



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

*Minutes of* ***NORWICH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES*** *Meeting*  
**5181 NORTHWEST PARKWAY, HILLIARD, OHIO**  
*Held* **March 19, 2019**

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The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Chairman Larry Earman.

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

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

**AGENDA ADDITIONS** - None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Franklin County Sheriff Deputy Cindy Forsythe introduced herself as the Community Liaison for Norwich Township. Typically, she provides the last two weeks of calls for service at each meeting. If the Board would like something more or different, please let her know. There were 3 calls in the Township last week that the FC Sheriff responded on.

**Approval of Trustee Meeting Minutes for 2/19/2019**

Motion by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. Roberts, for the approval of the Norwich Township Trustee meeting minutes for the regular meeting on February 19, 2019.

Vote: Buck- Yes Earman- Yes Roberts- Yes

Motion passed - #190319.01

Mrs. Miles requested that the meeting minutes from March 5, 2019 be removed from the agenda since this meeting was canceled.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Fisher reported that February activity was minimal in the Township. There were a couple of domestic violence calls. Officers continue to be proactive with OVI and drug arrests. The Department continues to move forward with hiring efforts. Chief Fisher reported that Council has approved a drug court option for Mayors Court. This would provide additional opportunities for drug addicts to seek treatment here locally instead of having to go outside of our community.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Warren requested that \$2,500 be set aside for Paul Ritzenthaler for his assistance with special event planning. The amount is already included within Chief Warren's budget. Mr. Earman said there is no need to take formal action since the money is already budgeted. Representatives from OHM will be attending the second meeting in April to discuss the development plans for the newly purchased land. Chief Warren will confirm the dates for trustee interviews for the Lieutenant position. There are 20 applicants. The Board agreed that it should be done in two days. Chief Warren attended last night's Hilliard City Council meeting with the intention of speaking to the members about Narcan use and the number of overdoses. However, this did not happen because Council was fully in support of adding a drug court. This is a proactive approach to addict recovery.



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In 2018, there were 54 overdoses and 27 times Narcan was administered by staff. These numbers do not seem significant, however, there are other things taking place. It is happening more often that officers and family members are administering Narcan prior to the Fire Department arriving. Chief Warren reported that the Brown Township meeting was good. He is working to drill down the \$28,000 quote that was received for the HVAC repair project at Station 82. There were a couple of items listed within the quote that needed to be confirmed. Due to this, Chief Warren asked to table approval of the project so that he can work to nail down those figures.

**CEMETERY & ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Thomas requested approval of a grave buy back for Paula Melrose. In addition, he requested approval to hire two seasonal positions. Applications for the seasonal position are due by April 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Thomas reported that he has received the cost estimate for the 2019 road projects. The Franklin County Engineers Office provided another option for the roadwork that would be approximately a \$40,000 savings. Before Mr. Thomas presents the quote to the Board, he has some follow up questions regarding this option. He will report back once he gets some answers.

**Approval of Melrose Grave Buy Back**

Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Buck, for approval of a grave buy back requested by Paula Melrose that was originally purchased on September 24, 2014 for \$700 (Block L, Lot 52, Grave 2).

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman- Yes Roberts- Yes

Motion passed - #190319.02

**Approval of Seasonal Positions**

Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Buck, for the approval of two seasonal positions not to exceed 80 hours per week.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #190319.03

**FISCAL OFFICE**

Mrs. Miles presented the Township credit card transaction detail and attestation letter for February to Mr. Earman for review and signature.

**TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION**

Mrs. Fisher requested approval to replace the existing Rodgers Technologies IT contract service agreement with IT made Real effective April 1, 2019. Mrs. Fisher noted that the new contract would be a savings reduction of \$1,558 per month. And would incorporate the same services included in our current IT contract. Mr. Buck noted that the City of Hilliard received a very bad rating on their IT services. He feels that 40 hours of IT support is too much but does not dispute the need for support.

In other matters, Mrs. Fisher reported that the Columbus Development Commission has tabled the rezoning request for Sugar Farms due to a number of complaints that need to be addressed. Unrelated to this, Mr. Thomas Hart, attorney for the Sugar Farms development contacted Mrs. Fisher regarding information contained within the September 25, 2018 minutes. According to Mr. Hart, it was written that 700 children were anticipated to come from this development. Mr. Hart did not give a stat on the number of children to come from the development and that this information was recorded in error. Mr. Earman stated to let the current minutes reflect this discussion but not to amend the September 25<sup>th</sup> minutes.





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Mrs. Fisher reported that the Historical Society has donated two additional light poles to the Norwich Pavilion Project which will result in a \$6,000 credit for the project. The light poles will be retro fitted for LED lighting. The footers are being poured this week and all power has been restored to the area.

Mrs. Fisher introduced the Township’s CareWorks representatives, Ken Main and Cathy Baxter. Mr. Main reported that the biggest change for the Township is that we are no longer eligible for the group rating plan because of one bad claim not because our experience is high. The Township is eligible for the group retro plan. With the group rating plan, the Township qualifies for a credit up front and any unused premium goes to the surplus fund not back to the employer. With a group retro plan, the employer pays 100% of the premium, then we would get a credit back at the end of year 2, 3, and 4. In addition, the employer gets all of the unused premium back. With the group retro plan, the Township will still get the Go Green, Lapse Free, and Safety Council credits. No other credits are eligible. The Township is still eligible for group rating until 12/31/19, then 1/1/20 the Township will go to group retro. Mr. Main confirmed that legislators are being lobbied for change, however, the Industrial Commission still has the ability to interpret the laws.

Miss Baxter confirmed that she represents the MCO side of CareWorks versus Ken who represents the TPA side of CareWorks. The MCO services are paid for by BWC not the Township. The goal is to get employees back to work. She provided a summary of claims from 2015 to current. Some of the trends indicate that most injuries happen in July on Saturday or Sunday. In 2018, there were four claims which is the lowest since 2015. So far for 2019 there is only one claim. The Board thanked Miss Baxter and Mr. Main for sharing the information.

**Approval to Rescind Resolution #181218.06**

Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Buck, for approval to rescind Resolution 181218.06 for Cemetery Deed Compensation based upon Attorney General Opinion 2019-05.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

Motion passed - #190319.04

**TRUSTEE-OLD BUSINESS** - None

**TRUSTEE-NEW BUSINESS** - None

Motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Buck to adjourn from the regular meeting at 12:35 pm.

Vote: Buck-Yes Earman-Yes Roberts-Yes

  
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Larry Earman, Chairman

  
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Jamie Miles, Fiscal Officer