

Minutes for Thursday, January 4, 2018

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners has received a letter requesting that the following alley and street situated in the unincorporated territory of Kieferville, Palmer Township, Putnam County, Ohio be vacated as the alley and street are no longer of use to the public, that the vacation will not be detrimental to the general public.

Said alley is described as Parcel 1 (.050 acres) in Keifer's 2nd addition and East Street noted as Parcel 2 (.100 acres) in the Vacation Plat located in Keiferville, Ohio.
and

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners has received the approval of the Palmer Township Trustees to vacate the alley and street.
now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby order the following described alley and street vacated.

Alley is described as Parcel 1 (.050 acres) in Keifer's 2nd addition and East Street noted as Parcel 2 (.100 acres) in the Vacation Plat located in Keiferville, Palmer Township, Putnam County, Ohio

Mr. Love seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Love yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes
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Now and Then Purchase orders

AL & Gas.....purchase orders 35991-35993

EMA.....purchase order 3143

Sheriff.....purchase order 35843, 35844

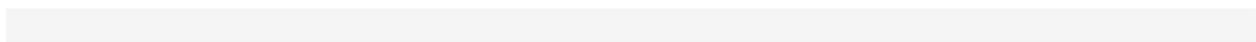
Mr. Love moved to approve the now and then purchase orders

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Love yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes

Exceptions: Mr. Lammers none Mr. Schroeder none Mr. Love none
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Purchase orders and travel requests



LEPC.....Purchase order to Michael Frey for 4 site visits for 2018 for \$1000.00

EMS.....Purchase orders to Lime Fire Equipment for 6 fire extinguishers PCOPS for \$723.00, Frank Scott for Drive Training for 2018 for \$300.00, Blanket purchase order for Seminar expenses for Mike/ Nancy 2/15/18 for \$338.00.

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the purchase orders and travels requests.

Mr. Love seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Love yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes

Exceptions: Mr. Lammers none Mr. Love none Mr. Schroeder none

Mr. Lammers called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Mr. Love and Schroeder by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administrator discussion held at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers and Alaina Siefker, Utility Clerk regarding the current water and sewer districts. Joe and Brad Kreinbrink sat in on the discussion also. Mr. Betscher started the discussion by giving a history on the sewer lines. The sewer line has been upgraded and lined there is a loan through OWDA that is in the process of being paid off. The rates were lowered after the lining was done. The rates of the customers within the village limits versus the customer outside the village limits. The regional water & sewer 6119 was also discussed. The wants of the Village not to annex these areas was also discussed. The rates of the sewer districts were also explained. The billing for the sewer district is tied to the water usage for Nelson and Breece. The Commissioners have a deal with the Village of Ottawa. Some of the residents would prefer having meters on their wells to determine their water usage and have more fair pricing. The Village does not deem them to be accurate. Mr. Love explained the smoke & dye testing that was done and the corrections that were made as a result of these tests. Ottawa bills for sewage based on the pump station activity. The new rates have been received and need to be reviewed. The past bills were reviewed. The entire electrical system was replaced also. It was confirmed that the billing is a month behind. The precipitation also plays a factor in the monthly usage costs. The performance of the pumps were discussed. And their output performance may not be entirely accurate. The pumps at pump station B were replaced in June. The charges are generated from Pump station B not the closest station to the village, which is Pump Station A at Mohawk Drive. The residents are very resistant to annexing into the Village. Ottawa does have separate sanitary and storm sewers, as far as everyone knows. The Village does not maintain the pumps but they do take the readings. Mr. Kreinbrink thought the rates should fluctuate monthly along with the kilowatts used, the Commissioners cannot negotiate that process. Joe Kreinbrink talked about the possibility of private contractors to get grant funding versus the village and municipalities getting the funding. That was asked of the EPA in the past and there is no difference. The loan from OWDA still has about 25 years and cannot be paid off early, it is interest free. Joe asked about the tap in drawings. The age of sewer district #2 was discussed. Mr. Love explained they do not have storm water drainage in that area. There is a project in

place to fix the drainage with the County, State and Township. The Village will not accept the systems that do not have storm drainage also. Mr. Kreinbrink explained the progress of the meters that are available now to read flow. There are some that do not have mechanical parts that will get clogged up. The Commissioner will have to discuss with the Village.

The business agenda was held at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers; Jackson Betscher, Administrator; Cindy Landwehr, Clerk.

The minutes from Tuesday January 2, 2018 were reviewed and approved.

Mr. Lammers moved to adjourn for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

Mr. Love seconded the motion.

Vote: Love yes Schroeder yes Lammers yes

The Commissioners returned from lunch at 1:10 p.m.

