

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Franklin Township Trustees

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC. FORM NO. 10148

Held June 8, 2016

The Franklin Township Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 6 p.m. Trustee Ron Ruppert, Trustee Beth Callahan, Fiscal Officer Scott Fromeyer, Administrator Traci Stivers, and Cemetery Superintendent Steve Bishop were in attendance.

Additionally, there were over fifty (50) attendees from the community.

Mrs. Callahan called the meeting to order.

Lydia Marinich led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Ruppert a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 25, 2016.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mr. Rupert – Yes
Mrs. Callahan– Yes Motion carried.

VISITORS:

Lydia Marinich, a volunteer, was recognized by the Board of Trustees for her service to the township. Miss Marinich has volunteered in the township offices for months.

Alex Hatfield, 468 Sunset Drive, asked the board if the basketball lines could be repainted in the back parking lot. The trustees said they'd talk about it and get something worked out. The Mr. Hatfield should keep in touch with Mrs. Stivers and we'd get it worked out.

Shirley Snelling, 8132 Franklin Trenton Rd, stated that she is a member of the Deardoff Senior Center and finds it to be a very important part of the community. She participates in the games as a player and as a volunteer. She is also a Ding-A - Ling, and enjoys performing with the singing group which is organized by the Deardoff Center. She urges the Trustees to support the center.

Sandy Daws, 9140 Dayton - Oxford Rd, stated that she has so much fun at the senior center and has made many friends. That the center has grown a lot over the years. The center is a wonderful place for widows and provides a great resource for our communities seniors. She said it's not just fun, the levy provides transportation, medical checks and much more.

Dick Tracey, stated that the senior center is a God-send to him. He lives alone and it's the only thing he has to do. He said it's a merry and joyful place to be. He stated that the center is needed by so many people just like him.

Ruppert Ruppert, stated that he was the lawyer for the Deardoff Family. He wrote numerous wills for Mr. Deardoff and they spent a lot of time together. He knows that Mr. Deardoff traveled to Florida each winter and that there was a senior center there that he thoroughly enjoyed. He wanted something similar to be available to the residents in the Township. Mr. Deardoff's will was contested by some of the heirs, and went to the Ohio Supreme Court but ultimately his will was honored. Mr. Ruppert said there wasn't a lot of cash, but numerous properties left behind. They did not have a lot of value, and those were liquidated and the money used to start the Deardoff Center. Judge Ruppert said that he had heard rumors that he had gotten rich from the deals, and that he owns property purchased with the funds, he said those are all false. As for any work that Ruppert Ruppert has done for the Deardoff Senior Center, that has all, from day one been done free of charge. Any money left to be used for the Senior Center was invested with Johnson Investment, a well known investment company in Cincinnati. The Deardoff Center was able to live off that money, build the building, pay for the operations and furnished the center. In 2007 Ruppert Ruppert approached the Township about putting a senior levy on the ballot, not just for the senior center, but to be used for the whole township. Judge Ruppert referred to a letter that a family member of the Deardoff's had sent to the Board of Trustees several weeks earlier that stated that Walter Deardoff did not want the citizens taxed. Ruppert Ruppert said that he and Walter dear doff had never discussed that, but that this is a decision that should be left up to the tax payers. They should be given the choice. If the voters turn it down, the Deardoff Center would have to be closed. He said that the center is important for this community. He referred to Mrs. Callahan's questions regarding the 990 forms that were filed

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with the IRS. Judge Ruppert believes that they are incorrect, that the accountant simply made a mistake. He said that the accounting has been done through CPA and they prepare all the paperwork. The Trustees of the Deardoff have never had control of the money. He said all the accountings are on file with the Probate Court if anyone is interested. Judge Ruppert said he feels that not just the senior center, but the senior transportation is a huge benefit for the residents and he encourages the board to place this issue on the ballot.

Mark Boy, 7855 Sheri Lane, stated that he had a very special guest. He said that the Deardoff's did not have children, but they did have a niece, Audrey Elliott.

Audrey Elliott, 4223 South State Route 123 in Lebanon, stated that under the conditions of the will, some family received land. She said that some people thought that some people believed that the family had gotten money that was left behind. She does not believe that her Uncle wanted people to be taxed. She believed that there should be plenty of money left. That if there were insufficient funds, the money should have been given to the Franklin Historical Society or the library.

Dale Ross, 134 Dalton Ave., stated that he is a member of the Deardoff Senior Center. He is at the center about 4 days a week and enjoys volunteering. He loves the Deardoff Center, his wife is a Ding-A - Ling and they want to see it stay.

Lou Weaver stated that she has been a member of the Center for 11 years. She has volunteered in numerous ways and urges the Trustees to place the levy on the ballot, because she and so many others have no other place to go.

Ron Diver, 8297 Meadowlark Drive, stated that he wanted to thank Mrs. Stivers for being the keynote speaker at the Memorial Day celebration in the Village of Carlisle. He told the board that she did a fabulous job and they should be proud. One of the things that Mrs. Stivers spoke about on Memorial day were the people that are the backbone of our country, people who need help and support and those are the types of the people you will find at the Deardoff Senior Center. He said it's vital that the Trustees support the levy and the Center for the good of the community.

Judge Ruppert added that the levy is .25 mills and on a \$100,000 home assessed at 35% it would be about \$8.50 a year.

Mrs. Callahan recognized the Warren County Sheriff's Deputy and gave him the opportunity to speak, he declined.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Ruppert thanked everyone who attended, saying that it's unusual to see such a crowd. He said that while he is related to Judge Ruppert, they've never discussed the Deardoff will and he's learning all these things too. He believes that some of the items that have been questioned were done so irresponsibly, however, the bigger point is that this is a decision that should be left to the taxpayers. He said it's not the Boards decision to make, it's the decision of the voters. This levy previously was passed by more than 60% in every community. Mr. Ruppert said the Deardoff Center Trustees have given reports from time to time and he's confident that he knows the money is being spent wisely. He knows that the residents from Franklin, Franklin Township and Carlisle are all being well served and that the Deardoff Center is always busy and he believes it is a great service to the community.

Mrs. Callahan said she is in support of a senior levy, she was simply concerned about where our tax dollars are going. She said we give the Deardoff \$90,000.00 a year to operate and the discrepancy in the 990's was brought to her attention and she became concerned. Ms. Elliott had brought it to Mrs. Callahan that she didn't believe that Walter Deardoff wanted people to be taxed, that \$500,000. had been left to help operate the center. Mrs. Callahan said that Ms. Elliott couldn't understand why a tax was necessary, or how they Center could be low on money already. Mrs. Callahan stressed that it is a senior levy, not a Deardoff levy. Mrs. Callahan would like to see the Deardoff Center held

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more accountable and have better accountability to the township. Mrs. Callahan said she does agree that the people should get to vote on the matter.

Judge Ruppert asked if he may correct something. He said there was never \$500,000. left to the Deardoff Center. If there was a life insurance policy, it went elsewhere and not into the estate or to the Deardoff Trust. He also said there was never two million dollars left behind, as has been mentioned. There was roughly \$675,000 in assets left, and that was liquidated and used to built the building, furnish it, and operate the center for 20 years.

Mr. Ruppert said he wants to make it clear that the Deardoff Trustees have never refused the Township's request for information.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to approve Resolution No. 06-06082016 declaring it necessary to place a renewal levy on the ballot in the amount of .25 mills for a 5 year term.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

The Trustees discussed the two applicants for the Serving Seniors Grant, American Legion and Warren County Community Services. They questioned whether our policy limited how many grants they could give out. Mrs. Stivers will review the policies, if applicable and we'll discuss at the next meeting.

Mrs. Callahan asked what was going on with Martz - Paulin. Mrs. Stivers said that she had contacted WG Stang to alert them that their bid had been accepted, but she had not heard a start date back from them yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to hire Mark Tilford, on 6 months probation without pay based upon Assistant Chief Daly's recommendation.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

Fire discussion was tabled.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 01- 06082016 declaring 5455 Fairview Dr. a nuisance due to tall weeds & grass.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 02-06082016 declaring 8139 Sue Ave. a nuisance due to tall weeds & grass.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 03-06082016 declaring 9711 Staley Rd. a nuisance due to tall weeds & grass.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 05-06082016 declaring 6816 Torrington Dr. a nuisance due to tall weeds & grass.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

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ROAD REPORT:

Mr. Rose is on vacation. Mrs. Stivers said that stream bank repairs along Martz - Paulin have not yet been scheduled. Paving was scheduled but has been pushed back due to the weather.

CEMETERY REPORT:

Mr. Bishop said that they guys worked really hard to get things looking good for Memorial Day and that they had no complaints. Mrs. Stivers said that she was very proud of the guys for working so hard.

FIRE REPORT:

Chief Bishop said that they'd had about 15 minor calls in the last two weeks.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mrs. Stivers said that she had applied for Issue II money for a culvert replacement on Morningstar Road. She had tried for the bridge in Woodhill, but it did not qualify because it is not a public roadway.

Mrs. Stivers reminded the board that the tennis courts are scheduled for replacement in the coming weeks.

The Summer Park Programs are set to begin June 21st.

The Prosecutor had held an Anti-Theft class at the township the previous evening, if anyone is interested, there are handouts in the back of the room.

Mrs. Stivers told everyone that the Community Recycling Event is scheduled for June 25th from 8 am - 12pm, we will be accepting motor oil, latex paint and sensitive documents.

Lastly, Joe Marinich, our substitute senior transportation driver had submitted his resignation due to moving out of state.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to accept Joe's resignation.

Mrs. Callahan had seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

FISCAL REPORT:

Mr. Fromeyer reviewed the payment listing. Mr. Ruppert made a motion to approve the payment listing.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

Mr. Fromeyer reviewed the bank reconciliation, appropriation status, appropriation summary, fund summary, fund status, revenue summary, revenue status.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to approve the reports as presented.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to enter into executive session at 7 p.m. to discuss the acquisition of land.

Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

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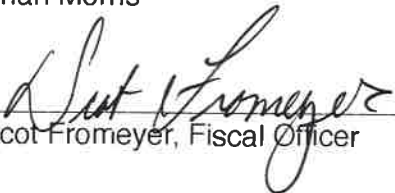
Mr. Ruppert made a motion to return to regular session at 7:07 p.m.
Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.
ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.

Mr. Ruppert made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m.
Mrs. Callahan seconded the motion.
ROLL CALL: Mr. Ruppert - Yes
Mrs. Callahan - Yes Motion carried.


Beth Callahan, President


Ronald Ruppert, Vice President

ABSENT
Brian Morris


Scot Fromeyer, Fiscal Officer