

SAGAMORE HILLS TOWNSHIP – REGULAR

Monday, January 9, 2017 - media notified

The regular meeting was called to order by Mr. Zaccardelli at 7:00 pm.
R/C: Zaccardelli-present; Schweikert-present; DePasquale-present;
Fiscal Officer Gale-present.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Mr. DePasquale moved to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the December 12, 2016 Regular Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Schweikert.
R/C Vote: Schweikert-aye; DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

Mr. Schweikert moved to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the December 27, 2016 Records Retention Meeting. Seconded by Mr. DePasquale.
R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Schweikert-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

Mr. DePasquale moved to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the December 27, 2016 Year-End Organizational Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Schweikert.
R/C Vote: Schweikert-aye; DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

Mr. Zaccardelli introduced Police Chief David Hayes.

Chief Hayes reported on Saturday, December 10th the police department held a special event at the township, a “Visit with Santa”. Henry Rogusz, a member of our cleaning staff, turned the meeting room into a “Winter Palace”. Seventy-eight children came to visit Santa Claus and received a coloring book, candy cane and cookie. Chief Hayes thanked everyone who helped make our second “Visit with Santa” a great success.

Chief Hayes presented Tim Ellis with the Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding service in preventing a distraught young lady from jumping off the Sagamore Hills-Brecksville Bridge.

Chief Hayes presented Detective David Piekarski with the annual Police Department Employee of the Year Award for his dedication in serving our community for over nineteen years.

Chief Hayes administered the oath of office to new part-time police officer Annette Soucie.

Mr. Zaccardelli adjourned at 7:12 p.m. for a brief recess to take pictures and have refreshments. Seconded by Mr. Schweikert. Meeting reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

PENDING WARRANTS

Mr. Zaccardelli moved to approve the Pending Warrant Report dated December 31, 2016 in the amount of \$676,003.01. Seconded by Mr. Schweikert.
R/C Vote: Schweikert-aye; Zaccardelli-aye; DePasquale-aye.

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. DePasquale made a motion to ADOPT **RESOLUTION 17-01** Police Department Employee of the Year, Detective David Piekarski. Seconded by Mr. Schweikert.
R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye; Schweikert-aye.

Mr. DePasquale made a motion to ADOPT **RESOLUTION 17-02** in honor of Police Officer Timothy Ellis on his distinguished service. Seconded by Mr. Zaccardelli.
R/C Vote: Zaccardelli-aye; DePasquale-aye; Schweikert-aye.

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Mr. Schweikert made a motion to ADOPT **RESOLUTION 17-03** to authorize memorandum of understanding between Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Summit Soil & Water Conservation District and Sagamore Hills Township. Seconded by Mr. Zaccardelli. R/C Vote: Zaccardelli-aye; Schweikert-aye; DePasquale-aye.

Mr. Schweikert made a motion to ADOPT **RESOLUTION 17-04** reallocation appropriation for the road department. Seconded by Mr. DePasquale. R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Schweikert-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

Mr. DePasquale made a motion to AMEND **RESOLUTION 15-07** the contract and agreement for cleaning services for the township safety building. Seconded by Mr. Schweikert. R/C Vote: Schweikert-aye; DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye.

Mr. Zaccardelli made a motion to AMEND **RESOLUTION 16-66** due to additional charges to purchase gravel and pump the septic tank on the property purchased at 11668 Valley View Road. This increases the purchase price by \$785.00 to \$141,807.25. Seconded by Mr. DePasquale. R/C Vote: DePasquale-aye; Zaccardelli-aye; Schweikert-aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department Report

Mr. DePasquale reported on the statistics for December 2016. The department handled 602 calls for service, performed 575 "Community Policing" assignments and handed out 350 "Patrolled Your Area Cards".

The Investigative Section received forty-one (41) investigations for the month and closed all but one (1) of them, twenty (20) were closed by arrest.

All officers completed their Ohio Police Officer Training Academy mandatory hours of training. The department will receive partial reimbursement by the State.

Three (3) commendations/appreciations from residents were received praising members of the Department for their dedication to duty.

Fire/EMS Report

For the month of December 2016, Mr. DePasquale reported Sagamore Hills Station #2 had 84 EMS and 17 Fire calls. Macedonia Station #1 had 116 EMS and 23 Fire calls. Northfield Center Station #3 had 58 EMS and 11 Fire Calls. In December 2016 all three stations handled a total of 258 EMS and 51 Fire Calls.

Response times for the month of December 2016 are Macedonia 3 minutes and 39 seconds; Sagamore Hills 4 minutes and 16 seconds; Northfield Center 3 minutes and 43 seconds.

Mr. DePasquale reviewed the mutual aid calls.

Mr. DePasquale spoke with Chief Black today who said everything is working the way it should. The morale is good and everyone is very happy.

