

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Thursday, January 6, 2011

The Organizational Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman James Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, January 6, 2011. Present: Trustees: James Hammar, Roy Martin, John C. Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duffield.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was turned over to Fiscal Officer Rosemary Nicholas for the election of officers.

Mr. Zizka nominated Mr. Martin as Chairman. Mr. Martin nominated Mr. Hammar as Chairman. Mr. Martin declined to serve as Chairman. Mr. Zizka moved that nominations be closed; Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Mrs. Nicholas called the roll on the **closing of nominations and the election of Mr. Hammar as Chairman. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. Org-1-6-11.1**

Mr. Martin nominated Mr. Zizka as Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations. Mr. Hammar moved that nominations be closed; Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Mrs. Nicholas called the roll on the **closing of nominations and the election of Mr. Zizka as Vice Chairman. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. Org-1-6-11.2**

Mrs. Nicholas turned the meeting over to Chairman Hammar.

Town hall and church building rental fees were discussed. Current rental fees are as follows: \$50 for residents; \$75 for non-residents; and \$100 for commercial, with no charge for funeral meals and legal, charitable organizations (Scouts, 4-H). Mr. Zizka said he had several requests for use of the pavilion, and this is something that is going to need to be addressed at some point. Mr. Martin suggested setting the same rates for the pavilion as we have for the town hall. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to keep town and church rental fees at the current level: \$50 for residents; \$75 for non-residents; and \$100 for commercial, with no charge for funeral meals and legal, charitable organizations (Scouts, 4-H). Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. Org-1-6-11.3**

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, that mileage reimbursement be set at 51.0 cents per mile, the standard mileage rate established for 2011 by the Internal Revenue Service. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.4**

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to appoint the Chairman of the Board of Trustees as "individual" representative for OTARMA, and to appoint the Vice Chairman as "Alternate."** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.5**

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to appoint Mr. Martin as representative for the Ravenna Arsenal Board.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.6**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to appoint Mr. Zizka as the liaison for the Robinson Health Affiliates for the CDL testing program, with alternate to be any Trustee.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.7**

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to appoint Mr. Martin and Mr. Hammar to serve as co-representatives to the Joint Fire District Board, with Mr. Martin being the primary representative and Mr. Hammar being the secondary representative.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.8**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to appoint Mr. Zizka and Mr. Hammar to serve as co-representatives to the EMS Board, with Mr. Zizka being the primary representative and Mr. Hammar being the secondary representative.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.9**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to appoint Mr. Hammar to serve as representative on the Portage County Regional Planning Commission, with Mr. Martin as alternate.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.10**

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to appoint Mr. Hammar to serve as Representative for the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program, Local Transportation Improvements Program, and/or Small Government Program, with any Trustee as alternate.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.11**

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to appoint Mr. Martin as the Road Consultant Representative with any trustee to be the alternate.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.12**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to appoint Mr. Hammar Zoning Commission contact, with Mr. Zizka as alternate.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.13**

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to appoint Mr. Martin Zoning Board of Appeals contact, with Mr. Zizka as alternate.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.14**

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to appoint Mr. Zizka to be in charge of town hall and church building scheduling, with any trustee as alternate.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.15**

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to appoint Mr. Hammar as Trustee representative for the Park Committee, with Mr. Martin as alternate.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.16**

Mr. Hammar made the motion to change the trustee meeting schedule to include one daytime meeting and one evening meeting, with the evening meeting to start at 6:00 pm. Mr. Zizka said he understood the premise but did not think it would generate interest to have a morning meeting; he would like to see the meeting schedule stay as it currently is. Mr. Martin agreed, adding that both the Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals meet at 7:30 pm. In response to an inquiry from the board, Mr. Duffield suggested the meetings be held in the evening so that anyone interested could attend. Mr. Hammar's motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to set the Regular Trustee meetings to be held on the first and third Thursday of the month, at 7:30 pm, with the second meeting in December to be set at a later date.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.17**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **that all meetings will be held in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order and will be in compliance with the Ohio Sunshine Law; further, special meetings will be advertised in the Record Courier, the newspaper of most general circulation, by notifying them 24 hours in advance.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.18**

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **that members of the Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the alternates will be paid \$20.00 per meeting attended to include special meetings, workshops or any meeting pertinent to conducting the business of the Zoning Commission and/or the Zoning Board of Appeals.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.19**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to reconfirm 15 days vacation time for Charles VanSteenberg and Tony VanSteenberg, to be taken by the end of the year; 10 paid holidays as per the Ohio Revised Code; 5 sick days per year, with no carry over; sick days may also be used for bereavement leave purposes. Leave may be used in less than 8-hour increments.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.20**

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to table wage increases until the next meeting to allow for completion of employee performance evaluations.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.21**

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, to adjourn the organizational meeting at 7:57 pm Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Org-1-6-11.22**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, January 6, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:58 pm on Thursday, January 6, 2011, immediately following the organizational meeting. Present: Trustees: James Hammar, Roy Martin, John C. Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duffield.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2010, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-6-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick said the Prosecutor’s office is going forward with Chulaine on January 12 at 1:00 pm. They are also going forward with the storage trailer on S.R. 700. There has been no response from a resident on S.R. 700 regarding junk motor vehicles. The zoning office answering machine is not working. At Mr. Puleo’s suggestion, Mrs. Nicholas checked with Frontier regarding voice mail and caller ID. This service is available for approximately an additional \$30 per month. High-speed internet service is also available on this line at a cost of approximately \$120 per month, which would include voice mail and caller ID. After discussion, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to sign up with Frontier for high-speed internet service, voice mail and caller ID for the zoning office.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-6-11.2**

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they have been plowing and putting down material; posted reduced weight limit signs on township roads; installed new thermostat at the town hall.

Cemetery: There have been two burials since the last meeting.

Park: Mr. Hammar will be meeting with Regional Planning to review soil maps, etc., in preparation for filing the grant request with ODNR.

Fiscal Officer: Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to transfer \$3,000 from the General Fund to the Road & Bridge Fund to support the Road & Bridge Fund.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-6-11.3**

The Trustees signed the December 31, 2010 Bank Reconciliation.

At the request of Mrs. Nicholas, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to accept donations to the Freedom Township Park Development Fund from Dorothy Morrison and family in memory of Charlotte Konzen and from John and Kathy Zizka in memory of John Joeright.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-6-11.4** Mrs. Nicholas noted that at one time the trustees had considered a plaque to recognize donors; the trustees accepted her offer to get information on this for their consideration.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to revise the 2010 appropriation resolution to reflect actual expenditures plus any carry-over PO’s in the amounts of:**

General Fund	\$225,421
Motor Vehicle License Tax	46
Gasoline Tax.....	105,352
Road & Bridge.....	39,147
Cemetery.....	8,669
Zoning	9,221
Permissive Motor Vehicle	17,039
Special Revenue (NOPEC Grant).....	50,000
Park Development Fund	3,793
Public Works Commission	46,311
Total.....	<u>\$504,999</u>

Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-6-11.5**

Mrs. Nicholas said that the carry over purchase orders totaled \$46,652 with actual expenditures in 2010 of \$458,347.

During the meeting, warrants #5325 - #5340 in the amount of \$11,550.12 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

Mr. Zizka advised that Marshall's will be cleaning the town hall carpet next Tuesday at 9:00 am.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-6-11.6**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, January 20, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, January 20, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John C. Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2011, Organizational Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.1**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.2**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick asked if anything was decided with regard to disposing of old, unusable computer equipment that is being stored in the zoning office. Mr. Martin said he checked with Solid Waste and they will take it. He also was told of a charitable organization that will take monitors. Mr. Martin has a contact who will assist us in removing the hard drives and destroying them; Solid Waste can't guarantee destruction of the hard drives.

Mr. Derthick reported that Mary Ann Schaefer has updated the zoning resolution notebooks. He will be meeting with the Prosecutor next week regarding the storage trailer on S.R. 700. Regarding Chulaine, the property owner has been given until the end of July to remove the accessory building; in the meantime, no one is allowed to live in it. The Board of Appeals reelected Gil Krohn as chair and Jeff Rinearson as vice chair. They changed their bylaws to hold their organizational meeting at the first regular meeting in January, rather than have two separate meetings.

Mr. Hammar said the Zoning Commission reelected Stan Lawrence as chair and Kathy Knerem as vice chair. Two people have expressed interest in serving on the zoning boards and Mr. Hammar will follow through in contacting them to set up a time when they can meet with the trustees.

Mr. Derthick asked if the trustees wanted to pass a resolution to send the Hawkins matter to the Prosecutor. No action was taken; it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they have been working on keeping the roads clear. The new fuel tanks are in place, the old tanks have been emptied, and the electric has been hooked up. The transmission line for the Kodiak truck got a hole in it and had to be replaced. Another person will be performing community service (24 hours) at the town hall and church building. There was a problem with the well at the town hall and Burrows replaced the torque boot, wiring, switch and tank.

Park: Mr. Hammar provided Mrs. Nicholas with information to complete the NatureWorks grant application which is to be postmarked no later than February 1.

Fire: Mr. Martin was not able to attend their last meeting.

EMS: Mr. Zizka reported that Mr. Kaiser is chair and Mr. Wilson is vice chair. They are still working with Workers' Compensation to resolve some issues. For the first six months, new hires will be getting fifty cents less per hour.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar said they thanked us for donating our expiring hours for the subdivision regulations update. Mr. Hammar authorized the use of 4.5 hours in gathering information for the grant application.

Fiscal Officer:

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas the board of Freedom Township trustees finds it necessary to make use of the funds now in the county treasury to the account of the township and lawfully applicable to the purpose of the current fiscal year; therefore, be it resolved, that this board hereby requests the Auditor of Portage County, Ohio, to issue her warrant on the county treasurer of the county, in favor of Rosemary Nicholas, as Fiscal Officer of the township, for all funds available of the current collection of taxes assessed and collected for and in behalf of said township, which shall be held and treated as an advance payment of the current collection of taxes due the township at the ensuing first and

second half settlement, 2011, as provided by law. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.3**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, the State of Ohio through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, administers financial assistance for public recreation purposes, through the State of Ohio NatureWorks Program, and whereas, Freedom Township Board of Trustees desires financial assistance under the NatureWorks Program; now, therefore, be it resolved by the Freedom Township Board of Trustees:

- 1. That the Freedom Township Board of Trustees approves filing an application for financial assistance.**
- 2. That F. James Hammar, Chairman of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees is hereby authorized and directed to execute and file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and to provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for possible funding assistance.**
- 3. That the Freedom Township Board of Trustees does agree to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms of the NatureWorks Program**

Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.4**

Mrs. Nicholas reported on information previously provided to the trustees and zoning inspector regarding the Frontier phone/internet service upgrade for the zoning office. After discussing the increased cost and the fact that voice mail (the feature that prompted the inquiry to Frontier) was not available at this time at this location, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to cancel the Frontier telephone and internet service upgrade for the zoning office.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.5** Mrs. Nicholas will contact Frontier.

The trustees signed cemetery deeds for the following: Patricia Kristoff 691-A/B; Charles Jones 830-C/D; Amy McCoy 602-A/B; Kevin Pitsinger 532-A; Bonnie Potteiger 580-A.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Zizka met with Ed Miller of Classical Construction. He is interested in doing the masonry work for the town hall. Mr. Zizka had a request from Mr. Garrett who has been renting the church for services on Sunday. He would like to remove some dated posters and also make use of the small office area. Mr. Hammar said he would not want to have the church personalized to the point that it could not be used for other activities. Mr. Martin agreed. Mr. Zizka said that Mr. Garrett assured him it would be generic/neutral. There was no objection. Regarding repairing the gutters on the church, Mr. Hammar said we should make plans to have this done before the spring rains begin. Mr. Zizka will follow through in contacting a company suggested by Mr. Duffield.

Zoning Planning Study: Mr. Hammar said the Zoning Commission members are waiting for additional information to be available from the census before adding updates to the planning study. He also said that Mr. Mikulski would like to have the current study available on the township's web site. Mr. Hammar will ask Mr. Mikulski to send the study to Mrs. Nicholas electronically and she will publish it.

At 9:10 pm, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adjourn to executive session to discuss employee compensation.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.6**

At 10:12 pm, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to return to regular session.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.7**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to increase the rate of pay for Charles VanSteenberg from \$18.90 to \$19.00 per hour and to increase the rate of pay for Tony VanSteenberg from \$16.90 per hour to \$17.25 per hour, both increases to be effective February 1, 2011.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.8**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **that there would be no increase for calendar year 2011 in the pay rate for the zoning inspector, assistant zoning inspector and zoning secretary.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.9**

During the meeting, warrants #5341 - #5353 in the amount of \$7,491.68 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 1-20-11.10**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, February 3, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, February 3, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John C. Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield, Dan Grafton and Tom Mesaros.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.1**

Public Comment: Mr. Grafton commented on the damaged gutters on the church. He said that when the roof was done, it should have been part of the contract that the gutters would be properly secured. He commented on the new town hall windows and said he didn't think they should have left the old window sills which look rotten. Mr. Zizka said the window sills were wrapped in aluminum prior to the new windows being installed, and Mr. Hammar said they would be wrapped again in vinyl.

Mr. Hammar recognized Mr. Tom Mesaros who is interested in the Zoning Commission.

At 7:36 pm Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel appointments.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.2**

At 7:52 pm, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to resume in regular session.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.3**

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to appoint Tom Mesaros as an alternate to the Zoning Commission for a one-year term.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.4**

Zoning: Mr. Derthick said the obsolete, unusable electronic equipment had been cleared from the zoning office and was ready for disposal, namely: Compaq computer and monitor; Triple Lite-Power People; HP Deskjet 870; Minolta OMS printer; HP LaserJet 1200 Printer; Bell South answering machine, AT&T answering machine; Brother laser copier/printer DCP 7020; Dell computer and monitor. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to dispose of the aforementioned obsolete equipment after any memory boards have been destroyed.** In response to a question from Mr. Zizka, Mr. Martin said the memory boards would be removed and drilled through to destroy any data. The equipment will then be taken to the Recycling Center for disposal. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.5**

Mr. Derthick reported that one permit had been issued last week, for a new single family home. Another notice with certificate of mailing has been sent to the property owner at 9442 SR 700 regarding unlicensed vehicles. The postmaster confirmed that they do receive mail at the address we have been using. Mr. Derthick asked if the trustees wanted to wait 30 days or refer it to the Prosecutor's office. Mr. Hammar said he had talked with Mr. Meduri about this and Mr. Meduri is ready to move on it. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to refer the zoning violation (unlicensed vehicles) at 9442 S.R. 700, Windham, Ohio, to the Prosecutor's office for action.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.6**

Mr. Hammar asked Mr. Derthick about the trucks consistently being parked in an area where they do not have the right to do so. It is in violation of their conditional permit and presents a hazard to drivers on S.R. 700. This is the trucking company at the corner of S.R. 88 and 700. Mr. Hammar said he spoke to Mr. Meduri about this and he said we do not have to wait 30 days to take action; by parking there consistently, they are ignoring their conditional permit, and he will send a letter to them if we so desire. Mr. Derthick said Mr. Puleo has spoken to them about this in the past. Mr. Hammar asked Mr. Derthick to send them a letter.

Mr. Zizka said that since we are talking about intermittent violations, every Christmas season there is a sign at Drakesburg advertising the sale of Christmas trees. He asked if anyone had considered this to be a possible zoning violation and talked to the person who is putting up the sign. Mr. Derthick will look into it. Regarding the trucking company at the corner of S.R. 88 and 700, Mr. Zizka said they were not supposed to be doing any repairs on the premises, yet impact tools can be heard. Mr. Derthick will look into this as well.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that they have been plowing and salting to keep the roads clear of snow and ice. In response to a question from Mr. Zizka, Mr. VanSteenberg said we have not yet ordered any of our current allotment of salt but as soon as we have the space available, he will place an order.

Park: Mr. Hammar reported that the grant application had been submitted to NatureWorks.

Cemetery: Mrs. Nicholas told the trustees of a request from Luella Fedor to transfer Lot 349, Grave D, Drakesburg Cemetery from Gay Belknap Richards to her. Ms. Richards is deceased. After reviewing the information previously sent to the trustees by Mrs. Nicholas, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to notify Ms. Fedor that Lot 349, Grave D cannot be transferred to her in view of the fact that the deed is in the name of Gay Belknap Richards, deceased, and becomes part of her estate; therefore, no action can be taken by the trustees without proper legal authority on behalf of the estate.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2-3-11.7

Fiscal Officer:

The Trustees signed the January 31, 2011, Bank Reconciliation.

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to enter permanent appropriations as follows for the year 2011, based on the County Auditor’s Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources dated January 25, 2011:**

General Fund	\$388,645.42
Motor Vehicle License Tax	10,713.34
Gasoline Tax.....	159,014.42
Road & Bridge	41,936.57
Cemetery.....	12,803.00
Zoning	9,502.09
Permissive Motor Vehicle.....	34,253.30
Freedom Park.....	1,122.73
NOPEC Grant	4,175.00
Park Development Fund	35,012.61
Total	<u>\$697,178.48</u>

Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.8**

Mrs. Nicholas noted that the Road & Bridge fund has a balance of \$623.50. A transfer of \$3,000 was made on January 6 but it may be necessary to transfer additional funds until we begin to get our tax settlement for the first half of the year. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to transfer up to an additional \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Road & Bridge Fund, to support the Road & Bridge Fund.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.9**

New Business:

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Jeff Derthick as Zoning Inspector, effective March 31, 2011.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.10** Mr. Zizka suggested that a brief executive session be held at the end of the meeting to discuss this further.

Mr. Zizka offered to meet with Mark Russell of Ellerhorst Insurance regarding the OTARMA renewal, to review property schedules. There were no objections. Mrs. Nicholas said she was waiting to hear from Mr. Ben Sutton, representing the Ohio Plan, who had asked to quote on our property damage/liability insurance.

Mrs. Nicholas had previously sent the trustees information from NOPEC regarding their natural gas governmental aggregation program. We have until February 9 to opt out. Mr. Zizka expressed concern that there may be a cancellation fee with our current supplier; Mr. Hammar was not sure who that is. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to participate in NOPEC’s natural gas governmental aggregation program through April 2012.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.11**

The next item on the agenda was discussion of a fee to rent the town hall pavilion. Mr. Zizka said he had several inquiries about it. Mr. Martin said he thought there should at least be a deposit to keep people from reserving the pavilion and then not using it. A deposit would also ensure that the property would be left in good condition. Mr. Hammar said he felt there should be a fee and Mr. Zizka said we should charge something to cover maintenance, either \$25 or \$35 plus a security deposit. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to charge \$25 rental plus \$25 security deposit to reserve the town hall pavilion, both to be paid at the time the reservation is made.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.12**

Mrs. Nicholas said she had been contacted by the James A. Garfield Class of '61 asking if the pavilion and town hall were available for their class reunion on June 19, and what the fee would be. Mr. Zizka said both buildings were available on that date. After discussion, it was agreed to waive the rental fee since it is a non-profit group and many of the graduates are township residents.

In response to an inquiry from Mr. Hammar, Mr. Grafton reminded the trustees that he is against the rental of the pavilion. And if they do feel they have to charge a fee, why would the fee be the same for residents and non-residents. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to set the rental fee for the town hall pavilion at \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents, with corresponding security deposit.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.13**

It was noted that Freedom Township will be hosting the County Association dinner/meeting on August 20th and that the Freedom Community Picnic will be held August 21st.

Mr. Zizka said he received a call about scheduling the ball fields. Mr. Hammar said he is gathering information and will work out the schedule with everyone involved.

Regarding maintenance, Mr. Zizka said we should at some point put together specs for the weed spraying to eliminate some of the confusion in the past as to what was to be sprayed. Mr. Hammar told Mr. Zizka to draw up the specs, and Mr. Zizka responded that it should be a board effort, not just one person.

Mr. Zizka said he got a call from a King Road resident about water in the culvert and ditches most of the year. This is an on-going problem and we need to discuss what can be done. Mr. Zizka suggested a joint meeting with the County Engineer, Chris Meduri, Soil & Water, the property owner and the resident who complained. Mr. Hammar said he would contact the parties involved. Mr. Zizka asked Mr. Hammar to also find out what our rights are.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Hammar said the employee evaluations were postponed because of work on the grant proposal. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Regarding the recently-signed lease with Chesapeake Exploration, we received one check for \$7,151, and it is likely that we will not be getting the additional \$43,000 in that two of the parcels are currently under lease and bound by production. The question is, who is getting the royalties. Dann Timmons is looking into this for us.

Mr. Zizka said that Ed Miller of Classical Construction will be submitting a price on the total front porch work, including the masonry. The weather has set him back, and it looks like it will be mid-February before he can begin the main roof work on the town hall.

At 9:50 pm, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adjourn to executive session to discuss the hiring of personnel.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.14**

At 10:13 pm, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to return to regular session.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.15**

During the meeting, warrants #5354 - #5387 in the amount of \$19,795.15 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. Effective January 1, our Federal income tax payment must be made electronically. The \$816.41 payment to the IRS for January is not shown on the Payment Register.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-3-11.16**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, February 17, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, February 17, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John C. Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield, Dan Grafton and Ben Sutton, Jr., CPCU, representing The Ohio Plan.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-17-11.1**

Public Comment: Mr. Sutton presented information about The Ohio Plan, a pool program similar to OTARMA. His agency is the local representative. The Ohio Plan represents 750+ public entities, 279 of which are townships (including Mantua and Ravenna). He presented the trustees with a summary proposal based on information provided by Mrs. Nicholas, outlining membership benefits, coverages and a premium for the current year which is very competitive with last year's OTARMA premium. They offer a 5% credit after three years of membership, and 10% after five years. They also offer up to \$300 safety allowance for MVR reimbursement, drug testing, training, etc. Mr. Sutton said if the trustees were to consider leaving OTARMA, they have to give OTARMA certified notice 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. He provided the trustees with a sample letter for this purpose. This will be considered at the March 3 trustees meeting.

Mr. Grafton asked if any of the trustees had prepared a report on the Ohio Township Association meeting they attended recently in Columbus. The trustees each briefly noted sessions they had attended.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick said that a letter was sent to the business at the corner of S.R. 700 and 88 regarding the trailers being parked in the road right-of-way. There has been no response yet. With regard to a question raised by Mr. Zizka at the last meeting, Mr. Derthick said there are no restrictions on mechanical repairs at this location. The violation at 9442 S.R. 700 (unlicensed vehicles) has been referred to the Prosecutor's office. A second notice has been sent to the property owner on Nichols Road re non-conforming structure. The BZA will meet next month to go over forms. Mr. Hammar said the Zoning Commission is working on hydronic furnace regulations.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported on two properties on Stamm Road and water in the ditch backing up on the road and freezing. One of the property owners, Mr. Collins, recognizes the problem and will replace, at his expense, 80 feet of pipe in the ditch plus his driveway culvert. He will replace the 6" pipe with 12" pipe. Mr. VanSteenberg asked the trustees to consider waiving the \$5.00 per foot permit fee in this case, since it was a pre-existing condition. On the other property, the road crew dug out the ditch and it is plugged at both ends. After discussion, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to waive the \$5.00 per foot permit fee for Mr. Collins on Stamm Road to replace, at his expense, approximately 80 feet of 6" pipe with 12" pipe, plus his driveway culvert.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-17-11.2**

Mr. VanSteenberg said he would like to meet with the trustees to decide what we are going to do with regard to Stamm Road culverts and Issue 1. Mr. Martin agreed, and said we should also go over the spray plan for the year and make sure we have everything in writing that we want to have done. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, February 22, at 10:00 am at the town hall to discuss road work and other spring projects.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-17-11.3**

High water signs have been put up on King Road. Mr. VanSteenberg suggested a meeting be held with the Prosecutor, and the Commissioners to see what can be done. This was discussed and agreed to at the February 3 meeting. Mr. Hammar said he would contact Mr. Meduri.

Road salt has been delivered (85 tons). Mr. Zizka said that Suffield Township is looking to buy salt, if we want to sell some of our commitment. The trustees will get more information on how this works with the salt company and the purchasing and selling townships.

Mr. VanSteenberg reported on repairs needed on the '95 Kodiak truck. The plow chain broke and he got a replacement from Dexter Company for \$75 plus shipping. The front axle is worn and needs repair. He had a quote for \$400 to bore and rebush one side, or \$500 to do both sides. M&L quoted \$788 for a pair of king pins, plus labor of approximately 7.5 hours; GM's price for the king pins is \$900. There was considerable discussion about (1) what is causing the problem since this is the second time we've had to replace pins since we bought the truck; (2) what is causing the axles to wear; and (3) should we consider looking for and installing a used, more heavy-duty axle. Mr. Zizka asked Mr. VanSteenberg to contact Mr.

Sedensky for his opinion on this recurring problem (i.e., replacing the king pins every 20,000 miles) as well as the proposed repair. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to spend a total of \$1,860 to repair the '95 Kodiak truck (\$1,360 to M&L for labor and equipment to replace king pins plus \$500 for axle repair, to bore and rebush both sides)**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, abstain; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-17-11.4**

Mr. Zizka returned to Mr. VanSteenberg the key to the town hall which was returned by Ruth Rezabek.

Park: Mr. Hammar said there has been no word yet from NatureWorks on our grant application. He has received suggestions for the fields at the town hall. Mr. Grafton cautioned about playing softball at the town hall field because balls could hit the cars and buildings. Mr. Zizka asked Mr. Hammar if the other parties had been contacted adding that we should open the field up to everybody who has an interest. Mr. Duffield and Mr. Grafton agreed.

Cemetery: Mr. Hammar is looking into various software programs for cemetery records.

Fire: Mr. Martin reported on the February 8 meeting. The bid for the new tanker is \$293,000. The grant has not been released yet. The chief and two others will be attending the Monroeville Fire and Expo this weekend. Cost is minimal, \$5.00 per person plus lunch. They will be participating in the Portage County Incident Management Team Command and General Staff Functions for Local Incidents scheduled March 21 through March 26.

EMS: Mr. Zizka provided copies of the January 13 and January 27 meetings. They continue to work on revising the Standard Operating Guidelines. For the month of January, we will bill Windham Joint Fire District for \$1,550.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar said there was nothing significant to report.

Mrs. Nicholas reported that we have received approximately \$12,500 of our property tax settlement to date, and it has not been necessary to transfer funds from General to Road & Bridge.

New Business:

Mr. Hammar presented proposed Township Zoning Procedures, based on information he received at the recent OTA conference. Some changes were noted to make it apply to our township. It was agreed that these are procedures currently being followed but it is good to have them in writing, and as a statement of policy. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adopt the Freedom Township Zoning Procedures, (Exhibit "A" attached)**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-17-11.5**

The trustees reviewed the ad for the Zoning Inspector position. Mr. Zizka suggested we change the zoning hours to eliminate Thursday morning. We can always add it back in when business picks up. After discussion, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to advertise for the position of Zoning Inspector, with office hours on Tuesday evening and Saturday morning**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-17-11.6** The deadline for applications will be March 14, 2011.

Unfinished Business:

OTARMA Renewal. Mr. Zizka met with Mark Russell regarding our insurance renewal, to review schedules and values. The new pavilion is currently valued at \$19,000 and the proposed coverage is \$25,000. The Ford 555 Backhoe is valued at \$35,000. Mr. VanSteenberg will contact Akron Tractor to get a current value. The John Deere Mower is valued at \$3,852; this will be dropped from coverage. Unscheduled personal property is at \$27,800; we keep buying tools, so we should increase this slightly. The new leaf bagger purchased last year will be added.

Employee Evaluations. Mr. Hammar is still working on this.

Oil Well Lease: Mr. Zizka reported that Dann Timmons has contacted the oil company and they will send him copies of the title searches for the properties involved.

Town Hall Porch Update: Mr. Zizka has received a quote from Brenndale Construction for the concrete work. We are still waiting for a proposal from Classical Construction.

High Speed Internet: Mr. Hammar continues to investigate possibilities, including a proposal he received from DISH for high speed internet for a price ranging between \$19 and \$35 per month.

Mr. Zizka noted that the work at the parsonage has been completed by County-Wide. The doors have been installed at the church. He has contacted Brenndale about the concrete drive to the church which has heaved about 3".

During the meeting, warrants #5388 - #5402 in the amount of \$13,644.91 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 2-17-11.7**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, March 3, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, March 3, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John C. Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Dan Grafton and Harold Cain.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-3-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick said there has been no response from the landowner regarding a building without a zoning permit. The Prosecutor's office has two cases (one with junk vehicles and one with the trailer). They are working with ZonePro to add the verbiage to the violation letter re rights of appeal.

Mrs. Nicholas said that she has not received any applications for the position of Zoning Inspector, as advertised in the *Record Courier* and *The Villager*.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported on flooding that occurred in the township. A culvert on Hewins collapsed. They had to put in new plastic culvert and the road was open today. He is keeping track of materials, equipment and labor used on Hewins in the event FEMA makes funds available. He said that 80 feet of berm was washed out on Stamm. A gentleman on Hewins complained about flooding and asked if the township could do anything about it. We cannot, because he is off the right-of-way. We did, however, clean out the ditch and now the man's concern is heavy rain washing out his driveway. Mr. VanSteenberg reported that a drain pipe from a pond on Vair Road is apparently plugged and if it rains the water will be over the road again. He asked the trustees to send them a letter. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to send a letter to the property owner at 6555 Vair Road advising them that the drain pipe from the pond on their property is apparently plugged, causing the water to flood over onto Vair Road, and asking that the problem be resolved as soon as possible.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-3-11.2**

The church flooded again and Mr. Hammar asked if there was anything we could do to prevent future flooding. Mr. Zizka said there is a rut along the drive that has to be filled in. Also the snow build-up prevented some of the water from sheeting across the driveway. Mr. Hammar said he got a call from the tenants that there was water in the basement, but it turned out to not be a problem. There was no problem with the glass block windows in the basement. Mr. VanSteenberg said he noticed that one of the downspouts is disconnected. Mr. Hammar will look into this.

Mr. Hammar had specifications on a plate tamper and a price from JCB of Ohio (Division of Ohio Materials Handling) in Macedonia. The VMF70 is \$1,289.93 and the VMF90 is \$1,354.28 (State pricing). Both units have a Honda engine. It was suggested that we also check with S&K to see what they have and at what price. There was discussion about buying the larger size, considering the price difference. There was also discussion about the need to purchase this item vs renting one as needed. Mrs. Nicholas cautioned the board to monitor fund balances and limit purchases to necessary items, considering our commitment to Stamm Road improvements this year (Issue 1). Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to purchase a plate tamper for the road department up to a price of \$1,354.28.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-3-11.3**

Park: Mr. Hammar said the Park Committee will be meeting next week. He purchased a calendar for scheduling, to be posted at the park.

Fiscal Officer:

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to send the notification letter to American Risk Pooling Consultants reserving the right to accept other insurance quotations.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-3-11.4**

Mr. VanSteenberg said that Akron Tractor set a current value on the Ford 555 Backhoe at \$10,000. Mr. Zizka will notify Mark Russell.

The Trustees signed the February 28, 2011 bank reconciliation.

New Business:

Internet and Computer Policy. An E-Mail and Internet Code of Conduct Policy was adopted by the Board of Trustees on April 24, 2008. Mr. Hammar suggested the following revision, to include the term “personal use”:

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to revise the E-Mail and Internet Code of Conduct Policy as follows:**

Unacceptable Uses of the Internet: The Internet should not be used for personal use and/or personal gain or advancement. Solicitation of non-Township business or any use of the Internet for personal use and/or personal gain or advancement is strictly prohibited.

Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-3-11.5**

Mr. Derthick noted that the policy does not indicate a penalty for violation. This was discussed and no action was taken.

Unfinished Business:

Ballfield Scheduling: Mr. Hammar said this will be addressed at the Park Committee meeting. He will be inviting everybody who has expressed an interest in using the fields.

King Road Water Problem: A letter has been sent to the property owner asking for permission to go on the property; there has been no response to date.

Oil Well Lease. Nothing new to report.

Town Hall Porch Update. They are working on the town hall roof. Mr. Miller is also working on a quote for the masonry work. Mr. Miller reported that some damage was done to the town hall siding, and they will make the necessary repairs. The doors have been installed at the town hall and church building. They will be coming back tomorrow to fix gaps in the door windows. Mr. Zizka said there may also be an additional charge for reconstructing the rotted out sill by the back door of the town hall. Mr. Bica will be working on the locks when he returns; he has been out of town. This was not included in the original contract with County-Wide.

Other Business:

Regarding the flooding on Stamm Road, Mr. Zizka said it would be nice to include a provision in our culvert policy about not plowing snow into the ditches.

Mr. Zizka asked what we are going to do with the '94 one-ton Chevy dump truck. It is covered by liability insurance only. Mr. Hammar suggested we sell it. It runs but needs major repairs. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **declaring the fair market value of the 1994 one-ton Chevrolet dump truck at less than \$2,500.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-3-11.6** No other action was taken.

During the meeting, warrants #5403 - #5431 in the amount of \$40,728.09 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-3-11.7**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 17, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, March 17, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John C. Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield, Harold Cain, Dan Grafton, Sallie Hubeny, Steve Boone, Keith Jeffries.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-17-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that two permits have been issued so far this month, one for a garage and one for a house with garage. He had a flyer from Big Brothers & Big Sisters regarding donation of vehicles. He reported that the Zoning Commission met last night and discussed amendments to the Zoning Resolution (definitions - Accessory Buildings; hydronic structures and non-conforming structures.) The proposed changes have been sent to the Prosecutor's office and Regional Planning. The Board of Appeals has gone forward in changing their forms; this will be helpful to the Zoning Inspector. With regard to hydronics, Mr. Zizka asked if anyone was going to be able to meet these requirements. Mr. Hammar responded that this is what was recommended by the EPA; 25-30% of townships have already implemented them. This will be discussed in detail at the public hearing, when it is scheduled. In response to a question from Mr. Zizka, Mr. Derthick provided an update on current violations.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that the property owners on Vair Road are putting in a culvert to keep the water in the beaver pond down; that issue appears to be resolved. The culvert on Hewins is holding up well. They dug a ditch on Stamm Road (Collins property) and took out the clay pipe and debris which had caused the pipe to plug up. The property owner will be replacing their driveway culvert. Repairs have been completed on the Kodiak truck. The decision was made to purchase the larger size plate tamper at a price of \$1,354.28. This was discussed at the last meeting. They've been cold-patching holes in the roads. They worked on the lights on the new Ford truck. Lights on the truck worked but not on the bed. Mr. Hammar asked if there was any chance of getting reimbursed; the truck is not that old. Mr. VanSteenberg said they are going to change the wiring system this summer. Mr. Hammar said we should send them an invoice. Mr. Martin said we should wait until we re-do the wiring. Mrs. Nicholas suggested that Mr. VanSteenberg keep a detailed paper trail of discussions with Kalida so that when and if we attempt to recoup this expense, we have the necessary documentation. Mr. Zizka questioned Mr. VanSteenberg about digging out the culvert on the Collins property on Stamm Road. Mr. VanSteenberg said he'd like to have the culvert policy clarified because every time this comes up it's something different. Mr. Hammar said the culvert policy would be revisited at the next meeting. Mr. Martin asked if we could replace the water-stained ceiling tile at the town hall, now that the roof work is done.

Park: We have not heard anything regarding the grant application. Mr. Hammar will call NatureWorks. The ball fields are scheduled for the year. Mr. Hammar is working on a schedule to be posted at both the Community Park on S.R. 700 and at the town hall. The Park Committee discussed replacing the trees on the hills that have died; however, it was decided to hold off until we hear about the park grant. The Committee also talked about weed spraying and would like to have the infield at the Community Park sprayed, as well as the infield at the town hall. Mr. Hammar said that the trustees are working on a contract with the Weed Wizard. Mr. Cain asked if the trustees planned to get more than one quote on spraying, and Mr. Hammar replied yes. Ms. Hubeny said she wasn't sure if Organic Roots had been out to check on the trees they planted at the Community Park last fall.

Fire: Mr. Martin reported on highlights of their last meeting on March 8. A probationary wage of \$7.50 per hour was approved to keep people, rather than having them leave and go to other departments where they are being paid. New radios have been installed in three units. Ladder testing was completed.

Mr. Martin reported on the RAB meeting held at our town hall last night, covering work completed to date at the Arsenal, and what is planned for the future. A bus tour of the Arsenal is being planned for April 30. Planning is being done by the Renaissance Center in Windham. Cost will be \$25 or \$30 per person. Anyone interested in attending should contact Mr. Martin who can provide additional information.

EMS: Mr. Zizka provided copies of the minutes of their February meeting as well as a summary of runs for February. EMS is also having problems with people not showing up for general alarms. They had a vehicle involved in an accident last month and the insurance company is providing us with a loaner.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar said they discussed one lot split in Kent. Not much else is going on.

Zoning Inspector. Mrs. Nicholas said one resume was received, from Paul Puleo. Mr. Derthick said he will be working days for ODOT, rather than evenings. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to rescind the acceptance of Mr. Derthick’s resignation as Zoning Inspector effective 3/31/11.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-17-11.2**

Stamm Road. Mr. Hammar asked Mrs. Nicholas to send a letter to Scott Miller at the Engineer’s office asking him to prepare bid documents for Stamm Road. Mr. VanSteenberg said he talked with Marlboro Pipe and their prices will increase April 1st. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to purchase two 20 foot lengths of 12” plastic pipe at \$4.45 per foot from Marlboro Pipe for Stamm Road.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-17-11.3**

Town Hall Porch. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to pay Classical Construction \$3,950 for installing the roof on the old garage and to pay 50% of the \$17,500 for installing the roof on the town hall, the balance to be paid when the money is received from NOPEC.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-17-11.4**

Mr. Derthick noted that they did not level the roof on one side of the town hall; it still has a bow. The trustees will look at it. The trustees then reviewed proposals from Classical Construction to construct the front porch, comparing quotes of 10/21/10 and 3/16/11. There is a \$7,100 difference between the two quotes. With the masonry, we are looking at a total cost of about \$18,700 to reconstruct the town hall porch. Mr. Zizka will contact Mr. Miller of Classical Construction regarding the \$7,100 difference between his two quotes.

King Road Flooding. Mr. Hammar will contact Mr. Meduri asking him to issue an administrative search warrant so that we can attempt to determine what is causing the flooding on King Road. The property owner has not responded to our written request for permission to enter the property.

Oil Well Lease. Mr. Hammar related information regarding his property and who owns the drilling rights. Mr. Duffield talked about shut-in fees. Mr. Zizka will contact Mr. Timmons and/or Mr. Raptis regarding this. Mr. Cain recalled a person who spoke to the trustees regarding the well at the Community Park. He provided Mr. Zizka with the gentleman’s phone number.

Crown Castle Lease. Mr. Hammar will contact Mr. Meduri.

Employee Evaluations. Not done yet.

Planning Study. The new census is out and we will be incorporating some of this updated data in the Study.

High Speed Internet. Mr. Hammar said Frontier is expanding their service down Nichols Road. Mr. Duffield went to SuddenLink in Newton Falls and they had nothing to offer. Nobody in the office that day knew anything about the petitions our residents signed.

Other Business: Mr. Zizka has been contacted by a gentleman who has been retained by Don Wolf in regard to the proposed house moving. He is in the tree trimming business and wanted to know if we had any regulations or policy on trimming trees in the road right-of-way. Mr. Zizka talked with Mr. Meduri who said there are no regulations or restrictions. Mr. Zizka asked for and received a certificate of insurance from the tree trimmer. The route for this house move has changed, and they are now planning to travel down Anderson Road. They won’t be able to use county roads as long as the frost signs are up, so it will probably be the middle of April before this move takes place.

Mr. Martin thanked Mrs. Nicholas for copies of the Zoning Procedure/Statement of Policy adopted by the trustees on February 17. He also commented on the proposed state budget cuts and its effect on the amount we receive for the Local Government Fund, which Mrs. Nicholas said is \$50,200 this year.

During the meeting, warrants #5433 - #5470 in the amount of \$22,442.28 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. *(Note: Warrant 5433 was voided because the work was not done. Warrants #5436 - #5452 were voided and reissued due to a printer problem.)* See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, to **adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 3-17-11.5**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, April 7, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, April 7, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield, Harold Cain, Dan Grafton, Howard Hawkins, Sheila Hawkins.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-7-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that two permits were issued last month. He provided the trustees with a letter from the Prosecutor's office that is sent to someone who is in violation of zoning. He pointed out that the second paragraph of this letter makes reference to an extension of time "to be obtained through the zoning inspector." Mr. Meduri has given Mr. Derthick a list of things to do with regard to the two cases that have been referred to the Prosecutor's office. Mr. Zizka said the trustees are required to pass a resolution to refer a zoning violation matter to the Prosecutor's office. Why then, he asked, does Mr. Meduri (as well as the zoning inspector) have the option to grant extensions without first bringing the matter back to the trustees. Once it is referred to the prosecutor's office, does the board of trustees relinquish their authority? Mr. Derthick said he did not know but he would ask Mr. Meduri. Mr. Hammar and Mr. Martin noted that they saw the point in Mr. Zizka asking this question. There was some discussion about ag exempt applications and Mr. Derthick's comment that there is no date on an ag exempt certificate.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said culverts have been replaced on Stamm Road and Slagle Road. They took 1.5 tons of scrap to C&B. They purchased five loads of stone last week for culverts and another load for the town hall and church parking lots. The starter on the 1994 one-ton truck is shot. They found one for \$40-\$50 at a scrap yard but will keep looking. If the weather holds, they will get asphalt next week and start patching holes on Vaughn Road. They also hope to get some berms cut and check culverts. There were no objections to Mr. Martin's suggestion that Mr. VanSteenberg stockpile #304 limestone at the garage for patching, etc.

Mr. Zizka referenced the ODOT workshop the trustees attended and said he wondered how much of what they learned will be applied to our road projects. He suggested that Mr. VanSteenberg and Mr. Martin get together and discuss how the work is going to be done rather than spend time and material on something that will produce less than satisfactory results.

Mr. Hammar suggested submitting Vaughn Road for Public Works funding at 30% match. Mr. VanSteenberg said he would like to have Vaughn widened to 20' from the current 18'. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **authorizing James Hammar, Chairman, Freedom Township Board of Trustees, to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program, and to execute contracts as required with regard to Vaughn Road.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-7-11.2**

Mr. Martin asked about putting in an application for Vair Road at 40% match. Mr. Hammar will gather more information on Vair Road. There was discussion about chip and seal vs. asphalt (a topic at the ODOT workshop). Mr. Zizka said this might be a time for the trustees to consider alternatives, including chip and seal.

Park: Mr. Hammar has posted the ball field schedules at the Community Park. He is still waiting to hear from the two teams that wanted to play at the town hall field. Mr. Hammar received correspondence from Cub Scouts Pack 62 Garrettsville/Freedom/Nelson. They held a fundraiser and want to plant a couple of trees for the Township. Mr. Hammar told them that we are definitely interested. Mr. Zizka suggested we have Organic Roots take a look at the bayberry plants to evaluate their condition. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to purchase up to \$120 worth of seedlings from the Agricultural Extension office for planting at the Community Park.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-7-11.3** It was pointed out that any plantings need to be watered on a regular basis if they are to survive. In the past we have had offers from two residents to provide watering, neither of which was acted upon.

Cemetery: Mr. Martin said the road crew has been working on mowers to get them ready for the season. New blades were purchased for the BobCat as well as the Woods mower. In response to a question from Mr. Cain, Mr. VanSteenberg said they have a new flag to put up at the cemetery.

Fiscal Officer: Mrs. Nicholas provided the trustees with historic financial data for the years 2006 through 2010 as well as 2011 to date, covering revenues, expenditures and non-recurring expenditures. She backed this up with financial reports for the first quarter 2011. The trustees signed the bank reconciliation for March 31, 2011. Mrs. Nicholas pointed out that a fund transfer is needed for zoning. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to transfer up to \$2,000 from the General Fund to the Zoning Fund, to support the Zoning Fund.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-7-11.4** Mrs. Nicholas reported that we have just received final determination from the Ohio Department of Taxation that tax exempt status has been granted for the church property.

New Business:

- A. The trustees reviewed information received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control regarding application for permit submitted by Time Out Sports Bar & Grill. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control that a hearing is not requested on the advisability of issuing the permit to Time Out Sports Bar & Grill.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-7-11.5**
- B. The trustees reviewed the legal notice for Stamm Road improvements, and agreed that bids would be opened at 7:00 pm on Thursday, May 19, 2011, with work to start June 15 and be completed by August 15, 2011. The County Engineer's office is no longer printing the bid documents; they will be done by an outside firm (*seblueprint.com*) and there is a non-refundable payment of \$25 for each set. There will be no charge to the township for bid documents; the Engineer's office will absorb this cost. Bid documents can be viewed on-line but not printed. A number of questions were raised, as follows: the possibility of guaranteeing the culvert for a period of 12-18 months; offering contractors the option of soft concrete vs. crushed stone; and the trustees having the opportunity to review the bid documents prior to printing by *seblueprint.com*. Mr. Hammar will convey these items to Mr. Scott Miller at the Engineer's office.
- C. The trustees received a request from Dominion East Ohio proposing an easement grant for the town hall property, to allow Dominion to run a gas main to the Congregational Church. The easement will run near the south side of the town hall driveway/parking lot. There was discussion regarding location of the line which would be bore, and concern for existing drain lines and utilities. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to approve Dominion East Ohio's request for an easement grant for the town hall property, allowing Dominion to run a gas main to the Congregational Church.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-7-11.6** Prior to notifying Dominion, Mr. Hammar will ask Mr. Meduri to review the easement. Mr. Hammar will also see what we have to do to protect our drain lines, utilities, etc.
- D. The trustees reviewed a proposal from Pavement Technology, Inc. to apply Reclamite[®] Asphalt Rejuvenator to Hankee Road and to do a free test area on Stamm Road after it is paved. Mr. Hammar said he is still not convinced one way or the other about this material. This was discussed at the ODOT workshop the trustees attended. Mr. Martin suggested we hold off on Hankee Road and instead ask Pavement Technology to do a test area on Stamm which would give us the opportunity to make a better informed decision on using this process on other roads. Mr. Zizka will contact Pavement Technology.
- E. Mr. Hammar asked to table discussion of the Culvert Policy at this time.

Town Hall Update: The trustees met with Ed Miller regarding the town hall roof. Mr. Miller was disappointed with the quality of the job on the east side of the building and said he would do whatever the trustees wanted to remedy the problem, even if it meant redoing it. Mr. Miller also offered some ideas regarding the town hall front porch. We are still considering options. No action was taken. Mr. Hammar asked if the road crew could move the stack of metal roofing from the side of the town hall to the garage. Mr. Zizka said he would see if his neighbor could move it with a fork lift. Mr. Zizka said that he has repeatedly attempted to contact Mr. Bica regarding changing the locks on the town hall and church, with no response. We will be looking for another locksmith.

Crown Castle Lease: Mr. Hammar reviewed information received from Mr. Meduri by e-mail regarding Crown Castle's proposal. Mr. Hammar said he would be in favor of extending the lease but he thinks we should attempt to negotiate a better deal. Brimfield had a similar situation. Mr. Hammar will contact the Brimfield Township trustees to see what their agreement looks like.

OTARMA Renewal: Mark Russell will be at the April 21 meeting to discuss this.

King Road Water Problem: Mr. Hammar said Mr. Meduri is writing a letter to the property owner.

Oil Well Lease: Mr. Zizka provided copies of information received from Dann Timmons and it does not look very promising. There were some questions, and Mr. Hammar suggested contacting an attorney in the Alliance area who is an expert in this area. Mr. Hammar will follow through on this. Mr. Zizka will get more information on abandoned wells.

During the meeting, warrants #5471 - #5504 in the amount of \$29,996.09 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. EFT in the amount of \$941.52 was made to the IRS.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, to **adjourn the meeting at 10:17 pm**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-7-11.7**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, April 21, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, April 21, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield, Harold Cain, Robert Matson, Garrettsville Village Council, Mark Russel of Ellerhorst Insurance, and Megan Roshek of Burnham & Flower.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-21-11.1**

Public Comment:

Mr. Matson said that several years ago, the township trustees at the time had approached the Village about forming a JEDD. At that time, Garrettsville did not have sufficient sewer capacity to be able to do so; since then they have expanded the plant, and thought they would ask the trustees if there might be some interest at this time in forming a JEDD. He presented information compiled by Attorney Michele Stuck, Garrettsville Village Solicitor, regarding ways that a JEDD can be formed. It was agreed to go forward to gather additional information. Mr. Hammar will also contact Chris Meduri for his opinion. It was pointed out that this is not an easy or quick process and involves public hearings and approval by electors.

Megan Roshek of Burnham & Flower (the marketing arm of OTARMA) reviewed information on the insurance renewal. Key points: Freedom Township has been a member of OTARMA since 1988. We have never had a rate increase, while our total insured value has increased drastically. We have received over \$6,000 in VIP credit over the past four years. This year and for 2012 we will receive a portion of the cumulative reserve fund money back; this amounts to \$1,736.85 for each year. This amount will be paid within 45 days after OTARMA receives our renewal premium of \$8,694.00. This premium is lower than last year's premium of \$9,956 and is lower than the premium proposed by the Ohio Plan. In reviewing the statement of values for miscellaneous property, it was agreed to increase the Bobcat Mower w/Bagger from \$5,000 to \$7,000. Mark and Megan thanked the trustees for the opportunity to continue to be of service, and said if there were any other questions regarding the renewal, to please let them know. The renewal date is May 21, 2011.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick provided an update on zoning issues. He is waiting to hear back from Mr. Meduri on some matters. Mr. Derthick said he has driven the township, mainly looking for outdoor wood burners and other things. He said the BZA cancelled their meeting. He is working on a project for them. The Zoning Commission met last night. The public hearing was not held as scheduled because the posting requirements were not met. The proposed amendment regarding hydronics has been tabled. The public hearing has been rescheduled for May 18.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that the second culvert on Stamm Road has been replaced. Trustee Roy Martin assisted. The Sheriff called the road crew out twice for downed trees. We are waiting for asphalt. So far we've ordered and received 229.82 tons of salt. They will be doing ditching on Hewins Road. Someone accidentally backed into and broke the post for the handicap sign at the pavilion. Mr. Zizka picked up a replacement at Municipal Signs.

Mr. VanSteenberg said that 94 trees were planted at the park last Friday with the assistance of Mr. Cain, Mr. Hammar and Mr. Martin. Mr. Joe Pischera (King Road property) met with Mr. VanSteenberg at the garage and said he is willing to meet with the trustees any morning. Mr. Hammar will contact the people involved and set up the meeting.

Mr. Zizka said he is waiting for a call back from someone at the Turnpike regarding the beaver situation. It looks like the water is backing up on township property but it looks fine on S.R. 303 and also on S.R. 700. The house that was moved from Garrettsville did not travel Hewins or Anderson Roads. There was a complaint from a property owner on Hewins Road regarding trees that were trimmed in anticipation of this move. Mr. Hammar moved that we send the tree trimmer immediate written notice to remove the brush he left on Hewins Road. Mr. Zizka will check and if it is still there, he will call the man. Mr. Hammar withdrew his motion.

Mr. VanSteenberg said he got a call from Bob Renner at the County Engineer's office that the bid book for Stamm Road was available for review. He and Trustees Martin and Hammar will go to meet with Mr. Renner. Mr. Zizka said he was still confused about the \$20,000 increase in the Engineer's estimate, and he is still not sure at what point we can change culverts, etc.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to send a letter to Mr. Robert Bossow, along with a copy of our Culvert Policy, giving him 30 days to remove the non-compliant culvert installed on his property; if not, the**

township will remove it and bill him accordingly. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-21-11.2**

Park: Mr. Hammar said the ball teams are eager to start but have been hampered by the rain. The SWCD donated another 74 trees to the township. This is in addition to the \$120 worth of seedlings we purchased from them and which have already been planted. Mr. Zizka suggested we send a thank you letter for the donated seedlings. Mr. Hammar talked to the Weed Wizard. He will use Round-Up® on the infield rather than total kill, because of the sand. He will get back to us with a price.

Fire: No report. Mr. Martin was not able to attend.

EMS: Mr. Zizka distributed copies of the minutes from the March meeting.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar reported there was not much activity at the last meeting, other than a few minor lot splits, and review of the Freedom Township proposed zoning amendments.

New Business:

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to accept the OTARMA renewal for 2011 as presented with a premium of \$8,694.00, effective May 21, 2011.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-21-11.3**

Mr. Martin reported that we got cited by the State Fire Marshall because we did not get a permit for the new fuel tanks installed at the garage by Western Reserve. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **approving the payments of \$150 to the State Fire Marshall for two permits at \$75 each for the fuel tanks at the garage and \$40 to the Building Department (Portage County Treasurer) for an electrical permit and inspection.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-21-11.4**

Mr. Zizka talked with Paul Paciorek of Pavement Technology and he is going to check with his company about doing a test strip on Stamm Road.

Regarding the town hall porch, Mr. Zizka has not heard back from Mr. Miller. He did, however, talk to Mr. Milano about altering the steel. Mr. Milano said he could probably do it for about \$450 worth of concrete and it would not change the footings in the blueprints approved by the Building Department.

Crown Castle Lease. Mr. Hammar talked to Brimfield Township to see what their agreement is, and he thinks we should offer to renew the lease if we can get royalties from new tenants. He suggested asking for rent plus royalty for each additional carrier. Mr. Martin suggested asking for rent plus 10%. After discussion, Mr. Zizka moved **to renew the Crown Castle lease for an additional 20 years with a \$5,000 signing bonus and ask for 25% of any revenue for each subsequent tenant after the first one.** Mr. Hammar seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-21-11.5**

Mr. Martin suggested selling the 1994 Chevrolet truck “as is” or sell it to a scrap yard. Mr. VanSteenberg has not had time to look for a used starter. It was agreed to put a legal ad in the paper advertising to sell the 1994 Chevrolet truck “as is” and to accept offers until May 19 at 7:30 pm.

Mr. Hammar said he had a complaint from a resident regarding a hydronic furnace. The township has no authority here, and Mr. Hammar suggested that the resident contact the EPA or the Health Department.

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to approve Dominion East Ohio’s request for an easement grant for the town hall property, allowing Dominion to run a gas main to the Congregational Church.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-21-11.6**

During the meeting, warrants #5505 - #5521 in the amount of \$9,392.42 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 4-21-11.7**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, May 5, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, May 5, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield and Harold Cain,

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that there have been no permits this month. The Conley status conference is scheduled for May 12 at 10:30 am, Magistrate Robert Berger. At Mr. Derthick's request, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to purchase a 100 ft. measuring tape and measuring wheel for use by the zoning officials.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.2** Mr. Martin said he will pick up these items.

Mr. Hammar brought up the subject of a storage container sitting in a driveway of a property on S.R. 88. Mr. Derthick said this is a "pods" temporary container which is being used while the home is being remodeled. Mr. Derthick said this would fall under small portable accessory buildings in the zoning resolution. Mr. Zizka cautioned against arbitrarily interpreting the code, and said that "temporary" has to be defined. Mr. Derthick will bring this up with the Zoning Commission.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they filled two holes on Hewins with #304 and will cover with asphalt. There were five stops for brush pick-up on Monday. They cleaned up a downed tree on Stamm plus brush on other roads because of the high winds. Spring clean-up will be scheduled for June 9, 10 and 11. The price per dumpster increased from \$400 to \$450. He ordered 170 geraniums from Pochedly's for the cemeteries, at \$1.00 each (same as last year).

Both Mr. Hammar and Mr. Martin received a call from Mr. Bonner complaining about the condition of Goodell Road. Overall it has held up well, but does need some attention. Mr. VanSteenberg had Henry Luli look at it and he quoted \$910 to scarify the road surface, spread the stone and reshape the road. The township will supply the stone. Mr. Hammar contacted Rick Kuntz about stone and he will let us have #310 slag for \$16 per ton and they will tailgate it. Luli would have a vibratory roller available, if needed. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to contract with H. Luli Construction in the amount of \$910 for work on Goodell Road, as outlined in their estimate #1478 dated 5/4/11, and to purchase 110 tons of #310 slag from Rick Kuntz for \$16 per ton for use on Goodell Road.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.3**

Mr. Hammar said he is working with Scott Miller of the County Engineer's office on the Issue 1 application for Vaughn Road. Mrs. Nicholas said she intended to contact Mr. Miller asking for more information regarding the reason for the \$20,000 increase in the Engineer's estimate for Stamm Road. This public works project was accepted with a local share of \$46,800 and now we are looking at a local share of closer to \$67,000, depending on how the bids come in. It is difficult to budget with these last-minute variables.

Mr. VanSteenberg had an estimate from H. Luli Construction in the amount of \$5,250 to chip and seal the drive at Drakesburg Cemetery. The township would be responsible for patching the low areas and pot holes. Mr. Luli said if the township provided the #8 stone, he would deduct \$500 from this amount. Mr. Zizka asked about getting another quote and Mr. VanSteenberg said Luli is the only one who does this type of work. Mr. Zizka said he is not saying the work isn't necessary but neither the cemetery drive nor the Goodell Road work was on the agenda. He said the trustees need the opportunity to consider these things, not come to a meeting and get blindsided by these proposed expenditures. No action was taken; it was tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. VanSteenberg said he bought a diamond saw blade for \$111.80 at Fastenal for cutting asphalt. He will keep track of the footage to see how much use we get from this blade compared to the other blades we have been using. Mr. Zizka said he will check to see if the brush has been picked up on Hewins. He talked with the tree trimmer who said a resident was going to pick up the larger pieces for firewood; if not, he would have it picked up. All of the small brush has been removed.

Cemetery: Mr. Cain noted that several stones are leaning at the West Cemetery. Mr. VanSteenberg said they have been that way for years. Mr. Hammar will look at it.

Mrs. Nicholas had a request for deed transfer from Sallie Hubeny. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to approve the transfer of Lot 414, Graves C & D, Drakesburg Cemetery from Sallie Hubeny to her niece and nephew, Lisa May Stewart and Richard Stewart; and to waive the \$15.00 transfer fee.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr.

Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.4** The trustees signed a letter thanking Ms. Hubeny for her many years of volunteer service to the township.

Park: Mr. Hammar said the trees donated by Soil & Water have been planted. Mr. Hammar thanked Harold Cain for assisting with the planting. The trustees signed a thank you letter to Mr. Bierlair for donating the trees. There is some debris at the park, from the old school. Mr. Zizka thinks we should move it, and Mr. VanSteenberg thinks we should cover it with some material and smooth it out. Mr. Hammar said if we cover it with grindings we can use it for additional parking. Mr. Zizka suggested the trustees look at it and see what the options are. No action was taken.

New Business:

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to purchase 170 geraniums at \$1.00 each from Pochedly's for the cemeteries.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.5**

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to commit to purchasing 300 tons of Sodium Chloride (rock salt) through the Ohio Department of Transportation Cooperative Purchasing Program for the 2011-2012 year.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.6** The deadline to respond is May 27, 2011.

Spring clean-up is scheduled for June 9, 10 and 11 (Thursday, from 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm; Friday, from 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm; and Saturday, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm). At the next meeting, we will confirm what items will be accepted.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adopt a resolution designating the Week of May 15, 2011, as Emergency Medical Services week, with the theme, EMS: Everyday Heroes.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.7** Mr. Zizka said an open house will be held Saturday, May 14. Mr. Martin asked if a donation was needed, and Mr. Zizka said we would be donating use of chairs for the open house.

