

# The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees

January 23, 2006

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees met on Monday January 23, 2006 to transact business. Chairman Henning called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. James Danbury, Bari Henning and Jim Taylor answered the roll call. Also present were Fiscal Officer, Gregory W. Carson, Yvonne Malott, Earl Whiteman, Clyde Arnold, Frank Harmon, Dave Durham and Richard Malott.

Mr. Taylor motioned to approve the minutes of the December 27, 2005 meeting. Mr. Danbury second. All yeas. Mr. Taylor motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Mr. Danbury second. All yeas. Mr. Carson presented a financial report, including a comprehensive account of expenditures and receipts and the trustees accepted it.

## **Receipts of the meeting:**

Total Receipts: \$18,401.54

Mr. Danbury motioned to pay the following bills. Mr. Taylor second. All yeas.

Total Bills: \$23,062.02

Frank Harmon from Ohio Insurance Services Agency gave an explanation of benefits summary for health insurance for the township. He explained that the Trans-connect option that he had proposed in the middle of last year had some issues being approved, but now it's finally approved by the State Government. He explained the differences between a couple of different plans with different deductibles, co-payments, etc. Mr. Henning said that he has checked with several neighboring townships and they continue to pay 100% of the insurance benefits. Mr. Harmon pointed out that our benefits total 8-10% of our budget and that is fairly normal and consistent with what other government agencies spend. Mr. Danbury said that he felt we needed to look hard at this if we could save the township money. Mr. Henning said that our employees don't make as much as employees in the private sector. Mr. Harmon said that he can look at flexible spending accounts and HRA's if we want, but the trustees agree that it is too complicated, so we need to decide on the two options that Mr. Harmon has presented. The two options are to leave the policy "as is" or to decrease the employee benefits with the Trans-connect option as supplemental.

## **Cemetery & Maintenance Report**

Mr. Whiteman said that the front sidewalk is done and asked if we want a back sidewalk at the township hall. The trustees said that it's not necessary now that the front of the building is handicap accessible. He said that they replaced all of the zoning signs that were faded along the roads as you enter the township. He said that there is a road in the Commons of East Fork Subdivision that is a private road and a resident called him to complain about a neighbor parking in front of the mailbox. He said that since it's a private road, he told the resident that they need to call the Sheriff's office and report it. He said that all equipment is up and running. He said that they blew a hydraulic line on the truck during the snow plowing, but it has been fixed.

## **Zoning Report**

Mrs. Malott presented a zoning report. She said that there is a zoning commission meeting on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Durham said that we are kind of at the mercy of a judge for zoning violations. He asked if we could go above and beyond that. Mr. Henning explained that we are required to follow the ORC. Mr. Taylor said that the township has a lot different rules than a municipality, because a municipality can do a lot more to get things accomplished. Mrs. Malott said that she has talked to other township zoning officials and she thinks that we can legally go a little farther than we go and she asked the trustees to talk to our prosecutor about it. Mr. Danbury asked if a variance could be for a person instead of a property. She explained that the zoning department could issue a variance on a piece of property and note on the variance that it is for a specific owner and then a new owner could not use the property for the same purpose. Mr. Carson said that a township resident asked him to inform the zoning department that the 3 houses on the same parcel along Old State Route 32 have a lot of junk around them. She said that she recently noticed it and would issue a letter asking them to clean it up.

## **Emergency Services Report**

Mr. Malott said that he had some people ask about the BTLs conference in Columbus. He said that he doesn't know what the schedule for the conference is going to be and he said that since we've been using Dana Smith to teach classes, he hasn't been sending people out of town for conferences. Mr. Taylor motioned to teach all classes here if they are available and only send people to conferences if they can't get the classes here. Mr. Danbury second. All yeas. He said that he received information about a bar coding system with software to keep inventory and it's cost about \$7,300 with \$800 annual fees. Mr. Danbury said that he doesn't think we have any problems with theft, so he doesn't see the need for this system. Mr. Malott agrees that he keeps track of the inventory in their computer and it is accurate. He said that he has a couple of applications for fire fighters. Mr. Danbury motioned to put Jonathan Akers on the fire department under the standard probationary period. Mr. Taylor second. All yeas. Mr. Danbury motioned to appoint James Lucas as a paramedic under the standard probationary period. Mr. Taylor second.

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All yeas. Mr. Malott said that he has a request from an EMT that wants to attend paramedic classes and he thinks this person volunteers quite a bit as an EMT and also on the fire department. He said that the classes won't begin until later this year, but the pre-test is in February. Mr. Danbury motioned to pay for Michael Hoh to attend paramedic school if he passes the pre-test. Mr. Henning second. All yeas. Mr. Malott said that they want to put new carpet and paint the front room at the emergency services building and the volunteers plan to do all of the labor involved in remodeling. He said that he checked on a commercial grade of carpet and it will cost around \$2,200. He said that the ceiling tile will cost around \$1,000 plus the cost of paint and misc. materials. He said that he gave the trustees a report of the number of runs for 2005. Mr. Danbury said that we received a letter from ISO giving us a report of our fire rating after their inspection. Our rating is 5/9. Mr. Malott said that the ISO audit was very informative and some things were kind of confusing, but overall we have a good rating. He said that he needs to call the auditor to clarify some things.

Mr. Carson gave a copy of the proposed revenue and appropriations for 2006. The trustees review it. He explained that the EMS fund has been getting lower every year since we started paying full time life squad on the weekends and we need to start thinking about funding in the next year or they might run out of money in the EMS fund. Discussion took place about soft billing of township residents to bill insurance companies and collect the money from the insurance companies, but not bill the residents if the insurance doesn't pay, whereas we bill the non-residents if the insurance doesn't pay. The trustees agree that we will need to educate the residents so they understand that they will not be out any more money out of their pockets and this is the best legal alternative rather than to pass a tax levy. Trustees would like to implement this as of 7-1-2006. Mr. Taylor motioned to start "soft billing" to township residents as of 7/1/2006 with some information to the public before then. Mr. Henning second. All yeas. Mr. Danbury motioned to approve the proposed 2006 appropriations and revenue as proposed by the fiscal officer. Mr. Taylor second. All yeas. Mr. Carson said that last year a grant from the State Auditor was deposited into the fire fund, but the bill was paid out of the EMS fund, so we need to transfer \$61,739.00 from the fire fund to the EMS fund.

Mr. Taylor motioned to appoint Doug Chambers as a zoning alternate to the zoning commission effective 1/1/06 with term expiring 12/31/2007. Mr. Henning second. All yeas.

Mr. Taylor motioned to adjourn at approximately 10:00 p.m. Mr. Danbury second. All yeas.

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Fiscal Officer

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Chairman