The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Chairman Chuck Buck.

Roll Call -
- Charles Wm. Buck, Chairman – Present
- Larry Earman, Vice-Chairman – Present
- Timothy Roberts, Trustee – Present

Also Present -
- Jamie Fisher, Township Administrator
- Jeff Warren, Fire Chief
- Greg Young, Battalion Chief
- Robbie Thomas, Cemetery Sexton/Road Superintendent
- Jamie Miles, Fiscal Officer

AGENDA ADDITIONS - None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Mr. Harry Ours, resident of Schirzinger Road, reported that storm water for the creek has flooded his front yard, back yard and septic system two times in the past year. He stated that his property serves as the flood control for the whole area. He recommended that a detention pond be scooped out on the abutting (Ridgewood) school property; he believes there is enough area. He also suggested cutting off one of the three culverts at the school. Mr. Buck asked if there was something done recently to cause this flooding. Mr. Ours stated that he was a 20 year resident and has had (flooding) problems prior to last year. He would really like to get the problem fixed. City of Hilliard Service Director, Butch Seidle addressed correspondence sent to Mr. Ours. According to Mr. Seidle, there are not any restrictions in the related culverts. He further confirmed that the school was built in the Township and then annexed into the City of Hilliard. In addition the school expansion was completed prior to 1994 when the school was annexed into the City of Hilliard. Mr. Seidle recommended petitioning the county to address. Mr. Ours is not blaming any one; it just seems that the school property is a pervious place to have a detention pond scooped out. Mr. Buck said that the Board would continue to work with him. He recommended that Mr. Ours go to a school meeting to see if a detention pond could be placed on the school property. School Board Member, Andy Tenter, is not sure a retention pond is feasible but is concerned that this is a problem. And if there is a problem with the Dublin Road culvert then it needs to be fixed. Mr. Buck recommended asking the county if they can do a study. Mrs. Fisher will follow up with Jim Pajk about the matter.

Mrs. Carol Browning, resident of Brentfield Place, requested the Board’s support to address the tremendous noise increase coming from the I-70 traffic. ODOT created a number of problems yielding to the noise increase. According to Mrs. Browning, when ODOT replaced the existing noise abatement wall, they replaced it with a shorter wall that was made of concrete instead of teak wood. In addition, ODOT put the abatement wall on the other side of the street and cut down all of the trees along this side of the street eliminating the natural buffer. Then AEP came along and cut down trees along the opposite side of the street due to the power lines. Mrs. Browning has spoken with the local ODOT office and has gotten nowhere. Mr. Earman recommended that she contact House of Representatives, Laura Lanese. City of Hilliard Service Director, Butch Seidle, who was in attendance, recommended that Mrs. Browning contact Mr. Tom Slack with the Delaware ODOT district office.
Approval of Trustee Meeting Minutes for 3/21/17
Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Earman, for the approval of the Norwich Township Trustee meeting minutes for the regular meeting on March 21, 2017.
Vote: Buck-Yes Earman- Yes Roberts- Yes Motion passed - #170404.01

POLICE DEPARTMENT - None

FIRE DEPARTMENT
Chief Warren advised that an updated hiring procedure would be forthcoming for the Board’s review and approval.

CEMETERY & ROAD DEPARTMENT
Mr. Thomas requested approval of two grave buyback requests. He reported that the staff was transitioning from winter to spring. Given the low cost of road salt, Mr. Thomas is going to go ahead and fill the salt barn back up. Mr. Earman entered a motion to approve the request from the Modlich family for an oversized headstone.

Approval of Prince Grave Buy Back
Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Roberts, for approval of a grave buy back requested by Susan Yvonne Prince. The grave was originally purchased on April 8, 1993 for $500.00 Block E, Lot 121, Grave 2.
Vote: Buck-Yes Earman- Yes Roberts- Yes Motion passed - #170404.02

Approval of Barnett Grave Buy Back
Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Roberts, for approval of a grave buy back requested by Helen Christine Barnett. The graves were originally purchased on October 28, 2003 for $1,000.00 Block D, Lot 247, Graves 1 and 2.
Vote: Buck-Yes Earman- Yes Roberts- Yes Motion passed - #170404.03

Approval of Modlich Oversized Headstone
Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Roberts, for approval of an oversized headstone requested by the Modlich family.
Vote: Buck-Yes Earman- Yes Roberts- Yes Motion passed - #170404.04

FISCAL OFFICE - Nothing to report

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION
Mrs. Fisher requested approval to award the SSB Parking Lot Improvement Project to Dura Seal. In addition, she requested approval to increase the fiber bandwidth connections for each fire station. She was able to negotiate the same platform with AT&T for an overall price increase of $40 per month.

Approval to Award SSB Parking Lot Improvement Project
Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Roberts, for the approval to award the SSB Parking Lot Improvement Project to Dura Seal for the base bid amount of $129,974.04. The award is based upon the lowest and best bid amount. Also to authorize the Township Administrator to sign all related contract documents.
Approval to Increase Fiber Bandwidth

Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Earman, for the approval to increase the fiber bandwidth connections for each fire station.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #170404.06

TRUSTEE-OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Buck asked the Board to discuss the adoption of resolutions opposing the City of Hilliard proposed tax abatements for Ten Pin Alley and Sturbridge Assisted Living. Nicole Boyer of Wollock Communities addressed the Board regarding the Sturbridge Assisted Living Community. According to Ms. Boyer, Wollock currently owns the entire development including the undeveloped portion of the area. The idea behind the development was to create an aging place for people within the community at a price point that was economical in comparison to other locations within the area. The independent living section will remain the same and 124 units would be constructed on the undeveloped site. The City of Hilliard has already approved the zoning for these units. The requested abatement is for 50% not 100%. The reasoning behind this request being 50% is that this would allow the development to happen and bring the taxes and assessed value down to what it was prior to the recent legislative action that was pushed thru in December 2016. The new legislation says that the operational activities is now taken into account in the assessment of taxes. Whereas before the community was taxed based upon being an apartment dwelling. According to Ms. Boyer, this change in legislation will cause the assessed value to increase anywhere between 33% - 50%. Once they (Wollock) started to run the numbers it became apparent that the project could not happen without some sort of tax abatement. Mr. Buck stated that this is a very nice project but the Board is trying to protect its taxpayers. Mr. Earman’s problem is that basically you (Wollock) are being given $2.7 million to better your operations; this money is taken from the Township, schools, library and other agencies. This causes us to have to go back to our residents for levies and I have a real problem with this. Mr. Boyer stated that without the tax abatement the project won’t happen and the opportunity to collect the $300,000 in property tax won’t happen. Mr. Roberts confirmed that the legislative impacted shared by Ms. Boyer was new information to him, the rest of the Board agreed. Mr. Roberts is struggling to understand the true impact of this new legislation and would like to have more clarification before rending a decision on the matter. Mr. Earman requested a difference in the calculations before and aider the legislative action. Ms. Boyer will get forward this information. The Board agreed to table the matter for further clarification.

Franklin County Sheriff’s Deputy reported that a missing person returned call was taken on March 5th from the 1600 block of Valley Crest Drive. All other business is as usual. The Sheriff’s office continues to provide similar programs as the Hilliard Police Department.

Motion by Mr. Earman, seconded by Mr. Roberts to adjourn from the regular meeting at 1:02 pm.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes