vince Mealy: I move to approve grant funding in the amount of \$17,596 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for the development of a trailed, sign age, and approximately .5-mile trail at Lauer Park. Seconded by Dean Young. Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).

ADM 293-09 Vince Mealy: I move to approve a resolution for financial assistance through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for the Division of Recycling & Litter Prevention Grant due on November 6, 2009. Seconded by Deborah Davis. Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dean Young: We are still in the preliminary stages of discussion regarding collaborative effort in order to try to save some costs in providing fire services and continue safety to both communities. There has been discussion and Lakemore is interested in continuing the discussion.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

-No Motions-

Dean Young: Springfield Township & Lakemore met to review the contract. Present were: Deborah Davis, Bruce Killian, Police Chief, John Smith, Captain Ray, Fiscal Officer from Lakemore, Service Director from Lakemore. The summary of the meeting was that it has been a huge success. It has improved relations between the two communities, and provided safety to both communities.

Deborah Davis: Our Police Chief has relayed to us it went much smoother than he ever anticipated. Everyone seems to be very happy.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

-No Motions-

ZONING DEPARTMENT

ZONING

Vince Mealy: I move to declare the property located at 1078 Abington Road, Parcel #51-00255, a nuisance and initiate abatement under the provisions of Ohio Revised Code, Section 505.87 (trash and debris).

Anyone present regarding this property?

Doug Congrove, 1078 Abington Road, was present and sworn in. I had a problem with trash, but that has all been taken care of.

Vince Mealy: I would have Bill Arnold or Nick Campanelli come out and take a look at the property, and if everything is o.k. we will discontinue the abatement.

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Doug Congrove: It was said that there was trash on the back porch. That is not trash. It personal belongings in boxes.

ZONING 294-09 Dean Young: I move to continue this nuisance abatement until the November 12, 2009 Trustee Meeting. Seconded by Deborah Davis. Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).

ZONING 295-09 Vince Mealy: I move to assign the work order to abate the nuisance property conditions at 2472 Canton Road, (commercial structure) previously declared a nuisance and given notice by the Board of Trustees on July 9, 2009 to Bob Bennett Construction Company in an amount not to exceed \$6,715.00. Price does not include removal of asbestos if present. Seconded by Dean Young. Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).

ZONING 296-09 Vince Mealy: I move to assign the work order to abate the nuisance property conditions at 1153 Canton Road, (commercial structure) previously declared a nuisance and given notice by the Board of Trustees on August 13, 2009 to Butcher & Son, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$6,475.00. Price does not include removal of asbestos if present. Seconded by Dean Young. Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).

ZONING 297-09 Vince Mealy: I move to assign the work order to abate the nuisance property conditions at 2453 Hillstock Avenue (2 structures) previously declared a nuisance and given notice by the Board of Trustees on August 13, 2009 to Bob Bennett Construct Company in an amount not to exceed \$4,490.00. Seconded by Deborah Davis. Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).

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ZONING 298-09 Vince Mealy: I move to certify the total cost for the abatements of the following nuisance properties and to instruct the Fiscal Officer to forward to the Summit County Auditor, ‘The Report of Township Action Regarding Abatement,’ for the total costs to be placed upon the tax duplicate as a lien upon the land:

Property	Amount
Vacant Lots-Hidden Lake Blvd., Akron, Oh	\$205.00
Vacant Lots-Millstone/Meander Circle, Akron, Oh	98.50
Vacant Lot - Riverbed Lane, Akron, Oh	59.00
2004 Portage Line Road, Akron, Oh	225.00
Vacant Parcel (Lot 36) Tributary Lane, Akron, Oh	311.00
3292 Klages Blvd., Tallmadge, Oh	611.08
1036 Onondago Trail, Akron, Oh	137.16
Vacant Lots-Seneca/Cayuga, Akron, Oh	1,002.70
3440 Carper Avenue, Akron, Oh	90.00
Vacant Lots-Ariels Way & Circle, Akron, Oh	178.00
1094 Crestline Drive, Akron, Oh	120.00
2004 Lee Drive, Akron, Oh	225.00
3212 Samuel Road, Akron, Oh	422.16

Seconded by Dean Young. Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).

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PARKS BOARD

Dean Young: Deborah Davis and I were present for a visit here in the Township by the Ohio & Erie Canalways Committee. The grant committee awarded \$5,000 toward the work to be done to complete the Highland Park Trail which is the trail that connects Springfield Township and the Village of Lakemore. We had the privilege of meeting with the committee. The committee includes the Secretary/Director of Metro Parks, Mayor of the City of Stow, Jill who represented the County Executive's Office, Deborah Roland, Director of Ohio & Erie Canalways, Rosemary Snell, Trustee from Sagamore Hills.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Vince Mealy:

- **If you are still in need of a seasonal flu vaccination and have not found any available, the Summit County Health Department recommends checking availability on the website summitflu.org.**
- **H1N1 vaccinations (injectable and nasal) will be given on Saturday, October 24th from 9-3 at the Sand Run Pharmacy located at 40 Sand Run Road, Akron. Target groups to receive the vaccine currently are: pregnant women, persons who live with or provide care for infants ages less than 6 months, health-care and emergency medical services personnel, persons aged 14-24, and persons aged 25-64 who have medical conditions that put them at a high risk for complications. The vaccine is \$20. There is no charge to patients with medicare Part B. For more information, call the Pharmacy at 330-864-2138.**
- **Trick or Treat in Springfield Township will be October 31st from 5-7 pm.**
- **November 3rd is election day. We would like to remind all citizens to make themselves aware of the issues and candidates on the ballot and vote.**
- **On November 6th from 6-8 pm, the Senior/Community Center is hosting 'Pizza and Pops.' It is an evening for kids and their dads or grandads to create their own pizzas under the direction of Chef Bill Bailey. For more information, please call 330-733-2556.**

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Dean Young: We had submitted a Request for Qualifications from various engineering firms for the Salt Bin Project. We need to identify the top three firms. Does the Board want to proceed, or do you want additional time.

Deborah Davis: I would like to wait until the November 12th meeting.

Vince Mealy: If there is a silver lining to our delay, I talked to the Road Superintendent today, and we will get a better price on the project than we would have gotten two months ago.

Dean Young: I concur with that, but I would like to see action at the next meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

Bruce Killian: I would like to comment on the Beacon's Best Top Ten that was published. We took the time to see how our Township came out.

Furniture: Wayside

Car Repair: Zehners

Car Wash: Petits & Quick Clean

Bingo: Spartan Bingo at the Roller Rink

Casual Dining: Farmer Boys

Garden Center: Canton Road and Kern's

Springfield Lake: Best fishing

Swimming: Lake Kim Tam

Skating: Springfield Roller Rink

Marching Band: Springfield

Mascots: Springfield Spartans

Attorney: Ron Koehler, former Trustee

Dean Young: I had a couple questions of the Board. I had set through a public forum this week, and there were a few things that were brought up that were

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surprising to me. I just want to ask my colleagues. A statement was made in this public forum about a plan to merge with Lakemore. Is there some plan this Board has for a merger with Lakemore?

Vince Mealy: What I know about the JEDD Board, this Board cannot initiate any type of merger. We just don't have the power to do that. There would have to be a citizen committee forum and it would have to be taken to the voters.

Dean Young: So the statement that the three Trustees could decide that is erroneous.

Dean Young: The other statement, is there some plan to phase out the Senior Center?

Vince Mealy: I have heard that myself. Absolutely not. I think this Board is committed to the Senior/Community Center. We have enhanced the programs up there. Our Police Chief just told me today that he was up there, and many of the seniors were commenting how happy they are. The new programming is going on. They are pleased. Anyone who has questions should ask the Board directly or they need to go to the Senior Center and ask the seniors.

Dean Young: Is there some plan to change the name?

Deborah Davis: The only thing I have ever heard is the 'Senior/Community Center.'

Vince Mealy: We had discussions on changing the sign. The current 'Boyd Elser' sign is painted. It is black and white. We talked about illuminating it with some ground lights. We talked about buying an illuminated sign to replace it and move it to the Lake side. And then we would have a double sided sign to change the sign to let people know what events are coming up. The 'Boyd Elser' name. We have not discussed stripping that from the community.

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Bruce Killian: Mr. Mealy, why then when we were going to order cards for Bobby Dinkins, you told me to contact Bobby and see what he wanted to call the Center.

Vince Mealy: I do not remember the conversation.

Bruce Killian: I said, you can change the name of the Center, but you have to do it as a Board resolution.

Vince Mealy: I do not remember you asking me that question. I remember Cindy Roberts asking me. I said you would have to talk to Bobby. I didn't know how many he would want. I did not say anything about changing the name.

Dean Young: That came as a surprise to me because that has never been discussed. I think this Board has expanded the use of the Center. There is no senior programs that have been eliminated, reduced. In fact, I think there will be growth in the Senior Programs because the Director now is open to many more things.

Bruce Killian: Have all the Area Agency on Aging Grants been signed and sent in?

