

Geneva Township  
Regular Meeting  
April 12, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mills at 7:30 pm

Those present were Trustee Mills, Trustee Brown, Trustee Russell, Fire Chief Arkenburg and Road Supervisor Burhenne  
Citizens Rick Arndt and Bill Sturm.

Minutes from the March 8, 2017 meeting were approved on a Motion by Trustee Brown and a Second by Trustee Mills, all trustees voted in favor.

Bills in the amount of \$109,036.41 covered by e-payments E32-2017 - E44-2017 and Warrants 19118 - 19174 were approved on a motion by Trustee Russell and a second by trustee Brown, all Trustees voted in favor.

Citizen's comments:

Bill Sturm, 4405 North Broadway commented he has had several phone calls inquiring about the proposed bike path through the city and township. He indicated that he does not believe that the path should go down Austin Road to Geneva on the Lake. He stated that he believes the bike path should go down route 534, since route 534 is zoned commercial and there would be more to see and do. Trustee Mills commented that the township has to wait and see what path the City chooses so the township would know where to connect to. Trustee Brown indicates he has been very involved in the project and the township will have to follow the State of Ohio guidelines in order to secure a grant for the bike path construction. Trustee Russell commented he welcomed any and all ideas. Mr. Sturm inquired why isn't any of the 2017 meeting minutes on the township's web site. Trustee Russell advised the Township has had an issue with the internet web host losing internet content and he will contact the fiscal officer and get the minutes back up on the website. Mr. Sturm asked why the Trustee meeting are not publicized in the Star Beacon, Trustee Russell said he would contact the Star Beacon again and have them included. Mr. Sturm why hasn't the zoning map changed to reflect a change Mr. Sturm believes he was granted in 2006 to rezone a parcel of land he owns from recreational to recreational commercial? Mr. Sturm provided the Trustees with a copy of the 2/8/2006 meeting which discussed the zoning change. Trustee Russell stated he did not believe the zoning of the property's zoning could be changed upon a vote of the Trustees as reflected in the meeting minutes, and he would contact the Ashtabula County Prosecutor for a legal opinion on the issue.

Road Department Report:

Trustee Mills asked about the status of a storm drain line that needed repaired on Spencer Drive. Mr. Burhenne stated he had a signed easement dated 9/21/2015 from a former property owner to do the

work. Trustee Russell asked if the easement was properly filed with the County. Trustee Russell asked Mr. Burhenne to check with Tony Long, Fiscal Officer and see if the easement was filed. If the easement was not filed a new easement with the current property owner will be obtained before the work can be done. A discussion was held about the possibility of renting a front end loader for chip and seal and Maple Ave project. Mr. Burhenne will get more information as to the cost of rental. Mr. Burhenne indicated that 2 of the dump trucks have had some minor mechanical issue and have been repaired. There is a possibility that some of the issue may be from algae in the bulk fuel tanks. Trustee Mills advised that the road department will be getting the summer equipment ready and a bracket is going to be made so the power broom can be mounted to the backhoe. The floor drains in the shop are not working properly, the oil separator was recently cleaned which helped some, the road department will continue to try and resolve the issue.

#### Fire Department Report:

Chief Arkenburg reported that the fire department continues to be busy with calls and recently there have been a lot of calls in reference to meth labs. Chief Arkenburg stated he has attended several meetings about issues resulting from the use of heroin. Chief Arkenburg reported that the grant to purchase a new fire truck was denied however several fire departments in southern Ashtabula County received a total of over \$300,000.00. The grant that was submitted to purchase a new gear washer/dryer is still a possibility. The county is in the process of a long awaited update to the 911 system. The department recently formed a truck committee to review and make recommendations for the replacement and upgrading the current fire department fleet.

#### Zoning Report:

Trustee Brown stated he had met with a Saybrook Township resident in reference to a complaint on Lake Road East. The resident had good things to say about zoning inspector Cerjan, however she is frustrated with the fact that no sooner does the township get the area cleaned up the occupant is back to burning trash and cluttering up the place again. Chief Arkenburg stated he will check out the area within the next couple days to address the open burning of trash.

#### Fiscal Officer:

Trustee Russell reported Fiscal Officer Long was at a seminar in Columbus. Trustee Russell presented Resolution 2017-05 (resolution authorizing participation in the ODOT winter road salt contract 018-18), requesting 850 tons. Trustee Brown made a motion to accept resolution 2017-05 with a second from Trustee Russell. Roll call vote: Trustee Brown- Yes, Trustee Mills - Yes, and Trustee Russell - Yes.

#### New Business:

Trustee Russell he received a call from a resident in the area of Meyers Rd and Lake Road asking if the Township could haul a couch to the landfill for cleanup day due to the fact that the resident is unable medically to do it himself. After a short discussion it was determined that probably the best course of action would be for the resident to call 211, Mr. Burhenne will call the resident and discuss the issue.

Trustee Russell presented a proposal received from Saybrook & Soil and Compost, 8050 Depot Rd, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004 in reference to the Township paying a yearly fee that would allow Township

Residents to dump their yard waste for free. The yearly fee was \$2,000.00/yr for a one year contract, \$1,800.00/yr for a two year contract, and \$1500.00/yr for a three year contract. Trustee Russell pointed out that currently Geneva City and Geneva on the Lake have contracted with this company. Currently since the township does not have a contract with the company Township residents are charged \$15.00/ load to drop off materials. Trustee Mills said he would check with Bobbie Brobst and see what his price would be. Trustee Russell stated that he has received very few negative comments about the Township not providing the service to the residents; Trustee Mills and Trustee Brown were in agreement.

Trustee Mills presented a proposal he and Commissioner Durco have been discussing about the Township participating in a hotel feasibility study that might possibly be done in the county. Mr. Mills stated that he believes that Geneva on the Lake, Geneva City, Conneaut, Harpersfield, the Ashtabula County convention and Visitor Bureau, along with Ashtabula County will be participating and will be splitting the cost. Mr. Mills stated he believed if the Township wished to be a part of the study the cost would be about \$1,800.00. Mr. Russell stated he believed that the study would help the Township in getting sewers extended into the Township in the future, and he would not object in being a part of the study as long as the Township's share was not over \$2,000.00. Trustee Mills made a motion to participate in the hotel study at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00, with Trustee Brown seconding the motion. Roll call vote was taken with all trustees voting yes.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm on a motion By Trustee Brown and a second by Trustee Mills. All Trustees voted yes.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer