

KINGSVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR

October 28, 2015

Dennis Huey called the regular meeting of the Kingsville Township Trustees to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Doug Reed made a motion to waive the reading of the October 14, 2015 regular meeting minutes and approve them with the correction of two items. Under new business # 2 EST 1805 and in the opening paragraph Dennis Huey made a motion to approve. Darrell Ensmen seconded the motion; all yes. Copies of the minutes were available.

CORRESPONDENCE: 1) The fiscal office received an email from G Frederick Pierce-Ruhland with his notes from the October 14, 2015 meeting which he asked to be read into the minutes.

The trustees addressed a few items regarding this letter. #5 The residents asked if the trustees could write a grant for Issue 1 money and if the county had any money for our roads. The trustees explained that Issue 1 money was reapplied for and had been denied and that is why only the first 2 miles of Fox Road was paved. They also made mention that as far as they knew there was no county money for Kingsville's roads. Ted Robishaw spoke up and explained that he remembered when he worked for the township about 17 years ago Mr. Ruhland did not want paved roads. Mr. Ruhland said that Mr. Robishaw's memory was incorrect. #6 Questioned the cost of \$550K for 1 mile of paved road standards. Could it be done over a 2 year period or are the trustees inflating cost to push it back even farther? The trustees explained that 550K was a close estimate because of the work that is required such as under drainage, ditch work, realigning the road and then paving it. It would probably have to be a 2 year project. #10 Questioned the comingling of township funds such as Ems and road. Is road money being saved for a new fire station? Could there be a special audit done? The trustees explained that no township money is comingled and there is a bi-annual audit performed by the Auditor of State which Kingsville Township just completed for years 2013 and 2014. This year it cost the township \$4,797.00 for the bi-annual audit. #12 The trustees assured the residents that the brine work done in the township is always a last resort and that the work is done following EPA standards.

OLD BUSINESS: 1) Neal made note that one of the Monroe Township Trustees would be here to speak about Fox Road. 2) The new ambulance is back with still a couple of items not done. The issues not done are the lettering, the push to talk intercom from cab to back and dividers in some of the cabinets. These will be corrected when the ambulance goes back to get the loading system for the power cots installed. 3) The 2 power cots have been ordered from Stryker and should be in mid-January 2016. The cost of the cots will be \$60,000.00. \$40,000.00 from the BWC grant and \$20,000.00 will be paid by the township. 4) Neal stated that Warren Fire contacted them and said that there was an \$14,000.00 overpayment made and that they will be reimbursing the township. The fiscal officer asked Neal to have them send her the information about that because that is not what the township's records show. Neal said he would contact them for this information. 5) The timber for the salt shed should be here tomorrow. Scott and Neal were able to straighten up the west wall of the shed. 6) Dennis Huey reported that Jim Branch was not able to attend tonight's meeting due to a family emergency. 7) Neal reported that all of the volunteers have been trained on the Lucas device except for 1 and he is not sure how many of the paid part timers have been trained. 8) Neal reported that he was out on all of the township roads after the high winds the other night and Fox was not a mud pit as some residents were implying.

NEW BUSINESS: 1) Vince, NAD ambulance district, is interested in purchasing the 1993 Horton Ambulance to make it a training unit and would be willing to let Kingsville Fire Department use it. Before it would be sold Kingsville will remove

the battery conditioner, O2 brackets and the new LED Strobe lights. Neal would like to sell it for \$1,000.00. If the sale is okayed NAD will be donating the engine to Trumbull Township. Doug Reed made a motion to allow the sale of the 1993 Horton Ambulance to NAD for \$1,000.00. Darrell Ensman seconded the motion; all yes. 2) Neal Stewart said that #609 needs a new oil pan and Champion Ford can do it at a cost of \$2000.00 Karl Brunell asked if any local estimates were gotten. Neal said that it would be about the same and Champion was the best for that job. Doug Reed made a motion to approve the replacement of the oil pan for #609 by Champion Ford. Darrell Ensman seconded the motion; all yes. 3) Neal reported that all of the fire trucks have had their annual testing and passed. 4) Unit #611 the first out fire truck is in need of repairs. Rusted /rotted out air tanks, brackets and radiator. Kingsville Towing has ordered the parts need for the repair. Darrell Ensman made a motion to approve the work needed to repair #611. Doug Reed seconded the motion; all yes.

SAFETY CONCERNS: Karl Brunell asked if the street lights had been fixed in the township due to many lights being burnt out. The township said that many have been fixed and Dennis Huey said that he would get ahold of Gary Weir, The Illuminating Co., about that again as well. Also the residents should call the 800 number for the Illuminating Co if they have a street light out. It is easier for The Illuminating Co to track where the pole is.

FINANCIAL REPORT:	Receipts	\$ 17,512.04
	Expenses	<u>12,446.65</u>
	Balance	\$994,043.93

Darrell Ensman made a motion to pay the bills. Doug Reed seconded the motion; all yes.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: 1) Lt. Braden, Kingsville Volunteer, had Dennis Huey read a letter signed by 5 members of the volunteer fire department supporting Chief Neal Stewart regarding personnel issues that have been going on and about the flyer that was sent out in the mail regarding the 4 EMT/FF on the paid part time roster resigning. They feel that if the paid part timer's do not agree with the department policy or rules then it is time to leave. They mentioned that since Neal has been the fire chief they have good working relations with all of the surrounding township and Village of North Kingsville, they now have equipment that is in good repair because of grants that were received, a new ambulance and a 7 day a week paid part time EMS/FF department. 2) Julie Rich, EMS/FF, expressed her concern about things that Neal says about never getting work locally if the paid EMS/FF's leave Kingsville. She also has concerns about him not communicating with EMS/FF personnel. 3) Erin Tennant, EMS/FF, said that if this would have been taken care of back in July when she first brought up concerns regarding communication from Neal then this would not have come to 4 medics resigning from Kingsville. She reminded Darrell that she was called into the office over 2 years ago to speak with him regarding issues with the department and nothing was done then either. 4) Rob Ocasio, private resident, read a letter supporting Neal as Chief. He noted several points that have been brought up in a township meeting regarding himself and Neal and explained that regarding the new ambulance the reason that he was asked to go with Neal to check on things missing from the new ambulance was because he and Neal had come up with all of the spec's for the new ambulance, he also noted that he did not have any input on working on the policy book he only typed and assisted with the wording of it because Neal had asked him. He also said that the trustees needed to remove the target from his back and they need to have employees stop talking about him and slandering his name. 5) Gail Urch, 6060 Sheldon Avenue, she is a volunteer and paid part time EMS/FF and has been a member of the volunteer roster since 1999 said that she did not sign the letter from the volunteers but she was not going anywhere and there would be EMS coverage in Kingsville as far as she was concerned. 6) Brad Randolph, Arbor Drive, has lived here since 1979 and work as a Medic/FF for Ashtabula Township for 27

years said the paramedic should take care of the call and treat the patient medically, all residents can request where they want to be transported to unless they are medically unstable. He said that if the paid part timers can't or won't do their job they should be replaced. He knows that Kingsville has paid for many people to go to EMS school and they should support Kingsville for doing so. He is glad to live in Kingsville. 7) Willy Osbourn, 4804 Caleb Avenue, Monroe, said that he has great respect for Neal as a Fire Chief, he has had several calls regarding the flyer that went out but has not heard any complaints regarding service to Monroe. He wondered who the source and to what purpose the flyer was to serve. He also asked if Monroe would have EMS service because of the 4 EMS personnel resigning and if the trustees planned on responding publicly in the Star Beacon. He felt that the reason for the flyer was that someone had an axe to grind with Neal and the trustees. 8) Roger Shurnan, Monroe Township Trustee, said that he felt that Kingsville was doing a good job in covering such a large area. He did say that some of Monroe volunteers had not been treated kindly by some of the paid part timers and he said that everyone needs to get along for the good of the residents. 9) Laura Roesch, EMS/FF, responded to the patient that wanted to be transferred to Geneva said that she had not refused to take the patient to Geneva but the protocol is to transport to Ashtabula or Conneaut and she thought that it did not set a good precedent. 10) Fred Pierce-Ruhland, 4350 Fox Road, said that he had been in contact with Peggy Carlo, Commissioner, and she said that she would be contacting Mr. Fitchet regarding the ambulance district that they have been working on to see where that was at because it would be a good thing. He also said that if threats were made then there should be recourse for them and action needed. He mentioned that Chief Stewart did not have any EMS training and thought there should be an Assistant Chief to cover the EMS side of the department. 10) Angie Cliff, River Road, she was the past Assistant Chief for Kingsville and even though the Chief and she have had their differences and butted heads in the past she has a great respect for what he has done with this department since taking it over. She also has a great professional respect for all EMS workers since she is also a paramedic. 11) Rob Ocasio spoke up and said that the qualifications for a fire chief set by the State Fire Marshall did not require the chief to have EMS training but thought that it would be a good idea. 12) Julie Rich, paid part time and volunteer, she said that she has witnessed firsthand Neal's wrath and his threats to get people fired. The trustees told her that if she would file a formal complaint in writing that is the only way that they could address the issue. 13) Doug Reed, Trustee, explained that Neal brings his recommendations to the Board for their approval and has given the trustees a copy of the policy book for their review, some changes were made and the policy book is not yet in effect. He also made note that even though the Administrative Assistant job did not require a medic that is what the trustees would like. 14) Jackie Sybert, Brydle Road, asked if the paid part time had job descriptions and the trustees explained that yes they did then they should just do their job like anyone else that is an employee. 15) Erin Tennant, paid part time/volunteer, said that she has been trying since July to work with Neal but he refuses to communicate with her. 16) Fred Pierce Ruhland says that it sounds like all the paid part timers want is for Neal to communicate with them and be accountable for his command. 17) Jesse Carpuso, paid part timer, they just want the respect that they deserve and communication with the Chief. 18) Laurie Reed, 4022 Creek Road, does not want Kingsville split. She also mentioned that at the last meeting a comment was made about all of the townships except for Kingsville had their minutes posted to a website and that it would be nice to have Kingsville's posted. She said that she had done some research on that and of the 27 townships in Ashtabula County only 12 of them have websites which are very expensive to set up and of those 12 only 6 of them have their minutes posted and of those 6 only 4 of those townships have 2015 minutes posted. 19) Fred Pierce Ruhland, asked where the trustee's thoughts were on the 2 petitions signed by 26 residents that they had received at the last meeting for hard surface for Fox and Brydle Road. He mentioned that 2 levies were going to be on the ballot for roads and if there was going to be money for those roads next year. He asked if chip/tar only would have cost the township \$30,000 this year why was it not done. The trustees said that when they are

working on the budget and appropriation for next year they would be looking at Fox and Brydle Road but would not commit now. The trustees thought that \$30,000 for dust control that was scheduled for this year would be wasted if done that late in the year. 20) Several residents said that the trustees and Neal need to be proactive for dust control and paving for 2016 and suggested getting in contact with the contractors this year to let them know what work the township would like to get done for next year and have the contractors commit to a deadline.

Dennis Huey made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Doug Reed seconded the motion. On the call of roll: Darrell Ensman – Yes, Dennis Huey – Yes and Doug Reed – Yes.

After a short executive session Doug Reed made a motion to back into regular session. Darrell Ensman seconded the motion. On the call of roll: Darrell Ensman – Yes, Dennis Huey – Yes and Doug Reed – Yes.

Once back in regular session the trustees agree that Neal is within his realm as Fire Chief. Darrell Ensman made a motion to accept the resignations of Erin Tennant, Jeff Tennant, Laura Roesch and Jesse Carpuso that were received at the October 14, 2015 meeting. Doug Reed seconded the motion; all yes.

Doug Reed made a motion to approve holding final paycheck to these employees until all Kingsville Township property has been received. This includes uniforms, equipment, keys and all other property of Kingsville Township. Darrell Ensman seconded the motion; all yes.

With nothing else to discuss Doug Reed made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Huey seconded the motion; all yes.

Dennis Huey, Chairman

Sarah Patterson, Fiscal Officer

ADJOURNMENT: