

COMMISSIONERS MEETING – TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2004

Sharon A. Ray called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with Patricia G. Geissman and Stephen D. Hambley present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Prayer.

At the beginning of the meeting the oral reading of the minutes of January 12 was dispensed with. Each Commissioner has read them personally. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the minutes; Seconded by Mrs. Geissman.

Mr. Hambley noted that on page 4 during the discussion about T Mobile installing a cell tower in the Old Court House, the sentence reading that “the antenna will be behind the louver vents and guaranteed to be seen” should be guaranteed not be seen”.

It was agreed that this should be amended.

There was no further discussion.

Roll Call on the motion and second to approve the minutes showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Doug King, Administrative Assistant in the County Engineer’s office, presented resolutions authorizing the advertisement of bids for aerial photography, digital orthophotos and creation of land use GIS layer, approving the annual county highway system report prepared by ODOT, and approving the annual assessment on improvements & establishment of a public watercourse for Morning Song Subdivision Phase III. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the 3 resolutions; Seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners reviewed the weekly permits list.

Chris Jakab, Finance Director, presented resolutions amending the temporary appropriations by increasing appropriations, various fund transfers, approving agreements and services for mental health, literacy and parenting programs at the Jail, purchasing fuel for the Engineering Center from Ports Petroleum, and the weekly bills in the amount of \$724,439.35. The agreements for services at the Jail are renewals with Alternative Paths, Career Center and OSU Extension. There are moderate increases in the renewals. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the 5 resolutions and payment of the bills; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Gary Berkowitz, Human Resources Director, presented and reviewed the personnel resolution. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the personnel changes; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

John Stricker, County Administrator, had no resolutions today.

Jim Troike, Assistant Sanitary Engineer, presented a resolution authorizing the release of the escrow account of G. E. Baker Construction for the Buffham, S.R. 83, Lake and Poe Roads waterline project. This project was completed during the summer. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the release of the escrow account; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Jim presented a resolution to obtain easements for various waterline improvement projects. Mrs. Geissman moved to obtain the easements; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Art Verdoorn, Building Official, presented and reviewed the December and year-end report. For December they issued 65 new home permits versus 67 the previous December. The commercial value was almost the same, but they had 20 projects versus 18 projects the prior

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December. The receipts were down a little. For the year, the issued 1020 single family home permits versus 899 the previous year. Although the average costs were up, the sizes were down on the average. Commercial was down about 25% and total revenues/fees were down about 2%. Overall they had a successful year with over 95% of the inspections being done the next day following a call from a contractor. Through questioning, he stated that the standard is that if a contractor calls by 3:00 p.m. the inspection will be scheduled for the following day. This standard was started in 2003. Previously they had to give 24 hours notice. By calling at 3:00 the inspectors have time to organize their schedules for the next day. If they get swamped, such as during the summer months, he is able to pull others in to perform inspections. The re-inspections follow the same standard for scheduling inspections. There are a lot of times that a contractor will automatically reschedule before an inspection for a day or 2 later because they know they will not pass. Staffing has been very stable and safety has been good. There was one minor accident in 2003.

Ms. Ray presented a resolution approving the adoption of the revisions to the Medina County Building Department Fee Schedule. Public hearings were held the last 2 weeks to review the revisions. This department is self-funded. The fees are still lower than the county municipalities or the state but will ensure that the department stays self-funding. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve adopting the revisions; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mike Pataky, Child Support Enforcement Agency Director, reported that several from his office have been attending software training at the Career Center. They state provided “canned programs” with no instruction and it has been nice learning some of the things about the programs. He would like for the County to continue offering these classes.

Patrice Theken, Department of Planning Services Director, presented a copy of revenues for 2003, which showed they took in \$67,918.50 in 2003 versus \$59,149 in 2002. They reviewed final plats for 584 single housing units involving 1068 acres of land. They completed 174 applications for minor subdivisions. They met last week with Liverpool and their committee involved with their comprehensive plan. This was an introductory meeting and they will be meeting monthly to assist Liverpool with putting their changes together for their development plan.