Mrs. Nicholas had forwarded to the trustees an e-mail from Crown Castle regarding the cell tower. Verizon (the only tenant) will be coming off the tower on April 30, 2012. After discussion, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to accept the proposal from Crown Castle as per the e-mail proposal from Michael Cianciola dated April 26, 2011.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.8**

Mr. Zizka said we need to come to some decision as to what we are going to do with the roof on the east side of the town hall. Mr. Martin said he thinks we should accept Mr. Miller's offer of a credit and apply it toward the porch work. Mr. Zizka said he and Mr. Duffield looked at the roof in detail, mainly the east side, and the main concern is appearance. The durability and integrity would not be affected. Mr. Cain said that he was opposed to leaving the roof the way it is; the contractor said it was a bad job and offered to redo it and that is what Mr. Cain thinks we should do. He also questioned what happens with the warranty if we leave it as it is. Mr. Martin said there is nothing wrong with the roof as far as function, it is purely cosmetic. Mr. Hammar said at this point, and because of our finances, he would prefer to take whatever credit Mr. Miller gives us and apply it to the porch. Mr. Martin said he understood Mr. Cain's feelings but agreed with Mr. Hammar. Mr. Zizka said our employees may be able to remove the old porch, which would also save some money. He will contact Mr. Miller and also get a written quote from Mr. Milano for the concrete work.

No offers have been received for the 1994 one-ton truck. Mr. Zizka said he would give the township \$200 for it. Mr. VanSteenberg will call C&B to see what they will give us for it.

Mr. Hammar has an appointment on Friday at 10:00 am with an attorney in Alliance who is an oil well specialist. He invited Mr. Zizka and Mr. Martin to accompany him.

Mr. Zizka said Mr. Rothermel was going to pull a permit for the electric for the fuel tanks at the garage. Mr. Martin said he is making progress on the paper work that is required by the State Fire Marshall.

During the meeting, warrants #5522 - #5556 in the amount of \$26,596.27 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-5-11.9**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, May 19, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:00 pm on Thursday, May 19, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield, Harold Cain and Stan Lawrence.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was to open bids for the Stamm Road Project CT90N, as advertised in the *Record Courier*.

Mrs. Nicholas opened the bids in the order in which they were received:

Perrin Asphalt Co., Akron, OH	\$150,594.30
Shelly-Sands, Inc., Akron, OH	159,316.30
Burton Scott Contractors, Newbury, OH	172,197.80
Shelly Company, Twinsburg, OH	166,259.88
Ronyak Paving., Inc., Burton, OH	142,776.48
Barbicas Construction Co., Akron, OH	154,635.88
Karvo Paving Company, Stow, OH	157,410.88
Chagrin Valley Paving, Chagrin Falls, OH	163,228.80

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to accept the bids for Stamm Road as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.1**

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to award the Stamm Road Project CT90N to Ronyak Paving, Inc., Burton, Ohio in the amount of \$142,776.48, subject to approval by the County Engineer and the Prosecutor's office.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.2**

Mr. Hammar will deliver the bids to the Engineer's office and then to the Prosecutor's office, for review and approval.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.3** It was noted later in the meeting that there was a correction in the times for the spring clean-up. Spring clean-up is scheduled for June 9, 10 and 11 (Thursday, from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm; Friday, from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm; and Saturday, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm).

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that the bench trial for the Conley case is scheduled for October 11. He provided the trustees with responses from Mr. Meduri regarding agricultural permits and who has the right to grant additional time for a zoning violation. Mr. Derthick asked the board if they wanted to give him the latitude to extend more time, as expressed by Mr. Meduri, or if they wanted such requests to come back to them for approval. Mr. Derthick said that after a matter is referred to the Prosecutor's office, he would rather come back to the board for approval to grant requests for more time. Mr. Zizka said he disagreed with Mr. Meduri's thinking on this and referred to the Zoning Procedure (Statement of Policy) adopted by the board on February 17 of this year. He reminded Mr. Derthick that he works for the trustees and not for Mr. Meduri. Mr. Hammar suggested that we give Mr. Meduri a copy of the recently-adopted Zoning Procedure. Mr. Derthick reconfirmed that from this point forward, whenever somebody with a zoning violation asks for an extension of time, this will be brought to the board of trustees for their consideration. The board concurred. There were no other comments.

Mr. Lawrence presented proposed amendments to the Zoning Resolution which had been approved by the Zoning Commission at their public hearing held on May 18, 2011: *Amendment #1* §801.0 Modify the Definition of Accessory Buildings; *Amendment #2* §301.5 Modify Replacement or Upgrade of Non-Conforming Structures.

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to accept the recommendations of the Zoning Commission to amend the Zoning Resolution.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.4**

Mr. Lawrence said the Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on June 15 at 7:00 pm to consider hydronics.

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to set a public hearing for Thursday, June 16, 2011, at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall to review the proposed amendments to the Zoning Resolution, with the Regular**

Trustees meeting to immediately follow the public hearing. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.5**

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that the pipe has been removed on Gotham Road; we will clean out the ditch. Henry Luli and Rick Kuntz will coordinate the work on Goodell Road, weather permitting. He and Tony VanSteenberg have been working at the cemeteries, pouring footers, trimming overgrown bushes, and planting flowers. Mr. Hammar purchased a new phone/fax for the garage; the one they had quit working.

Fire: Mr. Martin reported on the meeting held May 20. At their next meeting they will be making a decision on whether to put a renewal levy on the ballot.

EMS: Mr. Zizka provided copies of the minutes of April 14. He reported on the open house which was an overall success with good participation.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar reported there has been minimal activity. They considered changes in the Hiram Township zoning resolution regarding accessory buildings and discussed how to determine average finish grade. Information on both of these topics has been given to our Zoning Commission.

Fiscal Officer: Mrs. Nicholas reported that the Health Department charge-backs for 2012 will amount to \$1,338, down from \$1,904 in 2011, a 30% decrease.

New Business:

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve contracting with H. Luli Construction to chip and seal the drive at Drakesburg Cemetery in the amount of \$5,250.** Mr. VanSteenberg confirmed that Luli will provide the #8 stone and the township will be responsible for patching the low areas and pot holes. . Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.6**

There were three offers to purchase the 1994 one-ton truck "as is": \$200; \$400 and \$500. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to sell the 1994 one-ton truck, "as is," to C&B Recycling for \$500.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.7** C&B will pick up the truck at the garage.

Spring clean-up is scheduled for June 9, 10 and 11 (Thursday, from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm; Friday, from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm; and Saturday, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm). Tires (limit 6 per family), batteries, motor oil, refrigerators and freezers will be accepted. NO truck or tractor tires, paint, garbage, yard waste, barbed wire, building materials, shingles or fencing materials will be accepted. (*Note: subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Zizka spoke with Bill Steiner at Solid Waste who confirmed that they will not accept paint.*)

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Zizka had a new quote from Brennadale on the concrete work for the town hall porch; he is still waiting to hear from Mr. Miller.

Mr. Hammar said he had not had time to schedule a meeting with all parties involved regarding the water problem on King Road. Mr. Zizka said the pipe is under water, and it would have been good if we could have gone in there to look it over before the vegetation took over.

Mr. Hammar reported on the meeting he and Mr. Zizka attended with the attorney in Alliance regarding the oil well lease. We have forwarded to the attorney copies of the original lease and assignments, and are waiting to hear back from him.

Mr. Hammar said it is rumored that Suddenlink will be running fiber optic cable from Garrettsville to Freedom which will provide capacity for high-speed internet. Mr. Zizka said high-speed internet is a concern for a lot of people in the township and he has received a number of calls regarding this, as have the other trustees.

Mr. Hammar said he had the revised proposal from Weed Wizards to spray specified areas around the town hall, garage, cemeteries and parks. Work is to be completed by Memorial Day, weather dependent, and rechecked by July 4th. All spray work is guaranteed for the 2011 growing season. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to accept the proposal from Weed Wizards, Inc., in the amount of \$1,150 to spray township properties as specified.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.8**

Other Business: Mr. Zizka reported that EMS received an award for no lost time accidents. He attended the storm water meeting (he volunteered to become a member of the task force). He also attended the Portage County Realtors Association luncheon; they were interested in knowing what we are doing to encourage growth and attract business. He will attend the NOPEC meeting on June 8.

Mr. Hammar will see what the gas contractor would charge to put in a pipe for water to the pavilion, while they are putting in the gas line to the Congregational Church.

Mr. Martin reported on the recent RAB meeting held at the Arsenal and the progress being made on the clean-up at Rocket Ridge.

During the meeting, warrants #5557 - #5567 in the amount of \$2,891.74 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, to **adjourn the meeting at 8:31 pm**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 5-19-11.9**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, June 2, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, June 2, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Dan Grafton, Mr. and Mrs. Gil Krohn, Mrs. Amy McCoy, Sam McCoy and John Zepp.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.1**

Public Comment: Mr. Zepp asked the trustees what they could do about vacant properties not being maintained (grass not being mowed, etc.) Mr. Zizka said the township can adopt a maintenance code; also, that the trustees do have the authority to declare tall grass a nuisance and mow it or hire someone to mow it. The property owner would be billed and if it is not paid, it would be placed as a lien on the property tax. Mr. Hammar said this problem exists all over the township and if we mow one yard, we have to do them all and we don't have the resources to do this. Mr. Hammar said he was checking with the Prosecutor's office to see what we can do. Perhaps a letter to the bank or mortgage company would prompt some action.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that two permits were issued, one for a single family home and one for an accessory building; there was also an application for variance on Nichols Road; the hearing will be held this month. The Conley pretrial is set for October 7, 2011. Mr. Zizka said that in the very near future the trustees need to meet in executive session with the zoning department to resolve some communication issues. Mr. Zizka asked for an update on POD containers, and Mr. Derthick said this has been referred to the Zoning Commission.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they've been patching with asphalt and trying to catch up on mowing. They hope to start mowing berms. Regarding Goodell Road, Henry Luli suggested rolling after the material has been applied; he will charge us \$400 to bring in his roller and do the work. Scott Miller said he would recommend using limestone instead of #310 slag and would put down 3" – 4" instead of 2". It was noted that Mr. Miller, obviously, has not visited the site. Mr. Bonner wants 3x the amount of gravel, and he does not want it leveled out beforehand. Mr. Hammar said it was the township's responsibility, and we should proceed as originally discussed and approved. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to pay H. Luli Construction \$400 for equipment and labor for rolling work on Goodell Road after the #310 slag has been applied.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.2**

Park: Mr. VanSteenberg said they fixed holes in the drive and were able to finish mowing. Mr. Hammar said the ball field is not getting used nearly as much as it was supposed to, because of the rain.

Cemetery: Mr. VanSteenberg said they were able to get the cemeteries mowed and they have a grave to dig tomorrow. They have not started patching the drive yet.

Fiscal Officer:

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to set the budget hearing for Friday, July 1st at 10:00 am at the town hall.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.3**

Mrs. Nicholas presented the trustees with two copies of the Agreement with Ronyak Paving, Inc., for their signature. This is a public works project in the amount of \$142,776.48 for Stamm Road improvements. The township's share is going to be 30%, or \$42,832.94. After reviewing fund balances, she suggested that 50% of this amount come from the Gasoline Tax Fund and the balance from the Road & Bridge Fund, with either an advance or transfer from the General Fund to the Road & Bridge Fund. After discussion, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to transfer \$21,400 from the General Fund to the Road & Bridge Fund, to pay for Stamm Road improvements.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.4**

Mrs. Nicholas received a call from the Board of Elections asking who would be opening the town hall for voting on election day, since Ruth Rezabek has retired. Mr. Hammar suggested Elizabeth Lennart (who is currently a poll worker) with himself as alternate contact. Mrs. Nicholas will so advise the Board of Elections.

Mrs. Nicholas received an inquiry from HR Butler, wanting to quote on our health insurance. She will provide the information requested, to get the process started.

New Business:

Culvert Issues. Mr. Hammar referenced water backing up around a driveway and washing out the berm on Hankee Road. Mrs. Amy McCoy referred to a visit from Mr. Zizka as detailed in her May 27 e-mail to Mr. Hammar. She said the ditch was widened last year, and after it rained, two other township officials looked at the culvert and said it was okay. Mr. Zizka responded to the comments made in Mrs. McCoy's e-mail, copy of which he had just received. Mrs. McCoy asked to see the township guidelines regarding culvert replacement, and Mrs. Nicholas provided her with a copy of the culvert policy adopted by the trustees on July 17, 2008. Mr. Hammar said at this point we have heard from both parties and he asked Mr. VanSteenberg, what is the status of the culvert, and where can we go from here? Mr. VanSteenberg said there is 4"-5" of silt built up in the bottom of the pipe and the ends are bent but, as of the other day, they were not plugged. Mr. Zizka said as far as he knew, there was no ditching done on Hankee Road. Mr. Martin said they did not dig the ditches out, they just built up the berms. Mr. VanSteenberg and Mr. Martin will check the culvert on Monday, and will let Mrs. McCoy know in advance when they will be there.

In response to a question from Mr. Grafton, it was noted that Mr. Martin is the trustee liaison for the road crew, with any trustee as alternate. Mr. Grafton said he did not want any trustee coming onto his property. Mrs. McCoy said that had she received a letter, along with a copy of the culvert policy, she would have known what the situation was and this would have been more appropriate than an unannounced visit.

Vaughn Road: Tomorrow is the deadline to submit an Issue 1 application for Vaughn Road for 2012. The Engineer's estimate is \$70,300. After discussion, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to submit an application for Public Works funding for Vaughn Road in 2012 at 40%**. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.5**

Pavilion Rental: Mr. Hammar said he had received a call regarding the rental fee for the town hall pavilion. It was suggested that we not charge to rent the pavilion, but that we continue to charge the \$25.00 deposit to reserve the pavilion. The deposit would be forfeited for no-shows. It was further suggested that we have a rental fee of \$10.00 when we get water and electric to the pavilion. Mr. Zizka said the pavilion is reserved seven times this month and he has not had one complaint regarding what we are charging (\$25 residents, \$50 non-residents). He suggested leaving it the way it is, since this is the first year, but we should develop some rules that he is currently telling the renters verbally (don't remove tables, use grills outside the pavilion, etc.). Mr. Grafton said he was against a rental fee, period. Mr. Cain asked why there was a fee to rent the town hall pavilion and not the one at the park. Mr. Hammar moved **to adopt the "no fee" policy for the town hall pavilion**. Mr. Zizka said the trustees all voted to set this fee in February and he did not think it was appropriate to change it now. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, no; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.6** Mrs. Nicholas asked if the no fee policy would apply to non-residents. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to charge a fee of \$50.00 for non-residents to rent the town hall pavilion**. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, no; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.7**

Mr. VanSteenberg asked what we were going to do to keep water from flooding the church when it rains. Mr. Martin said they have all looked at it, and Mr. VanSteenberg had suggested putting in a new 6" line to the ditch. Mr. Zizka said he was thinking of a catch basin at the northwest corner of the sidewalk and drive, and putting in a trough-type drain in front of the slab. Mr. Hammar asked Mr. Zizka to contact Trent Milano about this. Mr. Zizka suggested also contacting Rob Maur, but added there is no reason why we can't do it ourselves. We will shoot the elevation to make sure we can do it. Mr. Zizka will contact Stamm to see if they still have a file when they originally put in lines close to the fence.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to reimburse for registration, parking, mileage and incidentals for the Fiscal Officer or any Trustee who attends the Ohio Township Association Regional Meetings**. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.8**

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Zizka said he had talked with Mr. Miller, who would like some assurance, since he has to pay the engineer or architect to stamp the prints, that he is going to get the job. He added that Mr. Miller saw no problem using concrete grade beams instead of steel. Mr. Hammar said that when we get Mr. Miller's proposal and cost, we can approve or disapprove. Mr. Cain raised a question about taking a credit for the roof, when the original work was paid for with grant money. Mrs. Nicholas said she had previously provided Mr. Cain with an e-mail itemizing the energy conservation improvements made to the town hall, church and parsonage which totaled in excess of \$55,000. The NOPEC grant was for \$50,000. She will copy this e-mail to the trustees. Mr. Cain said his complaint is that the town hall roof was not done right and both he and Mr. Grafton questioned how this would affect the warranty. Mr. Hammar said the information we have is that the warranty will not be affected.

We received a letter from ODNR regarding our NatureWorks grant application. Due to the State's budget constraints and limited funding, we have been asked to adjust the scope of our project and grant request amount. Our original grant request totaled \$60,637 for a utilities building, electric service, water well and paved walking path. After discussion, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to adjust the NatureWorks grant request from \$60,637 to \$26,047, omitting the paved walking path.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.9**

Mr. Zizka said he wants to schedule an executive session at the first meeting in July with the zoning inspectors. This will be put on the agenda for the July 7 meeting.

Mr. Hammar said he attended a meeting of the Garrettsville Economic Development Committee, where the JEDD was discussed. It was again noted that creating a JEDD is a long process.

During the meeting, warrants #5568 - #5594 in the amount of \$15,855.21 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. EFT in the amount of \$883.07 was made to the IRS.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, to **adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-2-11.10**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, June 16, 2011

The Public Hearing of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:00 pm on Thursday, June 16, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield, Dan Grafton, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hawkins.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Hammar noted that the purpose of the Public Hearing, as advertised in the *Record Courier*, is to consider amendments to the Zoning Resolution approved by the Zoning Commission at their public hearing held on May 18, 2011 (*Amendment #1* §801.0 Modify the Definition of Accessory Buildings; *Amendment #2* §301.5 Modify Replacement or Upgrade of Non-Conforming Structures) and as recommended by the Zoning Commission to the Board of Trustees at their Regular Meeting on May 19, 2011.

Mr. Zizka read proposed Amendment #1, Regional Planning’s recommendations, and Mr. Meduri’s opinion. It would appear, based on what was presented, that the Zoning Commission did not incorporate Regional Planning’s recommendations in their definition of Accessory Buildings. Mrs. Nicholas recommended that a member of the Zoning Commission attend future public hearings so that someone can address questions regarding proposed amendments.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to accept the proposed Amendment to the Zoning Resolution, §801.0 Modify the Definition of Accessory Buildings, to be effective in 30 days (July 16, 2011)**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. Resolution PH 6-16-11.1

§801.0 Definitions (in alphabetical order)

- 4. **Accessory Buildings** – Accessory buildings less than 16 feet (192 square feet or 12 x 16) in any dimension with no more than four sides that are movable and on skids do not require a zoning certificate. Any structure regardless of size that has a foundation or pole construction is considered a permanent structure and requires a zoning certificate.

Mr. Zizka then read proposed Amendment #2, Regional Planning’s recommendations, and Mr. Meduri’s opinion. A typographical error was noted in the heading of 301.5 which should read “Replacement or Upgrade of Non-Conforming Structures.” Mr. Zizka had previously recommended that the Zoning Commission omit the word “damaged.” Mr. Derthick said he passed this on to the Zoning Commission but no action was taken. Mr. Zizka said his other concern is the wording “equal or better condition.” Mr. Derthick said they did discuss this.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to accept the proposed Amendment to the Zoning Resolution, §301.5 Modify Replacement of Non-Conforming Structures, to be effective in 30 days (July 16, 2011) with the following changes: Correct the word “of” to “or” in the heading, and delete the word “Damaged”**
Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. Resolution PH 6-16-11.2

§301.5 Replacement or Upgrade of Non-Conforming Structures

A. Structures Destroyed by Natural Disasters

Non-conforming buildings or structures destroyed beyond the control of the owner (i.e., flood, windstorm, fire, snow, ice, rain, earthquake or other such disaster) shall be repaired, removed or replaced. If replaced, it shall be replaced by a structure of an equal or better condition than the original non-conforming structure or comply with the current Zoning Resolution.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:26 pm**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. Resolution PH 6-16-11.3

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, June 16, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, June 16, 2011, immediately following the Public Hearing. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield, Dan Grafton, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hawkins, and Stan Lawrence.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-16-11.1**

Public Comment: Mr. Hawkins asked the trustees for an extension on a project he is working on. Mr. Derthick noted that Mr. Hawkins is in violation of our zoning resolution, dating back to mid-November of 2010. This has been referred to the Prosecutor's office. Mr. Hawkins was granted one extension which has expired. The violation involves a number of vehicles on the property, and Mr. Hawkins said he is trying to get rid of them; they are for sale. Three have no plates and do not run; two have plates and do run. Mr. Derthick said the process is slow and as far as the zoning office is concerned, they want the Prosecutor's office to follow their standard procedure. Mr. Hammar pointed out that this will give Mr. Hawkins additional time. Mr. Zizka said we should let it run its course; Mr. Martin and Mr. Hammar agreed. Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins then left the meeting.

Mr. Lawrence presented a proposed amendment to the Zoning Resolution which had been approved by the Zoning Commission at their public hearing held on June 15, 2011: **Amendment #1 Add \$416.0 Outdoor Hydronic Furnace Regulation.**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to accept the recommendation of the Zoning Commission to amend the Zoning Resolution.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-16-11.2**

Mr. Martin made the motion to set a public hearing for Thursday, July 21, 2011. It was pointed out that this will be past the 30 day deadline. Mr. Martin moved to amend his motion as follows: **to set a public hearing for Thursday, July 7, 2011, at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall to review the proposed amendment to the Zoning Resolution, with the Regular Trustees meeting to immediately follow the public hearing.** Mr. Zizka seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-16-11.3**

Zoning: Mr. Derthick said they had issued one certificate for a deck. He mentioned the "all boards" meeting held recently in Nelson Township with Mr. Meduri in attendance, and asked if the board of trustees would like to entertain an "all boards" meeting for Freedom Township. Mr. Hammar suggested we ask Mark Finamore to attend. Mr. Martin agreed with the concept but said that when we had opportunities in the past, few people chose to attend. Mr. Zizka said it would be nice if the trustees and zoning, as a group, were all on the same page. He added that he doesn't necessarily see that such a meeting would require Mr. Meduri's presence but he was open to any suggestions. Mr. Derthick said that Mr. Meduri is part of the process. Mr. Duffield said he didn't think the trustees should go out of the county and pay somebody \$100 an hour to interpret our zoning resolution. Mr. Martin and Mr. Hammar will check with the Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals to see if they are interested in an "all boards" meeting and we will go forward from there. In response to a question from Mr. Zizka, Mr. Lawrence said the Zoning Commission is looking at regulations for internet cafes.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they started mowing, and also did patching on Vaughn, Hewins, Vair, King and Slagle. They cleaned out Mrs. McCoy's culvert, cleaned out the ditches on both sides of the culvert, and hauled all of the dirt. No dirt was piled on the bank. The trash drop-off resulted in 4 dumpsters of trash, 1 of tires and 1-1/2 of scrap metal, for which we received \$842.40. Work is delayed on Goodell Road because Luli's grader is out of service.

Cemetery: The rope broke on the flag pole at the Freedom West Cemetery; it was repaired with new rope, snaps and cable at a cost of \$150. Mr. Hammar said he looked at some of the leaning headstones and they do need some attention. Mr. VanSteenberg said they can take care of this in-house, as they have in the past. Mr. VanSteenberg said Burrows would look at the pump at Drakesburg Cemetery, which is not working. Mr. Hammar said a resident complained about plant hangers being stolen from a grave in Drakesburg Cemetery. Everyone agreed with Mr. Zizka's comment on how nice the cemeteries looked for Memorial Day.

Park: Mr. Hammar said the park committee met and discussed an Election Day raffle. He said everyone's help is needed, to give the park committee direction and to encourage others to get involved.

Fire: Mr. Martin provided a handout detailing the June 14 District Meeting with regard to personnel and maintenance matters. He reported that to date we are the only department in Ohio to use both of the Ohio Fire Academy's training trailers (Mobile Search & Rescue Lab and the Flash-Over Lab).

EMS: Mr. Zizka said the open house held in May ended up \$200 under budget. They are getting ready for SummerFest. The Association is working to apply for a 501C3 non-profit status. They would like to get a power washer and install air conditioning in the building. In response to a request from a non-resident to forgive or in some way modify the bill she received for \$700 for transport, it was decided we cannot reduce bills for non-residents.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar said that RPC dealt with zoning issues for Brimfield (internet cafes) and Nelson.

Fiscal Officer: Mrs. Nicholas presented the trustees with the May 2011 bank reconciliation for signature.

New Business:

Town Hall Pavilion Rental Fees. Mr. Martin had asked that this topic be put back on the agenda. After considering the fact that the trustees discussed this at length at the beginning of the year, and decided in February what the policy was going to be for the year, he was having second thoughts about the decision to not charge a fee. With no disrespect to the donors, he thinks we should stay with the decision made earlier in the year. The pavilion has been rented several times and no one has complained about the rental fee. Mr. Zizka contacted other townships and quite a few of them have no pavilions. Those that do, charge a rental fee. Mr. Martin said that the majority of the time the pavilion would be open to the public free of charge but if someone wants to reserve it for their exclusive use, they should pay a fee. Mr. Martin made the motion **to rescind the motion passed at the June 2 meeting (6-2-11.7) and to reinstate the policy set in February of this year; i.e., to set the rental fee for the town hall pavilion at \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents, with corresponding security deposit.** Mr. Zizka seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, abstain; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-16-11.4** Mr. Martin further suggested that all fees should be discussed and set at the organizational meeting in January of each year.

Mr. Grafton said the trustees should feel honored that a pavilion was donated to the township and should abide by the donors' request that there be no charge for township residents, only a refundable deposit.

NOPEC Plaque. Mr. Zizka attended the NOPEC grant workshop on June 8 and our township was awarded a plaque for participating in the "Powering our Communities" energy grant program. The plaque will be displayed at the town hall.

Mulch. Mr. Zizka said that the members of Bethel Springs had renovated the flower beds at the church building and they would like some mulch to put around the plants. Mr. Hammar added that Bethel Springs also volunteered to paint the trim on the front of the church and around the sign. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to allow the members of Bethel Springs to paint the trim on the front of the church building and around the sign.** Mr. Zizka suggested that the township supply the paint. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-16-11.5** Mr. Zizka will get the mulch and paint.

Unfinished Business: Mr. Zizka said we are still waiting for information from Mr. Miller re the town hall porch work.

Mr. Derthick will check on the Vaughn Road property (trailer). Mr. Derthick also stated that the POD unit on S.R. 88 will be removed.

Mr. Hammar reminded everyone that the Community Picnic will be held August 21. He would like to have crafts and music. Both churches will be invited to participate, we will ask the VFW to conduct the flag ceremony, and the township will furnish chicken, the same as last year. At Mr. Hammar's request, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **authorizing Mr. Hammar to place an ad in The Villager asking for participants for the Community Picnic.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-16-11.6** Mr. Zizka said he had tickets printed for the picnic table raffle, drawing to be held at the picnic on August 21. Detour Drive-Thru and S&K Sales & Service will post a flyer and also be selling tickets for us.

During the meeting, warrants #5595 - #5608 in the amount of \$5,065.96 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, to **adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 6-16-11.7**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

**BUDGET HEARING
Friday, July 1, 2011**

The Budget Hearing of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 10:00 am on Friday, July 1, 2011. Present: James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor.

The Trustees reviewed the proposed 2012 revenues and expenditures budget, along with reports on appropriation and revenue status and fund status, as of June 30, 2011, and discussed estimated 2011 year-end balances. Mrs. Nicholas explained procedures involving the first certificate of estimated resources for the year 2012, which reflects estimated year-end balances, and the amended certificate of estimated resources which reflects actual year-end balances as reported to the County Auditor. This is what appropriations are based on for the year.

After discussion, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, to approve the revenues budget for the year 2012 as follows:

Total Projected 2012 Revenues (Includes estimated 2011 year-end balances)

General Fund	\$332,138
Motor Vehicle License Tax	10,763
Gasoline Tax	155,187
Road & Bridge	63,425
Cemetery	11,703
Zoning	10,852
Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax	33,753
Freedom Park	1,122
Freedom Township Park Development Fund	<u>17,254</u>
Total	<u>\$636,197</u>

Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. Resolution B-7-1-11.1

Mrs. Nicholas reminded the trustees that the Public Hearing on zoning amendments has been rescheduled for July 13 at 7:00 pm. This was published in the *Record Courier* today.

There was some discussion regarding the Portage County Township Association meeting which Freedom Township will be hosting on Saturday, August 20, at the town hall.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, to adjourn the budget hearing at 11:08 am. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. Resolution B-7-1-11.2

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 7, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, July 7, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Paul Puleo, Assistant Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield, and Dan Grafton.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2011, Public Hearing as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-7-11.1**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2011, Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-7-11.2**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2011, Budget Hearing as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-7-11.3**

Public Comment: Mr. Puleo asked what the status of the town hall roof was – is it going to be straightened, or left as is? Mr. Hammar responded that that decision had not been made yet. Mr. Puleo said he noticed the siding on the side of the town hall (damaged by the roofer) has not been replaced. Mr. Martin said that when we do the work on the porch, some of that siding will be available to make the repair.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick said two permits were issued, one for a porch deck and one for an addition. The ZonePro annual maintenance agreement is up for renewal at a cost of \$255. Mr. Hammar asked if zoning needed an updated computer in order to use the ZonePro effectively, and Mr. Derthick said it would help. Mr. Derthick asked if anything had been done with his suggestion to hold an “all boards” meeting. Mr. Hammar said he would contact Mr. Meduri, and Mr. Hammar and Mr. Martin will discuss this with their respective boards when they next meet. Mr. Derthick said that they have installed a status board in the zoning office listing all cases, dates and other zoning office activities. He asked the board about sending a final violation notice to a resident on Nichols Road. A variance has been applied for, but the applicant did not show up for the last BZA meeting and his application is incomplete. The trustees said it was okay for Mr. Derthick to send him a final violation notice. Mr. Derthick provided an update on the Hawkins violation. Mr. Zizka said there was no paper for the copier in the zoning office. Mr. Derthick commented that we were going through a lot of paper, and Mr. Hammar suggested that when copies are made, we keep a running list of number of copies made, date, and person making the copies.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that the culvert has been installed on Stamm Road, and Ronyak is planning on starting to pave the week of July 11. The stone has been put down on Goodell Road and he called Ballentine to apply brine, who now charges \$60 per road. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to approve the charge of \$60 per road for Mr. Ballentine to apply brine, at the instruction of the Road Supervisor.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-7-11.4** Mr. Zizka added that we need to get something in writing on this cost, because it is not part of our original agreement with Mr. Ballentine. Mr. VanSteenberg also reported that ingots have been installed in front of the fuel tanks and that Burrows installed a culvert for Mrs. McCoy. Mr. VanSteenberg said there is still a water problem on King Road, and Mr. Hammar said he would follow through and arrange for a meeting with all of the parties involved.

Mr. VanSteenberg presented a proposal from Todd Lamb Paving & Excavating for miscellaneous road repair on King, Slagle and Hewins Roads. After discussion, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to accept the proposal from Todd Lamb Paving & Excavating in the amount of \$3,075 for labor plus \$3,953 for material, for miscellaneous road repair on King, Slagle and Hewins Roads.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-7-11.5** Mr. VanSteenberg will check with Mr. Lamb to determine if the cost of sealant was included in his pricing.

Park: Mr. Hammar reported on work at the Community Park for a proposed soccer field. The plowing and fitting is being done by a volunteer, at no cost to the township. Mr. Hammar will make some calls to see if we can get some help picking up the rocks. Mr. Puleo said he would have Mr. Krohn contact Organic Roots regarding the 17 trees they planted at the park last year (13 maples and 4 honey locust). The trees were paid for by the Boosters and included maintenance and one-year warranty. Mr. Puleo said the Boosters would also pay for Organic Roots to trim around the sign by the road and around the pavilion. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to allow Organic Roots to trim around the**

sign and the pavilion at the Community Park, to be paid for by the Boosters. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-7-11.6**

Cemetery: It was agreed that the memorial markers would be installed at the War Memorial. Mr. VanSteenberg reported that Burrows repaired the pump at Drakesburg Cemetery.

Fiscal Officer: The trustees signed the bank reconciliation for June 2011 and a cemetery deed for Melissa King, Lot 743-A. Mrs. Nicholas reminded the board of the public hearing on zoning amendments which is scheduled for July 13 at 7:00 pm. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to re-enroll in the Workers' Comp Group Rating Program with Frank Gates for the year 2012 and pay the \$525 service fee.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-7-11.7** Mrs. Nicholas reported that this would result in projected savings of \$1,107 in our W/C premium. She also noted that the net cost of the recent trash drop-off was around \$1,100 (\$1,900 for the containers less \$842.40 received from C&B).

New Business:

Mr. Hammar asked for ideas for the township display at the Portage County Fair. Both Mr. Martin and Mr. Zizka said they would assist.

Unfinished Business:

We are still waiting to hear from Mr. Miller with a quote for the front porch work. Mr. Zizka to do.

Mr. Zizka suggested that the employee evaluation forms be redone. Mr. Hammar to do.

We are still waiting to hear from Mr. Smith regarding the oil well lease. Mr. Hammar to do.

Mrs. Nicholas had sent the trustees copy of the last e-mail from Mr. Meduri re the Crown Castle lease. The trustees suggested that a meeting be set up with a local representative of Crown Castle. Mrs. Nicholas to do.

Other Business: Mr. Zizka shared a thank you card signed by members of the Class of '61 thanking the trustees for the gratis use of the town hall and pavilion for the 50th class reunion picnic on June 19.

Mr. Zizka suggested that we consider replacing the refrigerator at the church building. Mr. Puleo mentioned the Ohio Edison program (\$50 coupon and haul-away of old unit).

During the meeting, warrants #5609 - #5648 in the amount of \$24,145.74 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. EFT in the amount of \$983.06 was made to the IRS.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-7-11.8**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, July 13, 2011

The Public Hearing of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, July 13, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Also present: Ted Bennett, Dan Grafton, Kathy Knerem and Dennis Kurtz.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Hammar noted that the purpose of the Public Hearing, as advertised in the *Record Courier*, is to consider amendments to the Zoning Resolution approved by the Zoning Commission at their public hearing held on June 15, 2011 (*Amendment #1 Article IV Add Outdoor Furnace Regulations*); and as recommended by the Zoning Commission to the Board of Trustees at their Regular Meeting on June 16, 2011.

Mr. Hammar said this amendment, if approved, would be added to Article IV which applies to all districts.

Mr. Martin read a portion of proposed Amendment #1, §416.0 Outdoor Hydronic Furnaces.

Mr. Bennett questioned the reference to studies recognized by the EPA and said he does not see what any of this has to do with the EPA.

Mr. Kurtz asked who is going to respond to complaints, especially late at night. He said he talked to the Zoning Inspector who said he would refer the called to the Fire Department. He said he has been selling these units for 11 years and has not had one complaint from customers or residents. Mr. Hammar said the Health Department would be the enforcement agency but, here again, if you call them after hours you get voice mail.

Mr. Zizka continued reading the rest of the text of the proposed Amendment #1.

Typographical errors were noted in §416.0, second paragraph “and” should be “an;” §416.1 A “no” should be “not.” The last sentence in §416.0, second paragraph, is not complete. It was also the consensus of the board that the requirements in §416.0 B, E and F need to be defined as minimum requirements. Mr. Martin said he had a problem with C, in that not everyone has access to their rear yards. Mr. Hammar said he agreed that these changes need to be made if the board is going to adopt it; however, his mindset right now is not to adopt it.

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to not adopt the proposed zoning text amendments presented to the Board of Trustees by the Zoning Commission on June 16, 2011 (*Article IV - Add Outdoor Hydronic Furnace Regulations*)**.

Discussion followed. Mr. Zizka said he expressed frustration when this was first given to the board by the Zoning Commission and he is equally frustrated that neither Regional Planning nor the Assistant Prosecutor caught these errors/omissions. He said he was aware that there was one complaint this spring and, not to minimize anything, he was told by the Zoning Inspector that this was sort of an on-going battle between neighbors. Mr. Zizka added that he believes zoning should be proactive and not reactive, and, if necessary, this could be regulated under our current zoning resolution. Mr. Martin said he has not heard anyone say it should be regulated.

Mrs. Knerem said this was brought to the Zoning Commission and they were asked to put something together. They gave it a lot of thought, and most of the Zoning Commission members were not in favor of it. She said the main concern was what people are burning in these furnaces. Mr. Zizka said perhaps this could be addressed, or has been addressed, in Article IV, noxious odors. The board thanked Mrs. Knerem and the Zoning Commission for the effort they put into this proposed amendment.

Mrs. Nicholas called the roll: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution PH 7-13-11.1**

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, to **adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution PH 7-13-11.12**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING Thursday, July 21, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, July 21, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield, and Dan Grafton.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2011 Regular Meeting with one correction: the charge for brine application is \$60 per load.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-21-11.1**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2011 Public Hearing as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-21-11.2**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that he met with the Assistant Prosecutor regarding current cases, to go over paper work and make sure everything is in order. He has also taken pictures of all violations, which is something Mr. Meduri wanted him to do. The BZA did not meet this month. The Zoning Commission met and worked on a definition for portable storage units. They also discussed gambling parlors, and internet cafes. The ZC will not meet in August. Mr. Zizka asked Mrs. Nicholas to provide the Zoning Inspector, Assistant Zoning Inspector and Zoning Secretary with copies of the township's personnel manual. Regarding the use of paper in the zoning office, Mr. Zizka said the trustees came to the conclusion that the zoning commission is part of township government; therefore, we will not be keeping a ledger of copies made. He told Mr. Derthick that if there was a problem in the future with office supplies disappearing at a rapid pace, it should be brought to the attention of the trustees. In response to a question from Mr. Zizka regarding the building on the north side of S.R. 303 by what used to be the "Emporium," Mr. Derthick responded that it is a temporary building, it is on skids, and it can be moved.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported (1) paving of Stamm Road has been completed; (2) the door knobs in the church building and town hall have been replaced with handles; (3) he has the new agreement for brine application; (4) the new refrigerator for the church was delivered and installed this week. Mr. Zizka noted that Mr. VanSteenberg kept the trustees advised on the overage of materials on Stamm Road.

Fire: Mr. Martin reported on activities of the July 12 district meeting. He and Jeff Kaiser attended the FEMA webinar on June 16. Plans are proceeding for the new storage building (being done by the Association). While doing an auto extrication, a blade broke on the cutters; it will cost \$900 plus labor for replacement blades. They have a quote from Scotchman Electric for replacement lights.

EMS: Mr. Zizka reported that they approved the bid to have the shakes on the building cleaned, and the damaged and missing shakes replaced. They also approved some vinyl fencing and the purchase of a power washer from S&K Sales & Service. They have an opening for a paramedic. The board met in executive session to deal with a complaint against a public official.

Regional Planning Commission: Mr. Hammar reported that they went over the financial report for the coming year and also discussed extensions on subdivisions.

The Trustees signed a cemetery deed for Mary Judith Stevens, Lot 580 B/C/D, Drakesburg Cemetery.

Mr. Hammar will call Ellerhorst Agency regarding the health insurance renewal. Mrs. Nicholas asked that the applications for Butler be completed and returned as soon as possible.

New Business:

Mr. Zizka reported on the special meeting (as published in the *Record Courier*) with Ronyak Paving regarding work on Stamm Road. The County Engineer's office estimated 66 cu yd of material for the berm; Ronyak used 144 cu yd. The revised invoice in the amount of \$146,100.26 reflects the extra material charge over the original bid amount of \$142,776.48. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to approve the revised invoice from Ronyak Paving in the amount of \$146,100.26 for Stamm Road Improvements, OPWC Project #CT90N.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-21-11.3**

The trustees reviewed recent correspondence regarding the proposed Crown Castle lease extension. They agreed that they wanted to go back to their original proposal; i.e., to extend the lease for an additional 20 years with a \$5,000 signing bonus plus 25% of any revenue for each subsequent tenant after the first one. Mrs. Nicholas will convey this to Crown Castle.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Zizka has a verbal quote from Mr. Miller of \$9,500 to do the town hall porch and roof , with the township removing the existing roof, slab and footer. Mr. Zizka will check as to whether or not this includes the \$500 fee for the architect.

Mr. Hammar said he would like to proceed with making some improvements to the town hall pavilion. Mr. Duffield said he would be available to assist the first week of August. The trustees discussed putting in electric and water. Mr. Hammar will get updated quotes on the electrical work.

Mr. Hammar said he had nothing to report on King Road but asked about the beaver dams by the garage. Mr. Zizka said the water is still high but he talked to the turnpike division superintendent about a week ago and they are not concerned at this point. The trapper has removed his traps and if the weather holds, we can start removing the dams.

Mr. Hammar said he has a number of groups willing to pick up stones in the newly-plowed field at the Community Park.

Mr. Zizka reported that Bethel Springs Fellowship made a donation to the Park Improvement fund. We will send them a thank you letter.

The trustees looked at wallpaper samples for the church basement meeting room and bathroom, and an estimate for materials and labor to do the work. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to approve the purchase of materials to wallpaper the church basement meeting room and bath (approximate cost \$200) plus labor at the rate of \$10 per hour.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, abstain; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-21-11.4**

During the meeting, warrants #5649 - #5663 in the amount of \$49,213.09 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, to **adjourn the meeting at 8:41 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 7-21-11.5**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, August 4, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, August 4, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Charles Duffield, Dan Grafton, Pam Wilke and Kyle Wilke.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-4-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that one permit was issued, for an addition. The building on Vaughn Road has been moved out of the township; we are still working with the Prosecutor's office to make sure that it doesn't come back. We are moving forward with the junk car and storage trailer cases, both on S.R. 700. Mr. Derthick has paper work for a variance as well as a conditional use that he will pass on to the BZA; their next meeting is August 16. The Zoning Commission will not meet in August. In response to a question from Mr. Zizka regarding the portable accessory building on S.R. 303, Mr. Derthick said they will be contacting the resident to get that issue resolved. Mr. Zizka also asked about the PODS unit on S.R. 88, and Mr. Derthick said this will be removed this month. Mr. Zizka said there was a new PODS on S.R. 303 between S.R. 700 and Asbury. Mr. Derthick will check it out.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they worked on getting the water and electric lines to the pavilion. The water is in; we are waiting for the electrician. Six residents called for brush pick-up this past Monday. Todd Lamb Paving will start his road work the week of August 8, and Mr. VanSteenberg asked the trustees if they wanted Lamb to cover the trench between the town hall and the pavilion. The board agreed this was a good idea but suggested it be done last, after the road work, to give the trench more time to settle. Mr. VanSteenberg said that Karen Martin has finished the wallpaper and paint at the church building. It looks good, and a thank you letter will be sent to Mrs. Martin. Mr. Zizka said he had contacted the right-of-way agent for Dominion and told him that one excavation point has never been blacktopped and there also seems to be a crack most of the distance of the line they bored. Mr. Zizka suggested they clean the crack and put some sealer in it. The R/W agent said he would contact Dominion and the contractor. Mr. VanSteenberg said he'd like to have the trustees consider chip and seal for the town hall drive and parking area next year.

Mr. Zizka said the Bethel Springs Fellowship members painted the door and trim at the church building. Mrs. Nicholas questioned the name on the sign in front of the building, and suggested it be changed to more accurately reflect its purpose and, more importantly, to protect our property tax exempt status. After some discussion, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to name the church building the "Freedom Community Center."** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-4-11.2** Mr. Zizka will follow through on this.

Park: Organic Roots will be replacing two trees at the Community Park this fall, as well as doing some fertilizing and trimming. Mr. VanSteenberg said that the Weed Wizard has not treated the ball field at the town hall. Mr. Zizka said the playground area also needs some attention, as well as the edges by the poles. Mr. Hammar will contact the Weed Wizard. Mr. Martin said the regulations have been changed and he may be able to spray for the township under his applicator's license. He will check into this, as well as the insurance requirements. We have not received anything regarding the park grant application.

At the request of Mrs. Nicholas, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to transfer \$2,000 from the General Fund to the Zoning Fund, to support the Zoning Fund.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-4-11.3**

New Business:

Crown Castle: Mrs. Nicholas will contact Mr. Meduri to see when he is available for a teleconference with Crown Castle's outside counsel. She will relay this information to Mr. Hammar who will contact the attorney.

Health Insurance Renewal: Mrs. Nicholas reported that the insurance applications have been sent to Butler Insurance and to Burnham & Flower. Sean Sprouse of Burnham & Flower is planning on attending our August 18 meeting.

Old Business:

Town Hall Porch Update: Mr. Zizka said he talked with Mr. Miller regarding the town hall porch work and his quote of \$9,500 did not include the \$500 architect's fee. Mr. Zizka will get more information and a sketch from Mr. Miller describing what he plans to do

King Road Water Problems: Mr. Hammar said he has not had time to do anything on this. Mr. Duffield asked what the delay was, since the property owner had offered months ago to meet with the trustees. Mr. Hammar said he would definitely make some calls to set up a meeting.

Oil Well Lease: Mr. Hammar is waiting to hear from Mr. Smith, the attorney in Alliance. He has left messages for Mr. Smith who is out of the office. Mr. Zizka said he also called Mr. Smith's office and the receptionist confirmed that he was out of the office.

Discussion followed regarding the Portage County Township Association meeting being hosted by Freedom Township on August 20, as well as the Freedom Community Picnic on August 21. Many details were discussed and finalized.

During the meeting, warrants #5664 - 5698 in the amount of \$16,278.44 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. In addition, EFT in the amount of \$848.39 was made to the IRS.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar to **adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-4-11.4**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, August 18, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, August 18, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield, and Dan Grafton.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin **to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-18-11.1**

Mr. Sprouse was not able to attend the meeting to discuss health insurance renewal options, and had sent information for the trustees to review regarding Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRA). They also reviewed Mr. Meduri's opinion regarding HRA's. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to set a special meeting for Tuesday, August 23, at 10:00 am to meet with Mr. Sprouse of Burnham & Flower to discuss health insurance options.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-18-11.2** Mrs. Nicholas will confirm the meeting with Mr. Sprouse and notify the paper. *(Note: After contacting Mr. Sprouse, Mrs. Nicholas notified the trustees and the newspaper that the meeting was scheduled for August 23, at 9:00 am, per Mr. Sprouse's request.)*

Public Comment: Mr. Duffield asked about the role played by B&F in the township's health insurance coverage, and asked if there were other firms that might offer less expensive coverage. Mr. Zizka explained that B&F represents the health care side of OTARMA and is endorsed by the Ohio Township Association. Mrs. Nicholas added that applications had been submitted to Butler Insurance in Columbus, to explore other options, and we had not heard back from them yet.

Zoning: In Mr. Derthick's absence, Mr. Martin reported that the Board of Appeals met and accepted the Kovach variance application and the Harris Conditional Use Permit Application. A hearing date for both has been set for September 20, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. Regarding the all-boards meeting discussed previously, Mr. Martin said the BZA members expressed interest in participating. Mr. Meduri would also like to participate but asked if it could be scheduled during the winter months when his schedule is more open.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said that Todd Lamb completed the work on Slagle, Hewins and King; he also did some additional patching at the town hall. While he was working on Hewins, a hollow spot appeared on the side of the road by a culvert; they dug the area out and filled it with asphalt. Mr. VanSteenberg called Ohio Edison regarding street lights that were not working. Luli will be paving the cemetery drive in the next two or three weeks. Mr. Hammar said he was notified by the County Engineer that we were accepted for Vaughn Road which will be done next year. Mr. Hammar said the frame rotted on the very old home-made trailer the road crew uses to haul their mowers to the cemeteries and parks, and it needs to be replaced. He had a quote from S&K Sales & Service for a new one. The retail price is \$799 but it had been used once and we can purchase it for \$650. Mr. Zizka said he checked with Lowe's and they had nothing to compare for that price; Home Depot in Streetsboro did not have any trailers. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to purchase the trailer from S&K Sales & Service for \$650.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-18-11.3**

Park: We are still waiting to hear from ODNR regarding our grant application.

Cemetery: Mr. Hammar related details about a complaint he received from a resident on Nichols Road regarding people trespassing on his property and using the cemetery property for access. Mr. Hammar informed the resident that we would not be upgrading the fencing until we develop the new cemetery property; however, we will keep an eye on it.

Fire: Mr. Martin was out of town and did not attend the last meeting. A special meeting has been scheduled regarding the Jaws of Life.

EMS: Mr. Zizka said that Chief Friess attended the EMS meeting. The Fireman's Association wants to put up a storage building next to the EMS building and share the parking area. The replacement blades for Jaws of Life are going to cost \$1,200 rather than \$900 as originally thought. The Chief asked the EMS board about cost sharing; no decision has been made, but we need to get this resolved because they are currently using a loaner. EMS received 24 applications to fill the open paramedic position.

Regional Planning: Nothing significant to report.

New Business:

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to accept a \$50 donation from John and Kathy Zizka to the Park Development Fund, in memory of Clyde Cain and John Cain.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-18-11.4**

The Crown Castle lease was discussed. Since a new agreement has not been approved by our legal counsel and a new agreement has not been signed, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to rescind the motion made on May 5, 2011 (Resolution 5-5-11.8) and to reject Crown Castle’s e-mail offer dated April 26, 2011; further, to revert back to the terms of the lease agreement currently in effect with Crown Castle.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-18-11.5**

Mr. Zizka suggested that the township look into entering agreements with townships with which we share road responsibilities (Charlestown, Shalersville, Windham and Hiram) covering who is responsible for maintenance, signage, etc. This suggestion was made by Kim Arnold, Risk Manager for OTARMA, at a recent Ohio Township Association meeting. Mr. Zizka said he would come up with a draft for review, and let the other townships know this is something we are considering.

Other Business:

Mr. Hammar said the tenants inquired about locks for their window screens. He will see what is available.

Mr. Zizka said he talked with Chris Meduri and Scott Miller about road striping as it relates to no-passing zones (noting the recent striping on Stamm Road). Mr. Miller said they do a road study for county roads but this is not done at the township level; it is left up to the contractor. Mr. Zizka suggested that the board exercise some authority in the future as to how township roads are to be striped.

Mr. Zizka noted that the corners of the town hall pavilion were finished, with the help of the trustees and Mr. Duffield.

Mr. Hammar said we need to tear out part of the driveway to the Community Center, to do away with the flooding problem. Mr. Zizka said it should be all right with proper drainage.

Discussion followed to finalize details for the Portage County Township Association dinner on Saturday as well as the Community Picnic on Sunday.

During the meeting, warrants #5699 -5710 in the amount of \$7,505.75 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka to **adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 8-18-11.6**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

**SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, August 23, 2011**

The Special Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 9:00 am on Tuesday, August 23, 2011. The purpose of the meeting, as published in the *Record Courier*, was to discuss health insurance options. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor, Tony VanSteenberg, Assistant Road Supervisor. Also present: Mark Ellerhorst of Ellerhorst Insurance and Sean Sprouse of Burnham & Flower, who attended by phone.

Mr. Sprouse said they received quotes from all carriers in the State of Ohio and not one was more competitive than the Anthem renewal. They then went within Anthem to look at other plan designs which had been provided to the trustees for consideration. One plan presented was a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) which had advantages for both the townships and its employees. This funding strategy is being used by many townships . In effect, the township self-insures the deductible to the level they feel is appropriate.

Mr. Sprouse reviewed the current plan benefits, our current annual premium (\$60,792), and our renewal premium (\$79,548) effective September 1. He then presented two options utilizing an HRA, noting that Option 9 is most cost effective for both the township and its employees. Under Option 9, the township’s annual premium would be reduced to \$62,968 (the maximum amount payable by the township). Burnham & Flower would be the third party administrator at a cost of \$5 per participant (\$20 per month). It can be set up for the employees to pay out of pocket and get reimbursed, or they could be provided with debit cards.

There was discussion about whether or not this would be construed at audit time as an interim increase for Mr. Hammar and Mr. Martin. Mr. Sprouse said that citations have been issued but there have been no findings for recovery, since the implementation of an HRA results in substantial savings for the township and its residents. Mr. Meduri had provided an opinion noting three criteria that must be met for a trustee or other township official to participate “in term” i.e., the old plan and the new plan are comparable; the cost to the township is reduced by the official participating in the HRA; and the official waives any right to reimbursement from the township for any cost savings. Mr. Sprouse said several townships in the county have been participating in an HRA for years and B&F has not heard of any concerns resulting from an audit.

There was discussion as to when it would be best to start a new plan (September, October or January) and the advantages/ disadvantages of each.

Mr. Zizka made the following motion.

RESOLVED, In accordance with Ohio Revised Code §9.833, Freedom Township will insure a portion of health insurance claims, effective October 1, 2011. The self-insured Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) will be administered by Burnham & Flower Insurance Group.

FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code §505.60, Freedom Township will purchase insurance from Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield. All claims are to be administered by and subject to the insurance policy provided by Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Martin and the roll was called: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution SM 8-23-11.1**

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin to **adjourn the meeting at 10:00 am.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution SM 8-23-11.2**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, September 1, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, September 1, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector, Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield, Dan Grafton and Mary Woolard.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-1-11.1**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2011 Special Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-1-11.2**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that a certificate was issued for a single family home on S.R. 88. The Board of Appeals will hold two public hearings on September 20, 2011.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that since our last meeting there has been flooding on Hewins Road. He has talked with the property owners, and the road crew will be cleaning out the ditches. Mr. Bonner has complained to Mr. VanSteenberg about the condition of Goodell Road. The County suggested two options: grade it, put down 617, and roll it; or pick up loose stone and apply MC30. Shalersville offered to grade it for us at no charge. MC30 would cost \$4,000 for the road. Mr. Hammar said we earlier this year had this road milled off, put everything back and put over 100 ton of stone on it. At Mr. Hammar's suggestion, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to send a letter to Mr. Bonner to let him know that any complaints concerning township roads need to come to the board of trustees and not to the road crew.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-1-11.3** Mr. Zizka said if we had Goodell Road graded, it does not need to be touched beyond the Wall property. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to accept Shalersville Township's offer to grade Goodell Road at no charge, and to also offer to provide them with fuel for their equipment to do this grading work, as remuneration.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-1-11.4**

Mr. VanSteenberg said a number of people attending a funeral at Drakesburg Cemetery around noon today complained about the Sheriff's helicopter flying over while the service was being conducted. He suggested that the trustees write a letter to the Sheriff's Department about this. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to write a letter to Sheriff Doak expressing appreciation for the job they have to do but asking for consideration for mourners when the helicopter is flying in the area of Nichols Road when services are being held at Drakesburg Cemetery.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-1-11.5**

Park: Mr. Hammar will contact ODNR regarding our NatureWorks grant application.

Cemetery: Mrs. Nicholas shared a fax received from a resident of Oklahoma who wanted an address so that she could have three headstones shipped to Drakesburg Cemetery. The trustees suggested she work with a local monument company to make these arrangements and to coordinate with our Cemetery Sexton. Mrs. Nicholas will contact her.

Fiscal Officer: The Fire Department will not be paying us for assisting at the traffic accident that occurred on April 5 of this year at the intersection of SR 88 & SR 303. They said this was the responsibility of Rufener, whose truck was involved. The trustees asked Mrs. Nicholas to send the invoice to Rufener.

New Business:

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to accept a \$25 donation to the Park Fund from the Class of '61.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-1-11.6.** This is in appreciation for the class being able to use the town hall and pavilion at no charge for their 50th reunion picnic.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to adopt the following resolution accepting the 2012 budget as determined by the Budget Commission.**

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees of Freedom Township, Portage County, Ohio, in accordance with the provisions of law, has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing January 1, 2012; and WHEREAS, the Budget Commission of Portage County, Ohio, has certified its action thereon to this Board

together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without, and what part within, the ten mill tax limitation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Freedom Township, Portage County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Officer of this Board is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of said County. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried.
Resolution 9-1-11.7

Unfinished Business:

Mrs. Nicholas said she was working with Burnham & Flower to set up the HRA.

Mr. Hammar said he had an e-mail address for Suddenlink; he will contact them regarding high speed internet access for the township.

Mr. Zizka shared a voice mail message he received from Ed Miller regarding work on the town hall porch. Mr. Zizka will contact Mr. Miller to get written specifications.

Mr. Zizka recapped the Portage County Township Association meeting hosted by the township as well as the Community Picnic.

During the meeting, warrants #5711 - 5736 in the amount of \$22,035.07 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. In addition, EFT in the amount of \$924.87 was made to the IRS.

There being no further business, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin to **adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm**. Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-1-11.8**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, September 15, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, September 15, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector, Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain and Charles Duffield.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, at 7:35 pm **to move to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.2**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, at 7:48 pm **to return to Regular Session.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.3**

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that two nuisance letters were sent out. The Board of Appeals has two hearings scheduled for September 20. He continues to have problems with the zoning office computer and presented the trustees with quotes on a new computer from HardParts Technology Services in Ravenna. After discussion, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to purchase a new HP desktop computer and monitor from HardParts Technology Services in Ravenna for \$499.00.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.4** Mr. Derthick will talk with them about transferring the data from the old computer to the new one.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that flooding had occurred on Hewins Road again Saturday. Mr. Ruffing wants to know if we will put the pipe in for him. He already has the pipe, and he will pay for the stone. The trustees reviewed the current culvert policy. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to install the pipe for Mr. Ruffing on Hewins Road for a flat fee of \$50 for labor; Mr. Ruffing to supply the material.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.5** Mr. VanSteenberg said he'd like to order grits for the roads this winter. Brugmann's is asking \$10 per ton; Ballentine's price is \$6.50 per ton. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to purchase up to 200 tons of grits from Ballentine's at a price of \$6.50 per ton.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.6** In other business, Mr. VanSteenberg reported that they have been ditching on Asbury and Hewins. A plugged gutter at the Community Center caused some flooding. The rental house also had some water issues, and they tarred the flashing around the chimney which hopefully will solve that problem. Mr. Martin said he thought we should take out one concrete slab of the walk at the rear of the Community Center and fill it in with gravel, until we can put in a ditch and drain. Mr. Hammar agreed. Mr. VanSteenberg suggested that we have Karen Martin put up new wallpaper at the town hall. There was no objection. Mr. Hammar suggested we get some samples and prices to consider.

Cemetery: The chip and seal work has been postponed because of rain.

Park: We won't hear anything about the grant until late October.

Fire: Mr. Martin reported on personnel issues and noted that the Chief had applied for a grant for safety equipment.

EMS: Mr. Zizka distributed minutes of the last meeting. A new full-time paramedic has been hired. They wrote off \$1,680 for residents for the month of August. Chief Friess agreed to split the cost of replacing the cutting tools for the Jaws of Life. Lightning struck the phone system and wiped out three computers, base radio, and current breakers for the scrubber.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar reported that they granted some extensions and are working on minor zoning changes for Suffield.

Fiscal Officer: The trustees signed the bank reconciliation for the period ending 8/31/11. They also signed a deed for Drakesburg Cemetery, Lot No. 642, Graves A/B (Kaiser). The price of salt for the 2011-12 season is \$42.72 per ton (down from \$43.20 last year). Mrs. Nicholas said she continues to work with Burnham & Flower in setting up the Health Reimbursement Account, to be effective October 1, and needed a resolution to set up a special account at Middlefield Bank for this purpose.

Mr. Martin made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka:

WHEREAS, In accordance with Ohio Revised Code §9.833, Freedom Township will insure a portion of health insurance claims, effective October 1, 2011. The self-insured Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) will be administered by Burnham & Flower Insurance Group;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Officer is hereby authorized to establish a new checking account with Middlefield Banking Company on behalf of Freedom Township Trustees for the sole purpose of funding the Health Reimbursement Account through Burnham & Flower, authorized signatories to be Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; F. James Hammar, Chairman; and John C. Zizka, Vice Chairman.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that any and all actions taken by the Fiscal Officer in connection with establishing this special checking account prior to the date hereof are hereby ratified, affirmed and approved in all respects; and

Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.7**

New Business:

Crown Castle Lease: Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to notify Crown Castle that we have no interest at this time in extending our current lease agreement for an additional twenty years.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.8**

Nuisance Complaint: Mr. Zizka said a neighbor to property still owned by Lawsons on Slagle Road complained that the grass has not been mowed. His concern was that should the vegetation catch on fire, it could possibly spread to his parcel. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to send a letter to Mr. Lawson asking that he have someone take care of mowing his property on Slagle Road.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.9**

Trespassing Complaint: Mr. Zizka said he got a call from the owner of property immediately south of Drakesburg Cemetery who again brought up the matter of trespassing on his property, and the township fence being in need of repair at the back of our property. The property owner also suggested that if we do replace the fence that we put a gate on it so that we could mow outside the fence, on his property. There is no evidence of anyone going through our cemetery. Mr. Zizka suggested that one solution might be to close the cemetery gates at night, as we used to do. Mr. Hammar agreed this could be done. Mr. Martin suggested the resident post “no trespassing” signs on his property and call the Sheriff if someone trespasses. It was agreed by the trustees that this is not a township issue, it is a civil matter. Mr. Zizka will convey this to the property owner.

