

Held Tuesday, April 11, 20 12

The joint meeting was called to order at 6:50pm. Present: Trustees Todd Ray, Andy Bushman, Irene McMullen, Park Board members Bob Marn, Joe Rosboril, Jon Schroeter, John Kaczynski, Charlie Pitcock, Fiscal Officer Judy Toth, and Park Board Secretary Julie Johnston. Prior to the meeting the trustees signed warrants 10298-10316 dated 4/11 and 4/13/12 totaling \$11,389.27. Warrant 1130 in the amount of \$7,921.86, to transfer EMS collections from the lockbox to the primary account, and EFT Vouchers 2019-2028 for the 4/13/12 bi-weekly payroll totaling \$9,467.52.

Park Board Chairman Bob Marn expressed the park board's frustration with unclear directives on their mission, responsibility and authority. Projects presented have been changed or tabled. Recently, the park board spent considerable time reviewing the mowing quotes, and none of their recommendations were taken. Mrs. McMullen explained that because of the way the quotes were obtained, the prosecutor ruled that the only safe option was to award to the low quotes. Mr. Marn countered that the park board's recommendations were ignored prior to receiving the prosecutor's opinion, and had their recommendations been followed, the prosecutor would not have been consulted. The Park Board raised the issue of pond maintenance at Scenic River. Their recommendation was to use the services of Aqua Doc. The Trustees did not approve the expense and took over the responsibility for the pond. A recent "kill" where several fish were found dead, left the park board with no recourse to address the problem. Mr. Ray advised that the pond did not have this type of maintenance in the past, and the board made the decision to look into other less expensive options. Because the trustees hold the responsibility for the spending of the tax payers' dollars, there will be times that the trustees' judgment on fiscal authority will not align, and the trustees will have to exercise their discretion. The park board members are volunteers. The township has employees who can facilitate some of the work. There is a need to devise better communication and to coordinate to work more efficiently with the township. The park board has a secretary who can do some of the administrative legwork. The park board's responsibilities have increased with the additional parks. A need for a liaison with the Baseball League was identified. Mr. Bushman is in the process of facilitating a meeting between Chairman Bob Marn and Baseball League commissioner John Lawrence. Mrs. McMullen advised that the baseball league is frustrated that their offer of raising the height of ball field fencing, at their cost, has been ignored. Mr. Rosboril explained that their proposal last year was for the township to bear the cost. He contacted several vendors for quotes. Because the estimated cost was over \$1,000, the park board's decision was to deny the project. If the proposal had been presented as a donation, the park board would have approved the project. Mrs. McMullen advised that she asked the Baseball League to put its request in writing and to attend a park board meeting. Mr. Rosboril said it was difficult for the park board to conduct business when a township trustee is present, if the trustee has strong opinions. The park board wanted their goals clarified in the form of a mission statement. Mr. Bushman said a mission statement was prepared when the board was created and offered to check his files at home. The original mission statement will need to be updated as the park board's responsibilities are now more complex. Events are an added responsibility.

The issue of using road department labor versus outside contractors was raised. Mr. Rosboril advised that contractors are becoming reluctant to quote projects, because of the township's practice of asking them to prepare specifications and to give quotes, and then using the road department to do the work. It was agreed that before quotes are sought, the road department would be consulted. The park board reiterated that they wanted to be taken seriously when they have done the background work for a project. It was identified that maintenance will become more and more the role of the park board as the parks are developed. A quarterly joint meeting between the park board and the trustees was suggested. The park board did not see the benefit of a quarterly meeting. The park board asked the trustees to devise a method by which issues, once presented, would remain on their agenda until resolved. Mr. Schroeter suggested that the trustees give the park board an initial budget to help them prioritize. Mr. Ray, in summary:

- 1) Update mission statement.
- 2) Identify decision making protocol back and forth between the boards;
- 3) Consider meeting again, if not quarterly, then as needed for increased communication.
- 4) Address use of the services of the road department versus outside contractors.

The meeting adjourned at 7:17pm

Todd R. Ray

Chairman

Judith L. Toth

Fiscal Officer