Ms. Ray presented a resolution appointing Shereen Lakhani to the District Library Board of Trustees. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the appointment; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The Clerk read the resolution to allow expenses of county officials. Mrs. Geissman moved to allow the expenses; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The meeting was opened for public comment and there was no one present wishing to comment.

Commissioners recessed the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Ms. Ray noted that there is an 11:00 public viewing and the meeting will immediately recess after the viewing. The discussion session is at 1:30 p.m.

It was noted that Doug King would be picking Commissioners up for the viewing and that it is at the northwest corner of Route 252.

Commissioners reconvened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. for the discussion session.

Ken Hotz noted that he mentioned at the budget hearing that they were looking at instituting a reduction on water bills for those eligible for Homestead Exemption. This has been done on sewer bills since 1991. This would be an automatic reduction based on the list from the

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Auditor. This was not done with the water bills in the past because the system was small, but they have found they now have 215 customers that would be eligible. They are looking at a 50% reduction, which for the average household using 3500 gallons/month would be \$6.82 a month. This is about \$1.20 more than the City of Cleveland charges, but their rates have been going up 3% every year. He feels our rates would be the same for at least 5 years. This would be a loss of \$17,000 annually out of a \$5 million budget, which would not adversely affect the office. If Commissioners are comfortable with this, he will have a resolution prepared for next week. This would not go into affect for a couple of months in order to get the programming in the computer. Commissioners agree to have this reduction instituted.

Ken reported that he was asked to attend a meeting in Brunswick regarding a study to check the City of Cleveland's water system versus the County water system. A draft proposal was given to Commissioners for supplying water to Brunswick. Brunswick's consultant and City of Cleveland were also at the meeting. City Council has passed a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept requests for proposals to provide water. An analysis has been done and a financial consultant is analyzing the projections for the next 5 years to get an outside opinion. He believes this is a win/win situation for the County to take over the water system in the City of Brunswick. First, Commissioners are elected by voters of Brunswick and if something goes wrong in the waterlines, our people would be there within ½ hour notice. At this time, Cleveland gets there a couple days later. In the projections we could also save the residents money. The average cost to the residents, based on the 2003 rates, is about \$4/month difference. Cleveland has published their rates through 2005 and using that rate it would be a savings of \$6.40 for residents. For commercial it would be a savings of around \$800/year. Cleveland is being quiet about what will happen after 2005, but they have purchased generators to make sure they don't lose power, but they are proposing to include that cost for future increases. He not sure when the City of Brunswick will be making the request for proposals.

Mr. Hambley stated that they will probably be doing that in the next couple of weeks. Their law director has been authorized to write up the resolution for that.

Ken stated that if this becomes reality the fights for annexation for water could end because we would be the supplier in both the township and city.

Mr. Hambley stated that Bob Zienkowski, Brunswick City Manager, has indicated that they are trying to keep the annexation problems and this water proposal separate. They have been meeting with John Oberholtzer and their law director and they hope to have a response within a month. They realize the annexation issues have to be resolved in order for the water deal to go through, and they are trying to keep them separate regardless of whether they go with the City of Cleveland or County for water.

Ken noted that our system surrounds the City now and there would have to be some improvements to bring in more water, and there is a commitment from Avon Lake to get more water in a 40 year contract.

After further discussion, Commissioners agreed to have a proposal submitted when the RFP's are issued.

Mr. Hambley noted that a letter was received from the State JFS with recommended approval for the designation for Workforce Investment Area.

Ms. Ray reviewed the letter and noted that this is the preliminary approval to move forward. Last Monday she met with representatives from the Summit County and Medina County Workforce Boards and the 2 directors. Progress is going very smoothly and we should be well into the transition before the July 1 deadline. The agencies are working very well together. It is anticipated that there will \$600,000 additional in training money in the next federal budget.

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Ms. Ray noted that Summit County's form of government is interesting and she didn't realize that they deal with a council form of government and specific charter. It does seem cumbersome from an operational standpoint.