Dean Young: I would assume so. I am proud of the fact that we have been able to maintain all the senior programs with no reduction. And yet, at the same time, grow the use of that facility. Within 60 days of this new Director, he planned a 'Harvest on the Lake,' movie for kids - we probably had 350 people show up for the lake front movie. We now have our football team attending dinners there on Thursday evenings. I am proud to say because he has restructured the way we rent the facility, that there is an increase in revenue. In fact, there is now a church that meets there every Sunday morning and they are done with services around noon and the result it will increase revenue in a year's period by \$7,800.00. I am happy that we are opening that up and proud

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to keep the name ‘Boyd Esler Senior Center’ but it is also a Community Center.

Bruce Killian: There was a letter writer recently that made some statements that weren’t quite true about the Center. Stating it was 100% funded by the Township. The Township does fund a great deal, but the Area Agency on Aging grants for the meals plus the donations from the meals. And over the years, Julie Miller wrote numerous grants for the both renovations and expansions.

Vince Mealy: What is the amount we get from Area Agency on Aging? About \$16,000.

Bruce Killian: Somewhere around there.

Vince Mealy: We are spending about \$150,000 out of the General Fund.

Bruce Killian: It’s not 100%. The Senior Board paid for the stoves and a lot of the equipment and over the years has made a donations.

Vince Mealy: There is also significant tax payers dollars in there too.

Bruce Killian: Yes. And also, about the old Kinsey Farm. We fought with the prior purchaser, Mike Moran, for ten years. He was bound and determined to put a gravel pit in there. Had it not been for the former Zoning Inspector, and former legal counsel, Ron Koehler, Mrs. Davis and I. We stood up to him. There absolutely was a very strong possibility of that being a mining operation, instead of what Metro Parks has done. I commend what Neal Hess has done. Had it not been for a lot of us over the years fighting it, that would have been a mining operation. That is another correction I would like to make to that letter writer.

Dean Young: What letter writer?

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Bruce Killian: It was in the South Side Leader written by Mr. Ganoe.

Dean Young: I remember there was an effort to bring a gravel pit operation and the proposal was that after he was done graveling, he would leave us with a park. The community did not want that operation. The result was we didn't approve it. I wasn't involved then. It opened the possibility for that land to be developed for housing.

Bruce Killian: It was a great thing Neal Hess was able to put it together.

Dean Young: Neal Hess deserves a lot of credit.

Dean Young: The other statement made was that we planned to trash the JEDD agreement. I know of no plans to do that. I am asking the Board, does this Board have plans to do that.

Vince Mealy: I don't know what your definition of 'trash' is. I think that we have the potential to renegotiate it with Akron. I think it has validity to at least go to Akron and talk to them to see. We have been involved in it since 1995. Any contract has the potential to be renegotiated. The JEDD was a 99 year agreement. Is that right Bruce?

Bruce Killian: 50 with the right to renew. There was a great deal of talk when this was a joint board up here with the Village of Lakemore back in April when they were talking about the policing contract. About, we ought to go ahead and form a City. At that time, if anybody wants to look at the meeting, I think you will see that the Board seemed more amenable to pursuing that direction, rather than.....

Vince Mealy: This Board?

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Bruce Killian: The give and take of that meeting, you will get the flavor....

Vince Mealy: There is a lot of talk that goes on. That is how you come up with solutions. You have to have dialogue and talk to come up with solutions. But, I mean, that is a huge step.

Bruce Killian: It absolutely is.

Vince Mealy: We have lots of deliberations as a Board. But, to trash the JEDD agreement. I don't think that is the right use of words. I would like to talk to Akron about potentially renegotiating. Maybe it would be a dead end. Maybe it wouldn't. But I think it is worth pursuing.

Dean Young: I think now, if you are talking about the meeting, there were a lot of enthusiastic statements because we were receiving cooperation on an issue, and maybe some people were speaking out of school. I personally am positive about our cooperative efforts.

If there is not public comment, I would like to go into Executive Session.

**ADM 299-09 Dean Young: I move we go into Executive Session to discuss the potential purchase of land. Seconded by Deborah Davis.
Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).**

**The Board went into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.
The Regular Meeting resumed at 8:45 p.m.**

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ADM 300-09 **Vince Mealy: I move to adjourn. Seconded by Dean Young.
Roll Call: Mrs. Davis (yes); Mr. Mealy (yes); Mr. Young (yes).**

Vince Mealy, Chairman

Dean Young, Vice Chairman

ATTEST

Deborah Davis, Trustee

R. Bruce Killian, Fiscal Officer

*Minutes prepared by Patty Price
1022bot*