Mr. Schweikert commented that the response time was about 5 minutes and 30 seconds on average for our calls when we were with Northfield Center. Last month it was 4 minutes and 15 seconds, and this month it is 4 minutes and 16 seconds. We are down a minute and fifteen seconds. This makes a huge difference when you are having a heart attack.

Mr. Zaccardelli commented that our police officers really like the transition. It was one of the best things the trustees have ever done.

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Mr. DePasquale stated our secondary ambulance is not up and running at this point. It needs about \$2,000 worth of work. The turbo motor is bad. Complete Truck can make all the repairs in house. They don't have to send it out. Mr. DePasquale made a motion to not exceed \$3,000.00 to get our second ambulance up and running. Seconded by Mr. Schweikert.
R/C Vote: Zaccardelli-aye; Schweikert-aye; DePasquale-aye.

Mr. DePasquale asked Mr. Snell where we were on the threat by Mr. Risko to sue the district that doesn't exist, or each township individually, for hours that he claims he worked but did not document.

Mr. Snell said he just received a letter related to that of another demand. Mr. Snell gave a brief summary.

Mr. Risko is demanding \$60,000.00 at a minimum in overtime for what he claims is 2-3 hours for each day every day for a three year period (1820 hours of overtime not documented). If he files a claim he will also seek liquidated damages and attorney's fees based on the statute of limitations for three years.

There was a brief discussion.

Mr. Zaccardelli asked if the fire district no longer exists, who would be sued.

Mr. Snell responded that question has been asked and it has been expressed that the fire district no longer exists and has been terminated. The claim is against the district not the communities. Mr. Snell believes inevitably any kind of a claim would include us as a community. Part of the defense is that we are not a district anymore. The district has been closed.

Mr. Gale gave a summary of invoices received for November regarding the fire district which he previously reviewed and shared his concerns with the trustees.

Mr. Snell commented that he saw an email from Mr. Honsberger, the consultant for the fire district in relation to the books that said the district did not pay unemployment. Mr. Snell said he did not realize they did not pay unemployment. Northfield Center does not pay unemployment either. Mr. Gale commented that elected officials of the state are automatically exempt from unemployment.

There was a brief discussion on unemployment.

Mr. Snell stated that Mr. Risko has applied for unemployment.

For the record, Mr. Gale stated he will not pay the November bill until everything is cleared up and the trustees and Mr. Gale review everything and come to an agreement.

Mr. DePasquale addressed Mr. Kopas and said the total runs for Elmcroft in October were 14, and Brentwood 17. In November there were 20 runs to Elmcroft and 12 to Brentwood. He did not have December totals. Mr. Kopas asked whether we were reimbursed for those runs. Mr. DePasquale responded, yes, if they are transports.

Road/Park Department Report

Mr. Schweikert said we have 3400 tons of salt for the winter. So far we have used 600 tons. The service department has been working on the Sagamore signs which are coming along very well. The department will also be doing more cold patching.

Zoning Report

Mr. Zaccardelli reported during 2016 there were 89 permits issued totaling \$7,010.00. There have been five (5) BZA hearings. The zoning inspector has fielded 365 phone calls. As of today no permits have been issued in 2017. There will be a BZA meeting on January 11, 2017.

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Fiscal Office

The Fiscal Officer's December 2016 report had a starting balance of \$5,732,195.33, PLUS receipts of \$177,798.02, MINUS expenditures of \$819,184.17 (which includes memo receipts of \$143,181.16 plus the pending warrant report of \$676,003.01). The ending balance for December 2016 is \$5,090,809.18.

Mr. Gale reported he filed all of our financial statements for 2016 with the State. Mr. Schweikert said "kudos" to Mr. Gale. We are way ahead of the game. Mr. Schweikert said Mr. Gale did an outstanding job.

Trustee Reports

Mr. DePasquale said the trustees spoke at the end of last year regarding security cameras across the street in the park by the service and fire buildings. Mr. DePasquale feels this is a necessity. Mr. Schweikert and Mr. Zaccardelli agreed. Mr. DePasquale would like to move forward and made a motion to adopt Resolution 17-05 to purchase security cameras for a cost not to exceed \$14,000.00. Mr. Gale asked whether this was a 50/50 split in funds, fire and roads. Mr. DePasquale responded yes. There will be the same amount of cameras on each building.

Mr. DePasquale wished everyone "Happy New Year". It has been a pleasure working with everyone. He looks forward to another year.

Mr. Schweikert reported we will now be receiving our sewer/water bills monthly because of the shortage of sewer district revenues due to water conservation measures, declining economic activity and declining population in Ohio. By 2021 the average suburban sewer bill will be \$76.45 a month.

Mr. Schweikert reported our paper recycling numbers. We saved 116 trees, 47,000 gallons of water, we could have heated 6 homes for 5 months, and we have saved 22 cubic yards of landfill space.

Mr. Zaccardelli stated the Cuyahoga parks will be starting their yearly deer management program. A letter regarding this will be posted on our website.

Mr. Zaccardelli passed out a copy of a resolution from another township to the board regarding solicitation. During our monthly website meetings this topic came up. We would like to totally eliminate solicitation in Sagamore Township. It won't eliminate religious or non-profit. Mr. Zaccardelli plans to work with the police chief and Jeff Snell during the next month regarding this. Mr. Zaccardelli asked the two trustees to think about this.

CITIZENS FORUM

Jack Donnelly, 1116 Hawthorne Circle, asked for some details regarding the yearly deer management program that will be from conducted from January to mid March. Mr. Zaccardelli responded. Also, the letter received from the Cleveland Metroparks will be posted on our website.

Ms. Carol Lewis, 9634 Olde Eight Road, asked where the Basel property was located. Mr. Snell responded it is 300 feet to the west by the exit of the fire department. The property is 2.6-2.7 acres. Mr. DePasquale responded the property backs up to our salt and road buildings. Mr. Snell said the house and a barn have been torn down. There is another barn on the property that is in good shape and the road department will be using it to store equipment.

Ms. Lewis commented that the purchase price of \$141,000 for almost three acres is much less than the going rate for Sagamore Hills property. Ms. Lewis congratulated the trustees on the purchase.

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Ms. Lewis said she would like to go on record as a taxpayer for the township, "Please don't do anything about accepting any hours worked without having any proof that goes along with it. In my mind any other former or current employee of the township could be asking for the same consideration and most of us that have gone and looked at anything like this in a businesslike sense think in terms of no, if the rules are you have a timecard or you have a computer you do this and that's the end of that discussion. Please be kind to us taxpayers in not approving any of these."

Mr. Schweikert responded Mr. Risko was adequately compensated. He made over \$60,000 a year in a part time job.

Mr. Snell followed up with a brief statement.

Mr. Schweikert said Mr. Risko never mentioned at a fire district meeting that he was working any hours for free or that he was not adequately compensated.

Gary Smith, 824 Glencrest, asked what the reason was for the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting scheduled for January 11, 2017. Mr. Snell responded a resident on Chaffee Road wants to build a barn that exceeds the limit of an accessory building.

There was a brief discussion on the requested variance.

Mr. Smith asked what type of service agreement we have with regional storm water management that is referred to in Resolution 16-57. Mr. Schweikert responded the Northeast Regional Sewer District will be conducting all the surveying of all the streams in conjunction with their storm water management. They will be looking at Sagamore streams in the spring.

Mr. Snell gave a brief summary of this agreement. There was also a brief discussion.

Mr. Frank Kopas, 7495 Boyden Road, asked how many part-time and full-time police officers were sworn in this year. The board responded one. In 2016 one full time officer was hired in November and one in December. Mr. Kopas asked whether testing and evaluation was done in house. Mr. DePasquale responded testing goes through Pradco. Mr. Kopas asked what the cost was for 2016 and 2015. Mr. Gale will get that information for Mr. Kopas.

Mike Bergold, 11638 Valley View Road, asked Mr. Zaccardelli whether he ever contacted the county about the light on Valley View Road. Mr. Zaccardelli responded we are still waiting for the county to make a decision. Mr. Bergold referred to his request from last month's meeting in regard to putting how many traffic ticket violations are issued on our website. Mr. Zaccardelli spoke to the chief about this, and we do not have the staff to monitor putting this information on the website. Mr. Schweikert responded all our monies are geared to going into actual policing.

Carole Pleskovic, 814 Southridge Road, shared some information regarding a solicitor that came to her home.

There was a brief discussion on solicitors.

Jeff Hebebrand, 632 Continental Drive, shared his concerns regarding the noise and the hours the noise starts from the construction site behind his home of the Hidden Ridge Development.

There was a brief discussion.

Mr. Schweikert commented Mr. Hebebrand can go down to the Ohio Building and go to Summit County Council with his neighbors to change the resolution regarding noise. Mr. Schweikert volunteered to go down with him or provide Mr. Hebebrand with a map to the Ohio Building. There is nothing else that can be done.

Mr. Hebebrand asked whether there was any review of the cluster requirement of Hidden Ridge in leaving 40% green space. Mr. Zaccardelli responded the zoning inspector would be reviewing it.

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Mr. Snell gave a detailed summary to address Mr. Hebebrand's question regarding the 40% green space.

Two residents inquired as to whether the fire department had a decimeter. Mr. Schweikert responded we do not have one, the sheriff does. Mr. Snell referred to the exemptions in the noise regulation. There was a brief discussion.

Mr. Schweikert made a motion to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Zaccardelli.
R/C Vote: Schweikert-aye; Zaccardelli-aye; DePasquale-aye.