

BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 30, 2017 at 6:30pm
Bazetta Township Administration Building
3372 State Route 5
Cortland, Ohio 44410

Present:

Trustee Paul Hovis
Vice Chairman Trustee Frank Parke
Chairman Trustee Ted Webb
Fiscal Officer Rita K. Drew

- Discussion with Parks & Recreation Board Members regarding possible fund raising options to prevent park closure
 - Chairman Belcher
 - Members of Parks & Recreation Board would like to conduct 2 fund raisers to try and bring in enough money to ensure that the park stays open this year
 - March 1 would be a \$20 per person fund raising all-you-can-eat buffet at Quaker Steak and Lube, with 50% of the ticket price paying for the meal and 50% coming to the township
 - April 29 would be the semi-annual fundraising dinner at Candlelight Knolls with live auction, raffles, etc.
 - Would like to have all monies raised be earmarked for anything required to keep the park open, not just for improvement of sites as had been the previous agreement
 - Knows this may not cover the full \$16,200 that is this year's park budget or the \$27,000 that is the park's typical budget in the past, but will have more fund raisers to try and bring in more
 - Christopher Schiavone of the Lakeview Athletic Club
 - Concerned that the park will not be open for baseball this year, which will adversely affect their older teams
 - Willing to support and work with the Trustees and Parks & Recreation Board to keep the park open
 - Bob McBride, Bazetta Resident
 - Asked if there was any truth to the notion that our contract with the State of Ohio will not allow the township to close the park
 - Trustee Webb stated that there is no contract in regarding Bazetta Park
 - Trustees Parke and Webb said this was not true, that Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources had told them that we could "do whatever you need to do"
 - Trustees Parke said he had also spoken with the appropriate federal authorities since Bazetta Park is a combination of township, state, and federal property
 - Brian Orfin, Cortland Resident
 - Asked where the money comes from that supports the park and if it is the same money that is used to pay employee health care costs
 - Trustee Webb replied as follows
 - The park is completely supported by the township's General Fund, which also supported Administration, Cemetery, Zoning, and road paving projects

- Only 2 individuals have healthcare paid from the General Fund (one township employee and one elected official), all others are paid from either the Road & Bridge, Police, or Fire Funds
 - If it were not for 2 wealthy residents who passes away before the Ohio Estate Tax was repealed, the General Fund would have run out of money several years ago
 - This is why it is so important to pass the General Fund Levy
- Trustee Parke noted that grants have been pursued, but we have not been awarded any and there are very few available for park purposes
- Trustee Hovis noted that the Parks & Recreation Board will be having a meeting on Tuesday, February 7 at the Administration Building
 - All Trustees will attend, although it is not their meeting
 - Encouraged all residents to attend
- Trustee Webb reminded the assemblage that the General Fund Levy will be on the May 2 ballot

047-17 To authorize the Parks & Recreation Board to move forward with fundraisers on March 1 and April 29, with funds raised to be allocated to any park purpose.

Motion: Trustee Hovis
Second: Trustee Parke
Vote: Trustee Hovis – Yes Trustee Parke - Yes Trustee Webb - Yes


048-17 To authorize the Fiscal Officer to make the following transfer.

\$200,253.87 from Huntington Investment Account to Huntington Checking Account

Motion: Trustee Hovis
Second: Trustee Parke
Vote: Trustee Hovis – Yes Trustee Parke - Yes Trustee Webb - Yes

049-17 To adjourn the meeting at 6:45pm.

Motion: Trustee Parke
Second: Trustee Hovis
Vote: Trustee Hovis – Yes Trustee Parke - Yes Trustee Webb - Yes



 Attested by: Fiscal Officer Rita K. Drew

Dated: 02-01-17



 Approved by: Chairman Trustee Ted Webb

Dated: 2/13/17