The Commissioners held a discussion regarding the recycling program and the profitability of it. Mr. Betscher explained that there were public hearings held to use a portion of the landfill assessments to help cover the recycling expenses. The decisions are made twice a year as to how much will go toward the recycling. Mr. Lammers now understands that the operating of the recycling program is supplemented by the closure of the landfill. Mr. Betscher explained that he was told no landfill has ever been "closed" due to continued monitoring that is needed. The County is required to submit annual reports and monitoring. Mr. Lammers was asking questions as to why we are required to have a recycling program and what is the penalty for not having a recycling program. Mr. Lammers asked for an accounting of recycling and cost to taxpayers.

Michael Lenhart, Engineer stopped in to talk to Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers at 3:05 p.m. to inform the Commissioners about the Attorney General opinion regarding the ditch maintenance funds. Mr. Lenhart talked to the Auditor about tracking the ditch maintenance funds and it is not feasible to have an individual fund for each ditch. Other counties were asked about their ditch maintenance funds and how they are handled. The other surrounding counties the Engineer handles their ditch maintenance fund the same way we do. A single fund and each ditch is kept track of individually within the fund. Mr. Lenhart explained the process to confirm construction estimates on each ditch every six years which involves certified letter and public hearings. A collection of 20% of the construction estimate is allowed on each ditch. Auglaize County said if he had this situation he would do a six year evaluation to coincide with the assessment for collection. An estimate maintenance amount is not required to be given. The ditch maintenance fund has been in existence. Mr. Recker who requested the ditch be cleaned is happy with the work and there have been no other complaints that are known, just from the Van Wert County Commissioners. The way the questions were asked of the Attorney General were not correct so the answers were not correct.

Mr. Lenhart also brought up the log house on Second Street that is adjacent to County property which is delinquent on taxes. Lenhart said he is interested in the property. The Treasurer has started the process of putting it up for Auditor auction.

Mr. Lenhart mentioned maintenance costs of the fuel system at the garage. If the costs could be based on usage. Mr. Lammers said this circles back to the cost allocation that the Engineer does not pay. With that Mr. Lenhart said that he would not share the charges then.

Mr. Lenhart found a past resolution from 1965 regarding roadway right of ways and ditches. If work is done on a ditch along a road and moving the ditch away from the road. If only all the roads could be proven to have a 60 ft width. The earliest Commissioner Journals the resolutions regarding roads to not specify a road width. All of the past road books have been viewed for researching the width of roads and any notices in the previous newspapers have also been viewed. A resolution could be passed to cover all roads not previously specified that the standard width is 60 feet. Some counties have done this and it has been controversial. Due to the loss of records from the past Courthouse fire these records cannot all be verified. There has been research on some road petitions but some of the information is missing or not able to be verified. Is there a deduction for road right of way on the taxes? Farmer's may be farming portions of road right of ways even though the road right of ways are 60 feet. Vince wants to stay with what is apparent.

Back to the ditch maintenance fund, Mr. Lenhart talked about counties that have designated employees to work on ditches either in the office or doing the ditch work and charge the ditch fund for the hours worked. The previous Engineer did not recoup any of the funds for the Ditch Maintenance person and the costs used for any ditch maintenance. Mr. Lenhart figured \$66,000 in 2016 of work on ditches. Any engineering costs that is done on the ditch is recouped. The hours of work on the general maintenance program are not being recouped. Lineal feet of ditches and tile on maintenance have been figured. The money could be charged to the ditch maintenance fund to be recouped to the AL & Gas fund which has paid the wages for this to be done. All time done on maintenance is tracked but it is not currently charged to ditch maintenance. The processes for charging the ditch fund were compared. The Engineer would prefer to spread the costs over the whole ditch maintenance program instead of charging individual ditches. The costs from 2017 will start to be charged to the ditch maintenance fund. Lenhart also would like to hire additional help to manage the ditch maintenance program. There were two people managing the ditch program for 8-9 years until 2015, since then the program has increased and the amount of time needed has increased. The Commissioners are in agreement with the need for the new hire.

One last item regarding annexations, an Attorney General opinion and the descriptions and accurate plats. The Engineer had been making maps for people that should have been submitting them. The Commissioners are responsible for requiring the items to be submitted for the annexation. A resolution will be needed to state the required items. The conveyance standards state that accurate maps and descriptions be submitted. He will submit a sample resolution and the Commissioners will review prior to approval.

Mr. Love moved to adjourn for the day at 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

Vote: Love yes Schroeder yes Love yes

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday, January 4, 2018.

Mr. Love seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder absent Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes

