

The regular meeting of Newbury Township Trustees called to order at 7:00 p.m., January 25, 2021, with Bill Skomrock in attendance at the town hall, and Greg Tropf attending via Zoom. Mr. Quigley was not in attendance.

Mr. Skomrock opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Ken Fagan presented the 2021 Fire Department contract, and lease agreement to the trustees for review. He stated that there were no changes from last year. The lease agreement is for three years, and is the same as the previous agreement. Trustees approved contract and lease.

Mr. Skomrock presented invoice from Chagrin River Watershed Partnership for membership in 2021. Mr. Skomrock stated that CRWP had been helpful in administration of grants for Veterans' Park and other projects. He suggested continued membership. Mr. Skomrock moved to pay membership. Mr. Tropf second motion. Voice vote: two ayes.

Ms. Sustar stated that she would be working on a disaster recovery plan in 2021 for the township administration. Plan would include location of important supplies and materials, and outside resources available through the Auditor of State's office.

Mr. Tropf spoke with Milano Monuments. They indicated there were 12-14 headstones in the Morton Cemetery that most needed restoration.

Mr. Tropf also presented a draft of Cemetery Policy revisions. Among the changes were increased fees for internments after 2:00 p.m. He proposed this change because the service personnel would be required to work overtime hours. Also addressed with the number of internments (casket plus cremains), in a single grave. Mr. Skomrock agreed with changes and spoke about the need for headstone planning for multiple internments. Another proposed change is to prepare deeds not only for pre-sold graves, but also for graves assigned to residents at no cost, at the time of death. In the event that someone would wish to add cremains at a later date, a deed would additionally document the status of the site. Mr. Skomrock asked for more time to consider the proposed changes. No action was taken.

The Engineer's office provided plans for resurfacing roads to the trustees. Mr. Tropf moved to accept the plans as presented by the Engineer's office. Mr. Skomrock seconded the motion. Voice vote: two ayes.

Resolution 20210125-01 to order the resurfacing of Whitewood, Rockhaven and Snow roads was presented.

Mr. Tropf moved to order the resurfacing of the identified roads. Mr. Skomrock seconded the motion. Voice vote: two ayes.

Updating of the township website, and Zoning and BZA appointments will be considered at the next regularly scheduled township trustee meeting.

Discussion of choice for legal counsel to assist trustees, regarding the prior Newbury School property.

Credentials for three attorneys with the firm Brouse McDowell were emailed to trustees. Brouse McDowell has offices in Akron, Youngstown and Cleveland. Although all agreed all attorneys were more than qualified, concerns discussed were the firm is not local, and not familiar with local interests. Also of note were hourly rate, and whether the rate would be billed for commuting to meetings. Attorney Joe Weiss has also expressed his interest in assisting the trustees navigate the process. Mr. Weiss is an established attorney in Geauga County and is familiar with the area. Trustees believe that Mr. Weiss would be a better fit for their interests.

Mr. Tropf took a quick inventory of the Service Garage vehicles. Currently, three vehicles are at the end of their usefulness. He strongly recommends selling the oldest vehicles. Mr. Skomrock agreed. Mr. Tropf will ask Mr. Zimmerman for a complete list of vehicles and equipment, and they will decide which should be sold.

Mr. Skomrock gave update on replacement of windows at town hall. Due to delays in receiving supplies from manufacturer, it appears that installation will not be scheduled until February. This will be partially paid for by a NOPEC Energy grant.

Warrants approved by signing prior to or at this Meeting:

33-2021	1/22/21	\$240.00	Ohio Public Employees Deferred Comp
35120	1/25/21	\$635.07	Medical Mutual Of Ohio
35121	1/25/21	\$5,723.65	Medical Mutual Of Ohio
35122	1/25/21	\$49.10	MT Business Technologies INC.
35123	1/25/21	\$40.00	ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS
35124	1/25/21	\$1,133.32	First Energy
35125	1/25/21	\$334.20	First Energy
35126	1/25/21	\$99.89	Share Corporation
35127	1/25/21	\$135.84	Fisher Auto Parts
35128	1/25/21	\$89.99	Spectrum Business
35129	1/25/21	\$264.56	Cintas Corp.
35130	1/25/21	\$175.00	Patton Pest Control Co., Inc
35131	1/25/21	\$15.00	Geauga County Clerk of Courts
35132	1/25/21	\$35.40	Delta Dental
35133	1/25/21	\$318.38	Delta Dental
35134	1/25/21	\$83.09	Business Card

Total Payments \$9,372.49

Purchase Orders approved by signing prior to or at this meeting:

PR	13-2021	1/25/21	\$480.00	Burnham & Flower of Ohio, Inc.
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Motion to adjourn made at 7:26 p.m. by Mr. Skomrock. Seconded by Mr. Tropf.

Vote to adjourn was unanimous.

William Skomrock, Jr. - Chairman

Glen Quigley - Vice Chairman

Greg Tropf

Beverly Sustar – Fiscal Officer