Mr. Hambley noted that there is a meeting in the morning with the Port Authority to start negotiations for the Technology Park agreement on the disposition of the land.

Chris Jakab stated that he received a response from the Poison Control Center regarding the budget issue and their attendance at the meeting for planning. They are thankful to the Board for agreeing to participate.

There was no further business before the Board for discussion.

The meeting was recessed at 1:46 p.m.

Commissioners reconvened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. for the public hearing on the vacation of streets in Marysville Plat in Liverpool Township.

Dave Miller, County Engineer, noted that the petition was received to vacate streets that were platted in 1837. The required advertising was done and the public viewing was held earlier today. He read his report, which is attached to the end of the minutes as Exhibit A. It is his opinion that vacation of the streets will not adversely affect the public convenience and welfare.

Mr. Hambley asked if the criteria is based on the benefit to the traveling public.

Dave stated that it is the benefit of the general public.

Mr. Hambley noted that there were concerns about building new homes in the flood plain and asked if that is something that can be considered.

Dave stated that it cannot be considered with the vacation of streets. If they do build homes they will have to follow the federal and county regulations for flood plains.

Ms. Ray asked if they will have to re-plat the land according to the process if they subdivide.

Dave stated they would, and noted that he understands it is their intent to get rid of all right-of-ways so lots can be created sometime in the future.

There was no further discussion.

Mrs. Geissman moved to close the public hearing; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mrs. Geissman moved to allow the vacation of the streets in Marysville Plat; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mrs. Geissman moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:08 p.m.; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There as no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED:

04-0037 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS

04-0038 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF THE MEDINA COUNTY ENGINEER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY, DIGITAL ORTHOPHOTOS, AND CREATION OF LAND USE GIS LAYER OF MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO

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- 04-0039 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ANNUAL COUNTY HIGHWAY SYSTEM REPORT PREPARED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
- 04-0040 RESOLUTION APPROVING ANNUAL ASSESSMENT ON IMPROVEMENTS...21.7713 ACRES IN LOT 28 OF MEDINA TOWNSHIP...MORNING SONG FARMS SUBDIVISION PHASE III AND ESTABLISHING SAID IMPROVEMENTS AS A PUBLIC WATERCOURSE
- 04-0041 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION
- 04-0042 TRANSFER OF COUNTY GENERAL FUNDS TO THE MEDINA COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
- 04-0043 TRANSFER OF COUNTY GENERAL FUNDS TO THE COUNTY DIVERSION PROGRAM
- 04-0044 APPROVING AGREEMENTS AND SERVICES FOR MENTAL HEALTH, LITERACY, AND PARENTING PROGRAMS AT THE MEDINA COUNTY JAIL
- 04-0045 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 3,000 GALLONS OF PREMIUM UNLEADED AND 3,900 GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE ENGINEERING CENTER
- 04-0046 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- 04-0047 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY SANITARY ENGINEER TO RELEASE THE ESCROW ACCOUNT OF G.E. BAKER CONSTRUCTION FOR THE BUFFHAM, S.R.83, LAKE AND POE ROADS WATERLINE PROJECT MCSE #S-500/00-188.1
- 04-0048 AUTHORIZING THE SANITARY ENGINEER TO OBTAIN EASEMENTS FOR VARIOUS WATERLINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- 04-0049 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF THE REVISIONS TO THE MEDINA COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT FEE SCHEDULE
- 04-0050 RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE MEDINA COUNTY DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
- 04-0051 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS
- 04-0052 RESOLUTION VACATING THE STREETS IN MARYSVILLE PLAT LOCATED IN LOT 3, SECTION 3 OF LIVERPOOL TOWNSHIP, MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO RECORDED 1837 IN DEED VOL. N, PAGE 131 OF THE MEDINA COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE

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MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Sharon A. Ray

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia G. Geissman

Pamela J. Terrill, Clerk

Stephen D. Hambley