Mr. Zizka has samples of hold harmless clauses (from the OTARMA web site) and will be working on an agreement with adjoining townships. It will be sent to Mr. Meduri for review. Mr. Zizka will contact the townships involved. He also had a hold harmless agreement to be used when community service work is done. This will be provided to Mr. VanSteenberg to have signed in the future.

Mr. Hammar has not had any contact with Attorney Smith regarding the oil well lease issue. He will set up another appointment for the trustees to meet with him.

Regarding electric for the pavilion, Mr. Hammar will check with Mr. Rothermel to see what his schedule is, whether he has time to do the work, or if he would prefer that we find someone else.

During the meeting, warrants #5737 - 5752 in the amount of \$5,845.78 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka to **adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 9-15-11.10**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, October 6, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, October 6, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector, Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Pam Wilke and one other resident.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-6-11.1**

Public Comment:

Cecelia Swanson of the Portage County District Library was not present because of illness; however, Mrs. Nicholas noted that she had information on the upcoming levy for anyone interested. This is a 1 mill, 5-year operating levy on the November 8 ballot. If the levy passes, PCDL will restore services to levels similar to those in 2001. Library funding primarily comes from the state and state funding has declined about 30% since 2001. Library funding is now at 1996 levels.

The trustees addressed questions from a resident regarding oil and gas leasing in the area, as to what is being offered and whether or not they had information about grouping of properties.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that one permit was issued, for an accessory building. The POD storage unit on S.R. 88 has been removed. The Conley pre-trial will be held Friday, October 7. The property on S.R. 303 has been cleaned up. He continues to work on junk car and storage trailer issues. HardParts will be transferring the data from the old zoning computer to the new one on Wednesday. Mr. Derthick answered questions from Mr. Zizka regarding the Conley case.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they have been patching roads and hauling grits; also patched holes at the park drive and at the town hall. They installed the culvert on Hewins Road; the property owner was billed for 24 tons of stone plus labor. Mr. VanSteenberg commented on the tenants apparently driving across the lawn to the recycling containers, leaving ruts. Mr. Hammar will talk to them about this. Addressing the King Road water problem, Mr. VanSteenberg said the water was 3"-4" over the pipe. Since nothing has been done about this all year, he suggested we wait until we can get back in there and see what is going on; it is overgrown now.

Park: Mr. Hammar said a gentleman who is involved with a soccer league has offered to help us with our field. He will be meeting with the Park Committee next week. We won't hear about our grant until October 24. The conflict with the ball field on Streeter Road has been resolved between the two parties involved.

Cemetery: Mr. VanSteenberg said that Luli plans to chip & seal the drive next week, weather permitting. Mr. Hammar has had people ask about columbariums. Mr. Zizka reported on the one he had looked at in Middlefield Village.

Fiscal Officer: The trustees signed the bank reconciliation for 9/30/11 and acknowledged receipt of third quarter financial reports. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to transfer \$2,000 from primary checking (General Fund) to the new account set up at Middlefield Bank to fund the Health Reimbursement Account.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-6-11.2** Mrs. Nicholas reported that the new premium under the HRA did include a life insurance component for the participants.

New Business:

Cemetery Regulations. The current Cemetery Regulations brochure was reviewed. There have been some cases where plantings, stone borders, etc. are affecting the mowing, digging and maintenance of the cemetery as well as presenting a safety hazard. After discussion, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **that any plantings or decorations are limited to no more than 12" to the front and side of the headstone.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-6-11.3**

Trick or Treat: Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to hold Trick or Treat on October 31 from 6 pm – 7:30 pm.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-6-11.4**

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Zizka is working on the agreement with adjoining townships on road responsibilities. He has talked with several of the trustees and they all saw some merit in it. Mr. Zizka suggested a meeting with each township road supervisor and at least one of the trustees from each township, to physically meet at the road being discussed. He added that we have had good cooperation in the past with neighboring townships and this is a signage and liability issue. Mr. Zizka had redrafted the Hold Harmless agreement for Court-Ordered Community Service. Mrs. Nicholas will send this to Mr. Meduri for his review.

Mr. Zizka had a quote from Classical Construction for the town hall porch work. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **authorizing town hall porch work to be done by Classical Construction with a top limit of \$9,750 plus \$500 for the architect's fee.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-6-11.5**

Other Business:

Mr. Hammar will be attending a meeting in Garrettsville tomorrow regarding the proposed JEDD.

Representative Kathleen Clyde will be holding a workshop on October 17 at 6 pm at Reed Memorial Library. Speaker will be Denise Smith. Topic is public records.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **that the Freedom Township Board of Trustees goes on record as endorsing the Portage County District Library's 1 mill, 5-year operating levy issue on the November 8 ballot.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-6-11.6**

During the meeting, warrants #5753 - #5788 in the amount of \$16,848.75 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. In addition, EFT in the amount of \$890.19 was made to the IRS.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin to **adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-6-11.7**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, October 20, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, October 20, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector, Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield and Dan Grafton.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin **to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-20-11.1**

Public Comment:

Mr. Cain asked about the beaver dam. Mr. VanSteenberg said the water was flowing but not fast enough to prevent flooding. Mr. Hammar said the trustees would take it under advisement and see what they could do. Mr. Zizka said he would again call ODOT.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick said the zoning office received several calls about the explosions heard throughout the township the last couple of days. It was reported in the *Record Courier* (after the fact) that this was activity at the Ravenna Arsenal. Mr. Derthick said the Board of Appeals met to journalize minutes. The Zoning Commission is working on the wording for portable temporary storage units as well as hydronic furnaces, gambling parlors and internet cafes. The new computer is up and running. He is waiting for paper work from the Prosecutor's office on the Conley pre-trial as well as a violation on S.R. 700. Mr. Zizka requested that the zoning office provide the board with a listing of zoning office activity (notices, etc.) so that if a resident calls one of the trustees, they are aware of it. In response to a question from Mr. Hammar, Mr. Derthick said the recent BZA activity involved a conditional use permit, and not a variance with conditions. Mr. Hammar said we need to schedule the Zoning Seminar to be held sometime this winter.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said the road crew has been patching Gotham, Vair and Slagle and ditching on Hewins. They put a stack on the Kodiak truck. The oil pan is leaking. A new one is \$397, or Tim Patrick can repair it (as he did the gas tanks) for \$250. He does this type of work for the County and they gave him a good reference. M&L would provide labor for between \$260 and \$300. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to have the oil pan on the Kodiak truck repaired by Tim Patrick (Linings, Inc.) for \$250 plus up to \$300 to M&L for labor, plus \$38 for a gasket.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-20-11.2** Mr. VanSteenberg said they had the 2009 Ford truck aligned at Kepich; they recommended pumping out the transmission fluid and replacing it at 24,000 miles. He will get more information on this. They also recommended two new tires on the front because of uneven wear. Mr. Martin suggested we buy four new mud/snow tires for the rear. Mr. VanSteenberg will get prices. The fuel tanks at the garage passed the recent testing. The inspector told Mr. Hammar that they ask for a pressure test when they do the inspection because the tanks can sometimes get damaged in transit. There was no charge to the township for this testing.

Park: Mr. VanSteenberg said that someone planted five seedlings at the park without township approval. They are in bad condition and will be removed. Mr. Hammar reported on the recent Park Committee meeting. Two gentlemen from soccer leagues attended to discuss fields. We are looking at the field to the east of the Joeright property and the field at the town hall. Before anything is done, we need to determine level of interest. Mr. Hammar said he welcomes any suggestions.

Cemetery: The paving has not been done because of weather.

Fire: Mr. Martin reported on personnel, equipment maintenance, purchase of gas monitors and fire hose, and changing the phone service to Frontier, which will save money. The trustees gave approval to post signs on township property in support of the fire levy. Mr. Hammar asked if we could get a dry hydrant at the ski lake. Mr. Zizka will talk to the property owner before Mr. Martin brings it back to the Fire Department. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, that **the Freedom Township Board of Trustees goes on record as endorsing the Joint Fire District renewal levy on the November 8 ballot.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-20-11.3**

EMS: Mr. Zizka reported that the central air has been installed, all lighting has been updated (with grant money), and the parking lot has been sealed. The Fire Association will reimburse the cost of striping for handicap parking. They will be selling a generator that is no longer needed. The new full time paramedic is working out well.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar said there was nothing significant to report.

Mr. Zizka reported on the storm water task force meeting he attended. Two questions were asked at that meeting: what can be done to prevent piles of rock salt along the roads; what is the repercussion from cleaning ditches and does that add to erosion. There was also a discussion about proper salt storage.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to schedule the year-end meeting for Thursday, December 29, at 7:30 pm.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-20-11.4**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **authorizing James Hammar, Chairman, Freedom Township Board of Trustees, to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program, and to execute contracts as required for the Vaughn Road Resurfacing Project.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-20-11.5**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to adopt the Hold Harmless Agreement for Court-Ordered Community Service.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-20-11.6** This has been reviewed and approved by Mr. Meduri. Copies will be provided to Mr. VanSteenberg.

The board acknowledged receipt of the public hearing on the road vacation in the Timberstone Subdivision. There were no objections, and no board action was required.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to reimburse for registration, hotel, taxi, parking, meals, mileage and incidentals for the Fiscal Officer or any Trustee who attends the Ohio Township Association Winter Conference in 2012.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-20-11.7** Mr. Zizka commented that the township should not be picking up any spouse expenses.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Zizka said that JC Electric has offered to supply material and labor to wire the town hall pavilion, at no cost to the township. Plans are to do it the first week in November. In consideration, the township will allow his sign to be posted. JC Electric is also donating two work boxes to the township that can be used at the ball field for storage.

Mr. Zizka provided a draft of items to be considered on the agreement for shared township road responsibilities, including designated section/portion of road; roadway surface to be maintained; and signage. He suggested that the townships involved be sent a letter explaining what we want to do and the purpose, and then plan to meet on location with the road supervisor and at least one trustee from each township. Mr. Zizka will follow through on this. He welcomes any suggestions.

We are still waiting to hear from Mr. Miller regarding the town hall porch work.

Mr. Hammar suggested that the employee evaluations be completed by the December 15 meeting. All agreed.

Mr. Derthick noted that our tax maps date back to 2006-2007 and he would like to get updated copies. He will get a price. During the meeting, warrants #5789 - #5798 in the amount of \$2,795.45 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar to **adjourn the meeting at 9:22 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 10-20-11.8**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, November 3, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, November 3, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector, Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield, Cliff Goff and Donna Jarvis.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Zizka noted one correction to the minutes: i.e., he would be contacting the Ohio Turnpike (not ODOT). Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2011 Regular Meeting as corrected.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-3-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported that two certificates were issued for the month, one for an accessory building and another for an addition. He provided the trustees with a sample “violations report” as requested at the last meeting. He said he discussed this report with Mr. Meduri, who advised caution. Mr. Hammar said that he felt it should be a written report rather than a public announcement. Mr. Zizka said it was all public record. A written report of violations will be provided to the trustees. Mr. Zizka asked Mr. Derthick about the location of the addition for which a certificate was issued. Regarding the variance granted by the BZA at their last meeting, Mr. Zizka said that he was not convinced that a conditional use was correct. Mr. Derthick said this is what the property owner asked for and the BZA followed the guidelines of our legal counsel. Mr. Zizka said that the property owner should instead have gone to the Zoning Commission and asked for an amendment to the Code. Mr. Derthick said the hard drive has been removed from the old computer and will be retained for a while to make sure it is not needed. There was discussion about where the old computer is and its disposal. Mr. Derthick said that tax maps will only be available on CD after the first of the year, and he suggested we obtain the most current copies available in print. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to purchase tax maps for \$114.00.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-3-11.2**

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they need to get the propane tank filled at the garage; it is down to 20%. The oil pan on the truck has been repaired. Plows and spreaders are ready to go. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to spend up to \$200 to have the tailgate sandblasted on the Kodiak truck at Schaeffer’s Metal Products in Ravenna.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-3-11.3** He called Ohio Edison about non-working street lights at S.R. 303 & 700 and Streeter & 700. The chip and seal work was done on the cemetery driveway. They also patched holes in the town hall drive with asphalt. Mr. VanSteenberg said he has a meeting set up tomorrow at 10 am with representatives from the County Engineer’s office, Soil & Water, and the property owner regarding the King Road water problem. Mr. Zizka asked about tires for the Ford truck. Mr. VanSteenberg had a price of \$280 per tire (new) from Van’s and \$137 (recap) from Kauffman (Ravenna Tire). Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to purchase four recap tires from Kauffman’s for the 2009 Ford truck.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-3-11.4** Discussion followed regarding the invoice received from Collins Equipment Corp. to test the fuel tanks at the garage. Mr. VanSteenberg said he had called Western Reserve about this and they asked if we would consider paying half of the cost. The general consensus was that we are leasing these tanks and the cost for testing is Western Reserve’s responsibility, not the township’s. It was also suggested that Western Reserve may want to go back to the manufacturer to ascertain why these new tanks were subject to testing. Mr. VanSteenberg will contact Western Reserve.

New Business: The Trustees discussed members for the Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals. Mrs. Nicholas will advertise for applications from residents interested in serving as member or alternate on either board.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Hammar reported that we did not receive a grant for the park on this round. He will bring it up at the Park Committee meeting about resubmitting our application and possibly include the walking path. Ms. Jarvis suggested contacting the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to assist with grass removal, etc.

Mr. Zizka continues to work on agreements with adjoining townships on road responsibilities.

We are still waiting to hear from Mr. Miller with additional information regarding the town hall porch work.

Mr. Hammar has not been able to make contact with the attorney regarding the oil well lease. He will ask for the information back that we provided and we will look elsewhere for assistance.

Mr. Zizka said he talked with Larry Lange and Dave Friess, the Fire Chief, regarding the dry hydrant at the ski lake property. Chief Friess indicated that in this situation they would be willing to donate all the material but would like to get someone local to assist. Mr. Lange said they are still receptive but they have to work out some issues with a neighbor before making a formal commitment.

Other Business: There was discussion regarding oil well drilling in the township. At one time the County Engineer provided us with notification of new wells; we no longer receive this information. Mr. Zizka will contact Mr. Marozzi. Mr. Zizka shared photos of the columbarium at the Middlefield Cemetery and the culvert work done recently on Hewins Road. Mr. Hammar purchased a new sweeper for the town hall and a new beater bar for the old sweeper which will go to the community center building. Mr. Hammar noted that the trustees received correspondence from the Commissioners regarding a prescription program for those who do not have insurance.

Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to transfer another \$2,000 from the primary checking account to the secondary checking account, to fund the HRA.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-3-11.5**

Mr. Goff asked the trustees about a letter he received from the Zoning Inspector regarding violations. Mr. Derthick and Mr. Goff will get together to resolve this issue.

Mrs. Nicholas reported that we have 63.5 unused/unobligated hours with Regional Planning as of 9/18/11.

The trustees looked at samples of wallpaper for the town hall. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to spend up to \$400 for materials to paper the town hall walls.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, abstain; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-3-11.6** The work will be done by Karen Martin.

During the meeting, warrants #5799 - #5832 in the amount of \$15,373.39 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. In addition, EFT in the amount of \$837.68 was made to the IRS.

There being no further business, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin to **adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-3-11.7**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, November 17, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, November 17, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector, Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain and Charles Duffield.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-17-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick asked that the hours for the zoning office be published. Zoning office hours are Tuesday from 6-7 pm and Saturday from 8-9 am, or call 330.527.4750 to make an appointment. The zoning office will be asking anyone with a zoning complaint to complete a zoning complaint form. Mr. Derthick said he would have liked to attend the quarterly meeting of zoning inspectors held tonight at the Regional Planning office, but it would have made him late for this meeting. The trustees had no problem with Mr. Derthick attending these quarterly meetings in the future and arriving late for the township meeting, so long as he gives them advance notice.

Mr. Derthick reported on living arrangements at the Chesapeake drilling operation. He talked with Mr. Meduri and also the Suffield Township zoning inspector, and nobody has discussed or challenged it. Mr. Meduri said it is considered to be migratory workers over which we have no control. Mr. Derthick spoke with a senior manager at Chesapeake who told him that there are four residential units for up to 15 workers who travel with the drilling rig; when the rig moves, the workers move as well. They plan to be out in no more than two months. The trustees agreed to take no action at this time, so long as the sanitary issue is addressed by the Health Department. Mr. Derthick will continue to monitor the situation.

Mr. Derthick attended the Zoning Commission meeting, and gave the trustees a copy of proposed amendments to the zoning resolution, which have been sent to Regional Planning for review. The Board of Appeals did not meet this month. Mr. Martin said he would like the new "violations report" for the trustees to show the names of the parties involved so that the trustees would have this information. Mr. Hammar and Mr. Zizka agreed. Mr. Derthick will make this change. Responding to comments from Mr. Zizka, Mr. Derthick read the provisions of the Conley settlement. Mr. Zizka, referring to a publication made available at a zoning seminar some time ago, noted that a conditional use certificate can only be issued for specifically listed conditionally-permitted uses.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg said they have cut the berms and banks on King and Vair Roads. He has ordered a total of 176 tons of grit for the roads, which should be enough for the winter. He purchased a new battery charger at CarQuest for \$179. He reported on the meeting held November 4 regarding the King Road water problem and it appears there is nothing we can do about it. The County suggested putting in stone so we can get a backhoe in there, to which the property owner was receptive, but Soil & Water objected because it is considered wetlands. Mr. VanSteenberg asked about the trees at the Community Park which Organic Roots will be planting; Mr. Hammar said he would call Mr. Krohn to check on this. Mr. Hammar said the old garage needs to be cleaned out so we can store equipment. Mr. Martin had two quotes for replacing the garage door at the shop. He will contact them again to get a price on a door with windows as well as a garage door opener.

Park: Mr. Hammar said he was working on the park grant application, getting new price quotes on a service building and walking path. He talked with soccer leagues, and there are a couple of areas they would like to have set up for play, but all areas need to be totally reworked for soccer fields.

Cemetery: Mr. VanSteenberg said all foundations have been poured.

Fire: Mr. Martin reported on the November 8 meeting, with regard to equipment and updating the web site. The Portage County Health Department conducted TB tests. Flu shots were provided by UH through Community EMS.

EMS: Mr. Zizka reported on the recent meeting. Three delinquent accounts were turned over to the collections attorney who was at the meeting. The oil pan is leaking on one unit. An emergency meeting regarding personnel was held.

Regional Planning: They have redone the Mantua Township zoning resolution and the Shalersville Township comprehensive plan.

Fiscal Officer: The trustees signed a cemetery deed for Lot 427A. Mrs. Nicholas gave Mr. Hammar the unofficial election results to post. Both Freedom Township precincts A and B voted in favor of the Maplewood levy, the Portage County Library levy and the Fire District levy.

New Business:

Mr. Hammar suggested a tax levy to support township parks. He noted that grant money for parks has been cut in half by the State of Ohio. We will apply for a grant in 2012 for a paved walking path, water, electric and a small service building at the Community Park, but the odds of success are not good because of the small amount allocated for Portage County in total. After discussion, Mr. Zizka moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of Freedom Township, Portage County, Ohio, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Board of Township Trustees of Freedom Township, Portage County, Ohio, two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, that it is necessary for an additional tax levy in excess of the ten mill limitation for park development and improvements. Said levy being an additional levy, at a rate not exceeding .5 mill for the three tax years beginning 2012, 2013 and 2014;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Fiscal Officer is directed to certify a copy of this resolution to the Board of Elections of Portage County, Ohio, not later than four p.m. on the seventy-fifth day (December 7, 2011) before the day of the next Special Primary Election (March 6, 2012) and to notify said Board of Elections to cause notice of election on the question of levying said tax to be given as required by law.

Roy Martin seconded the motion and the roll was called on the question of its adoption: The vote was as follows: Roy Martin, yes; James Hammar, yes; John Zizka, yes. **Resolution 11-17-11.2**

Unfinished Business:

Advertisements have been placed in the *Record Courier* and *The Villager* for members and/or alternates to serve on the Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals.

Letters are going out tomorrow to adjoining townships regarding meeting to discuss sharing road maintenance responsibilities. Mr. Zizka will follow.

Mr. Zizka spoke with Mr. Miller (Classical Construction) who still plans to do the front porch work before the end of the year.

The pavilion now has electric service and lighting, thanks to J C Electric. A letter will be sent to Mr. Carmichael expressing our appreciation for his generous donation of labor and material to complete this project.

Employee evaluations are to be completed by December 15.

Regarding the oil well lease, Mr. Hammar has contacted ODNR Oil & Gas Division requesting contact information so that we can determine what our next action should be. Mr. Zizka said he spoke with Scott Miller at the Engineer's office and Scott will try to resume notification to townships when permits are issued by ODNR for well drilling. Scott also expressed interest in Jefferson County's road protection agreement with Chesapeake Oil, a comprehensive document prepared by the Jefferson County prosecutor's office and county engineer, and signed by their county commissioners. Every township in Jefferson County is a party to this agreement. Portage County has a similar agreement but it's not as comprehensive as the one being used in Jefferson County.

Mr. Hammar advised that Roy Martin will be Project Manager for the 2012 Vaughn Road Public Works project for which we have applied.

Mr. Zizka noted that Bethel Springs Church has reserved the Community Center for December 4/11/18/25 and we have waived the fee for December 25 in appreciation for the work their members have done in maintaining the building.

During the meeting, warrants #5833 - #5842 in the amount of \$9,107.27 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin to **adjourn the meeting at 9:24 pm.** Roll call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 11-17-11.3**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 1, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, December 1, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector, Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield and Dan Grafton.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-1-11.1**

Public Comment: Mr. Cain commented that the carpet had a number of areas where spills had obviously occurred and not cleaned up. He suggested that the security deposit be retained when this occurs.

Zoning: Mr. Derthick said no permits were issued last month. Two of the three property owners listed on the violations report have contacted him and he will be setting up appointments with them. The property owner on S.R. 700 is in the process of clearing up the violation. Due to a change in his work hours, Mr. Derthick said it would be close to 8:30 pm before he could make it to the regular board meetings. The board expressed no objection, so long as they received a zoning report. In response to a question from Mr. Zizka, he said that Mr. Puleo would be available for zoning hours on Tuesday night. Mr. Martin asked about the inclusion of names and addresses in the zoning violation report. Mr. Derthick said this needed to be programmed into the software; in the meantime, he will write in the information requested.

Roads: The water is lower on King Road; today you can see the top of the pipe. They have been ditching on Wygle Road and cutting berms on Slagle. He purchased motors from Robeck for the spreader for the big truck. He asked about rebuilding the old motors and they said it was not worth it because of salt damage, etc. The power steering broke on LB75; they got it fixed. He noted that people renting the community center have been using tape which has pulled the wallpaper off. Someone is coming in to do 20 hours of community service on Monday. Mr. Zizka said he would post signs. Mr. Duffield installed the cover on the electric box at the pavilion.

Park: The trees have not been planted yet. Mr. Hammar said he would make it a point to call Mr. Krohn and/or Organic Roots. Mr. Hammar said he had received a quote of \$72,000 from Luli for a 6.5' wide, gravel base, blacktop walking path. Obviously, this is not feasible cost-wise, and he asked Luli to come back with an alternate proposal. Mr. Cain asked the trustees if they would still be interested in having the Boosters Club reorganize with officers, etc., and still work under the board of trustees. Mr. Hammar said he would like to see an active park committee. He said there is still some money in the Boosters fund and he is going to ask the current Boosters to use those funds to get the park levy passed; the trustees are not allowed to use township funds for that purpose. Mr. Martin questioned whether the purpose of the levy should be amended to include "maintenance." After discussion, the general consensus was that, if the levy was successful, the proceeds should be dedicated to "park development and improvement." There was discussion regarding signage for the town hall pavilion. After discussion, Mr. Grafton said he would prefer the signage to be "Donated by Freedom Boosters Club / Hot Stove League." Mr. Hammar will look into having someone design the sign and report back to the board.

Cemetery: Mr. VanSteenberg said there is a burial (cremation) tomorrow. Mr. Zizka shared information and photos of the columbarium at the Middlefield Village Cemetery.

New Business:

Resolution to Proceed With Placing on the Ballot a Levy For the Purpose of a Tax In Excess of the Ten Mill Limitation Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.19(H); 5705.191 & 5705.25.

Mr. Zizka moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(I) authorizes a Board of Township Trustees to levy a tax "for the purpose of parks and recreation."

WHEREAS, on the 17th day of November 2011, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution declaring the necessity, for an additional levy of a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation, at a rate of 0.50 mills for each one dollar of valuation.

WHEREAS, the Portage County Auditor has certified to the Board of Trustees that the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by the 0.50 mills additional tax levy will be Five Cents (\$0.05) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, based on the current assessed valuation of the Township of \$51,060,220.

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees, with at least two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, that the Board desires to proceed with the submission of the question of an additional tax levy at the rate of 0.50 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to Five Cents (\$0.05) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, to the electors of Freedom Township for the Purpose of Parks and Recreation, including Park Development and Improvement.

RESOLVED, that the tax levy will be for three (3) years and such levy will include a levy on the tax list commencing in the tax year 2012, first due in calendar year 2013, if approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon.

RESOLVED, that the Township Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to certify, not less than 75 days prior the general election, to the Board of Elections, Portage County, Ohio, a copy of the resolution dated November 17, 2011, along with a copy of this resolution to proceed, together with the certification on the Portage County Auditor, and notify the Board of Elections to cause notice of the election on the question of levying the tax to be given as required by law.

Mr. Martin seconded the motion, and the roll was called on the question of its adoption. The vote was as follows: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-1-11.2**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to purchase Giant Eagle Gift Cards: \$50 each for Charles VanSteenberg and Tony VanSteenberg, and \$25 each for Jeff Derthick, Paul Puleo and Mary Ann Schaefer, for a total of \$175.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-1-11.3**

Mr. Hammar reported on a conversation he had with ODNR in Columbus regarding the oil well on the park property on S.R. 700. The inspector who works this area said there has been no production here for 11 years, and they will plug the well and remove the tanks. These are identified as "orphaned and abandoned" oil wells. Mr. Hammar will continue to follow this.

Mrs. Nicholas said she had not received any letters of interest for the zoning positions. Mr. Hammar received a letter from Kathy Knerem who wishes to continue to serve on the Zoning Commission.

Mr. Zizka will contact the adjoining townships regarding the agreement on road responsibilities.

Mr. Zizka said that Mr. Miller still plans to work on the town hall porch the first week in December.

Mr. Martin presented quotes for the garage door at the shop. Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to have the garage door at the shop replaced by American Quality Renovations Co. for a total of \$1,935 to include the following: 12 x 12 steel insulated door (\$1,400); one window (\$40), and a garage door opener (\$495).** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-1-11.4**

Mr. Zizka raised a question about the SE quadrant of the square at Nichols Road and S.R. 303. He said that in 2006 he had inquired about the use of this property. It was agreed at that time that Mr. Ballentine could use it for parking but could not make improvements. Mr. Zizka said his concern now is that we protect the interest of the township.

At 9:07 pm, Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to move to executive session for the purpose of discussing a complaint against a public employee.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-1-11.5**

At 9:40 pm, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **to return to regular session.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-1-11.6**

During the meeting, warrants #5843 - #5872 in the amount of \$14,450.70 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes. In addition, EFT in the amount of \$880.67 was made to the IRS.

There being no further business, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin **to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-1-11.7**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 15, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, December 15, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector, Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Harold Cain, Charles Duffield and Dan Grafton and, for a portion of the meeting, Portage County Auditor Janet Esposito and Tony Esposito, Karen Martin, and Kathleen Hammar.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.1**

Public Comment: Auditor Esposito conducted the swearing-in ceremony for Mr. Hammar, re-elected trustee, and Mrs. Martin, newly-elected fiscal officer.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that they have been filling holes on Goodell Road, at the park, and at the community center; also mowing berms and cutting banks. The new garage door has been installed. All equipment is in good condition. They brought in two picnic tables to be sanded and re-sealed.

Park: The two trees have been planted. Mr. Hammar said he talked to Tallmadge Asphalt and they will be giving him a quote for the walking path. Mrs. Nicholas relayed a message from former trustee Adrian Stefanish regarding a possible opportunity for a park donation; Mr. Hammar will follow up on this. Three people attended the recent park committee meeting. He contacted Mr. Krohn about the need to generate funds to promote the park levy which will be on the March 6 ballot. Mr. Krohn said he would talk with the other people on the Boosters' account. Mr. Hammar said he is also working with a graphic artist who will assist (at no charge) in designing signs and a mailer for the park levy. In response to a question from Mr. Cain, someone will pick up the base pads at the ball park. The ball teams usually pick them up but have not done so yet.

Regional Planning: Mr. Hammar said that Regional Planning granted some extensions on subdivisions; there were no zoning issues. RPC will be assisting us in our grant application for the park.

Mr. Hammar said the next JEDD meeting will be January 18 at 7:30 pm at the Garrettsville Village town hall. The trustees plan to attend.

Fire: Mr. Martin reported that they are in the process of getting quotes to repair the tanker truck which has a hole in it. They are considering the benefits/cost of fiberglass vs polyethylene. Mr. Duffield suggested they also compare the cost of a used stainless steel tank.

EMS: Mr. Zizka provided copies of the minutes of the regular meeting of November 10 and the emergency meeting of November 14 regarding a personnel issue. The cost of hospitalization is going up 9.8%. Effective January 1 employees will pay 5% contribution and July 1 their contribution will increase to 10%. A check was received for \$8,700 from insurance to cover lightning damages. They also approved a request to install an exercise room in the garage to be used by police, fire and EMS.

New Business:

Mrs. Nicholas provided information on the Delta Dental renewal. They are moving to a 3-tiered rating structure with a monthly rate of \$25.89 for employee only; \$50.03 for employee + 1; and \$89.07 for employee + 2 or more dependents. These rates are guaranteed for two years.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to transfer \$2,000 from the primary checking account to the secondary checking account for HRA deductibles.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.2**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to transfer \$3,000 from the General Fund to the Zoning Fund to pay Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals members, and to support the Zoning Fund.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.3**

Mrs. Nicholas reported that Regional Planning Commission dues for 2012 will be \$1,990.10 (down from \$2,156.28 in 2011).

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to donate hours back to Regional Planning that will expire at the end of 2011, to be used for the Subdivision Regulations Update.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.4**

The trustees signed the bank reconciliation for the period ending November 30, 2011.

Mrs. Nicholas provided information regarding the Verizon cell phone account. There is a flat monthly fee of \$50, plus \$12.22 per month for each phone. We have never exceeded our allotted minutes of 700 per month.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to set the Annual Township Inventory for Monday, January 9th at 9:00 a.m., beginning at the Town Hall.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.5**

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to reimburse for registration, hotel, taxi, parking, meals, mileage and incidentals for Karen Martin (newly-elected Fiscal Officer) to attend the Ohio Township Association Winter Conference in 2012.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.6**

The board discussed members for the Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals. Kathy Knerem expressed an interest in continuing to serve on the Zoning Commission. Resident Barbara Bryant submitted a letter of interest. Mike Baker will be submitting his resignation from the Board of Appeals. After discussion, Mr. Zizka made the following motion: **to reappoint Kathy Knerem for an additional five-year term on the Zoning Commission, to expire in 2016; to reappoint Tom Mesaros as alternate on the Zoning Commission for a one-year term, to expire in 2012; to not reappoint Mike Mikulski as alternate on the Zoning Commission; to reappoint John Wolf to a five year term on the Board of Appeals, to expire in 2016; to appoint Randy Pochedly to complete the term of Mike Baker on the Board of Appeals, to expire in 2014; and to appoint Barbara Bryant to a one year term as alternate on the Board of Appeals, to expire in 2012.** Mr. Martin seconded Mr. Zizka's motion. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.7**

Zoning: Mr. Derthick reported on recent activity: A nuisance letter was sent to a property owner on Nichols Road regarding trailers and he responded saying they will be removed within 30-60 days. Two tower companies have contacted zoning in the last two weeks regarding height variances. He has heard that the trailers have been moved from the Chesapeake drilling operation on S.R. 88, and he will confirm this. Mr. Derthick said he received a complaint regarding the Bailey property, and asked the board for a status update. Mr. Zizka said he had been approached about this by an adjoining property owner and early in the summer another resident asked him about it. Mr. Zizka had some time ago suggested a joint visit with a representative of the Health Department, but Mr. Bailey did not want Mr. Zizka on his property. Mr. Zizka will again contact the Health Department and the Prosecutor's office to see what action can be taken.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Zizka has met with Hiram Township regarding joint road responsibilities. He will follow up with the other townships.

Mr. Zizka is waiting to hear from Mr. Miller, Classical Construction, regarding the status of the drawings for the town hall porch work.

At 9:04 pm, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to move to executive session to work on employee evaluations.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.8**

At 10:00 pm, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, **to return to regular session.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.9**

During the meeting, warrants #5873 - #5892 in the amount of \$9,515.77 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature.

There being no further business, Mr. Hammar made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin to **adjourn the meeting at 10:00 pm, immediately following the return to regular session.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-15-11.10**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
FREEDOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 29, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Freedom Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Hammar at 7:30 pm on Thursday, December 29, 2011. Present: Trustees James Hammar, Roy Martin, John Zizka; Rosemary Nicholas, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Derthick, Zoning Inspector (arrived at 8:30); Charles VanSteenberg, Road Supervisor. Also present: Dan Grafton.

Mr. Hammar led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka **to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.1**

Public Comment: None at this time.

Roads: Mr. VanSteenberg reported that the water on King Road is now 6" below the pipe. Goodell Road is going to need some serious work in the future. They've been using #617 limestone to patch it. He said we've used a few tons of material on the roads so far this year. He'd like to put up three new reflecting stop signs. He didn't know what they cost but would get a price. We got a check from C&B recycling for \$476 for a load of scrap. The pump at the Community Center lost its prime and Burrows was called to repair it; they had to put in a new valve.

Mr. VanSteenberg and all three trustees received calls from residents on Wygle Road about the well that is going to be drilled there. The County has drawn up a "compensation agreement for roadway maintenance, damage and restoration" that will be signed by the drilling company, the County Commissioners and the township. Mr. Zizka said this was not as detailed as the one being used in Hamilton County, which he had some time ago given to Mr. Meduri. There was a question about the bond to be furnished, and Mr. Martin will get more information on this. Mr. Hammar suggested the trustees gather more information and meet for a work session to compare the Portage County agreement and the Hamilton County agreement. A meeting will be set up to discuss this with the County Engineer's office so as to take a proactive approach to protecting township roads, culverts, bridges, etc. Mr. VanSteenberg said it would be helpful to have a video camera to document the condition of the roads prior to drilling activity.

With regard to road salt, the trustees discussed where to store it, the possibility of putting up a salt dome, or arched canopies similar to that being used by other entities. The trustees will investigate what is being done throughout the county, and will also see what information is available at the OTA conference they will be attending in February.

Park: Mr. Hammar had a price quote from Tallmudge Asphalt in the amount of \$42,500 for the walking path. If we apply for a grant for the path, we would get more points than if we put in for the utilities and building. If the park levy passes, we could use those funds to put in the utilities and building. Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, **authorizing Mr. Hammar to apply for a NatureWorks grant for a walking path at the Freedom Community Park.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.2** Mr. Hammar said he was waiting to hear from Mr. Krohn regarding the possible use of Booster funds to promote the park levy. In response to a question from Mr. Zizka, Mr. VanSteenberg confirmed that the bases were picked up at the park.

Cemetery: Mr. Hammar would like to set up a time to meet with Portage Marble regarding columbariums. Mr. Zizka asked Mr. VanSteenberg to take a look at branches and overgrown shrubbery leaning over the driveway at Drakesburg Cemetery; people are driving on the lawn to avoid them.

Mrs. Nicholas presented information on the new vision plan, changing from Vision Service Plan to VSP Choice Plan[®] Network effective 1/1/12. The premium will be reduced and will be effective through 2014. She has not yet received invoices from Delta Dental or VSP reflecting the new rates. She talked with Sean Sprouse about this and he said they would be sent mid-January.

The board reviewed a December 12 letter from Regional Planning regarding reduction in dues. We have been ending the year with unused technical hours which have been donated back to Regional Planning for use in developing the subdivision regulations. Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, **to take a reduction of \$223.04 in dues for 2012, rather than to have six additional technical assistance hours.** Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.3** Mrs. Nicholas will notify Regional Planning.

Mr. Zizka made the motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, to temporarily appropriate approximately 50% of the approved 2012 budget amount effective January 1, 2012, in the amounts of:

General Fund.....	\$166,000
Motor Vehicle License Tax.....	5,381
Gasoline Tax	77,590
Road & Bridge	31,700
Cemetery	5,800
Zoning	5,400
Permissive Motor Vehicle.....	16,800
Freedom Park.....	550
Freedom Twp Park Dev.....	8,500
Total	\$317,721

Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.4**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, to continue to pay the Trustees on a salary basis, 200 x daily rate, paid monthly. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.5**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, to continue to reimburse Trustee Zizka for medical premium and Trustee Hammar for Medicare premium, pay medical premium for Trustees Hammar and Martin, pay dental coverage for Trustees Martin and Zizka, pay vision coverage for Trustees Hammar, Martin and Zizka (all with 15% contribution). Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.6**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka, to adopt the following resolution: Resolved, in accordance with ORC §9.833, that Freedom Township will continue to insure a portion of health insurance claims. The self-insured Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) will continue to be administered by Burnham & Flower Insurance Group. Further resolved, in accordance with ORC §505.60, Freedom Township will purchase insurance from Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield. All claims are to be administered by and subject to the insurance policy provided by Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.7**

Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hammar, to send a letter to Bill Steiner (Solid Waste Management District) in support of the ODNR 2012 Scrap Tire Amnesty Grant. Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.8** Mrs. Nicholas had a letter prepared for trustee signature.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Zizka will be contacting Lisa Ashley who had expressed an interest in serving on either the Zoning Commission or Board of Appeals.

Mr. Zizka is still waiting to hear from the other townships regarding joint road responsibilities.

Mr. Zizka talked with Mr. Miller of Classical Construction. He said the blueprints should be ready the first week of January. When received, Mr. Zizka will take them to the Building Department to get an extension on our building permit.

Mr. Carmichael offered to use his lift unit to replace the light by the recycling containers at the town hall.

The board is working on finalizing the personnel evaluations.

Mr. Hammar said there was nothing new to report on the oil well lease.

Mr. Derthick joined the meeting. He had nothing new to report but asked Mr. Zizka about the Bailey property. Mr. Zizka said he had talked with Mr. Porter who said the Health Department would inspect the property but would need a letter from the township asking that they do so. Mr. Derthick asked if there was any way this could be handled internally, perhaps with another hearing. Mr. Zizka said he would consult Mr. Meduri on this.

Mr. Hammar noted that the organizational meeting will be held on January 5th at 7:30 pm and the annual inventory is scheduled for January 9th at 9:00 am. All three trustees plan to attend the JEDD meeting on Wednesday, January 18th at 7:30 pm at the Garrettsville Village Hall. Mr. Zizka asked Mrs. Nicholas to publish this in the *Record Courier*.

During the meeting, warrants #5915 - #5932 in the amount of \$12,799.55 were presented to the Trustees for approval and ordered paid by signature. See the Payment Register which is attached hereto and by reference made a part of these Minutes.

There being no further business, Mr. Martin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zizka to **adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm.**
Roll Call: Mr. Martin, yes; Mr. Hammar, yes; Mr. Zizka, yes. Motion carried. **Resolution 12-29-11.9**

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer