

**VERMILION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES***Record of Proceedings  
Minutes to Regular Meeting Held 1/5/22*

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Ronald L. Dickel.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Ronald L. Dickel, Trustee; Carl E. Hill, Trustee; Rodger D. Scott, Trustee; Brenda J. Zsebik, Fiscal Officer; Robert Baker, Building Official/Zoning Inspector; Frank R. Triana, Vermilion Township Fire Chief; Tina L. Karres, Township Secretary.

MOTION BY R. Dickel, second by C. Hill to approve minutes to regular meeting held 12/15/21 and special "End of Year" meeting held 12/29/21 and dispense with the reading of the minutes.  
Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, yes; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

MOTION BY C. Hill, second by R. Scott to accept the Treasurer's Report and Financial Packet dated 1/4/22. Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, yes; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

MOTION BY R. Dickel, second by C. Hill to approve and pay warrants 25558 through 25580 (25273, 25469, adjustments) and payment vouchers 625-2021, 626-2021, 627-2021, 628-2021, 629-2021, 630-2021, 631-2021, 632-2021, 633-2021, 634-2021, 635-2021, 636-2021, 637-2021, 638-2021, 639-2021, 640-2021, 641-2021, 642-2021, 643-2021, 644-2021, 645-2021, 647-2021, 648-2021, 649-2021, 650-2021, 651-2021, 652-2021, 654-2021, 655-2021, 656-2021, 657-2021. Warrants and payment vouchers totaled \$51,187.58. Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, yes; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

No audience participation.

**SPEAKERS:**

None present.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

No correspondence.

**BUILDING OFFICIAL/ZONING INSPECTOR:**

Building Official/Zoning Inspector, Robert Baker, reported for December the Zoning Department issued 2 zoning permits (168.40) and 2 BZA applications (\$600.00) with a total fee collection of \$768.40; the Building Department issued 6 permits with a total fee collection of \$920.00 and total valuation of work being done at \$151,900.00.

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VERMILION TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief F. Triana's report: Fire Runs between 12/1/21 – 12/31/21. EMS – 48; MVC – 2; Open Burn – 1; M/A Structure Fire – 1 (City of Vermilion); Residential Alarm – 1; YTD: 770 Runs.

841 repairs at Liberty have been completed. There is an issue with the truck hard starting and this is being taken care of. (Glow plug wire harness).

December 14<sup>th</sup>, Atlantic Fire technician was on site and changed out the starter in 842, which was becoming an issue at the worst possible times.

Gatchell L.L.C. has submitted both grants for VTFD. Copies have been forwarded to the Fiscal Officer.

The department was at Kingston Assisted Living on December 14<sup>th</sup> and completed on site training for the staff for Emergency Lifts and Carries.

The Chief would like a few minutes after this meeting to conduct the Fire Indemnity Board Meeting. This is required annually for the State of Ohio.

The department is sending their Vacuum Mattress in for repair due to it not holding vacuum when in use.

December runs are complete. They have not been submitted to the state due to software update.

NORTHERN OHIO RURAL WATER REPRESENTATIVE:

Mr. Larry Deem, Northern Ohio Rural Water Representative was in attendance to give their annual report. They have added approximately 200 service connections which gives them a total of 12,895 service connections. Their annual revenue is approximately 9.25 million dollars. The approved changes in Vermilion Township are the doubling up of the supply line from of Middle Ridge Road to State Route 60 and Mason Road. The engineering has been completed but will remain on hold for the lack of being able to buy pipe. The other update Mr. Deem brought to the Boards attention was a notification that there will be a price increase which will be effective this month. The total revenue increase for the system will be about 4 percent. A minimum bill will see a decrease of approximately \$4.00 (residents who have a tap but have never used any water).

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Hill had two questions, since he was absent, on resolutions that were passed at the last End of the Year meeting which was held on December 29, 2021. The first was regarding the intent to conduct an internet auction to dispose of unneeded township property for 2022 through GovDeals.com if need be. He believed the township paid an annual fee. Trustee Dickel explained there was no annual fee. Trustee Hill recommended the times for the Board of Trustee meetings which are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month be changed to evening meetings rather than one held in the morning (8:00 a.m.) and one held in the evening (7:30 p.m.) since people work. Trustee Dickel explained the reason they changed the meetings years ago to one evening meeting and one morning meeting was to accommodate the residents that work nights so they wouldn't have to take a day off to attend. Trustee Hill felt it was more convenient for residents to come at night. Fiscal Officer Zsebik stated that there

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are people that work evenings and people that work days so the meetings being split up allows the opportunity to attend a meeting no matter what shift is worked. Trustee Scott stated he would like to see a change to both meetings being held in the evening as well. He stated he didn't see anybody at the morning meetings. Trustee Dickel stated he hasn't heard anyone complain about the meeting times. Fiscal Officer Zsebik noted that there have been citizens that have attended both morning and evening meetings, maybe not necessarily the ones he has attended.

MOTION BY C. Hill, second by R. Scott authorizing to amend Resolution 67-21 to hold both Board of Trustee monthly meetings in the evening at 7:30 p.m. Trustee Dickel noted it was changed years ago so residents that work nights could attend morning meetings. Township Secretary mentioned it may be a problem for speakers such as insurance companies etc. that attend during their workday. Trustee Scott stated if there were a lot of complaints, the meetings could be changed back. Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, no; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

Trustee Dickel attended the annual Erie County Engineer's meeting addressing construction and maintenance for all townships in Erie County. All paperwork regarding any projects the township will be completing is due on March 11, 2022.

Trustee Dickel presented three estimates for tree removal located at 7809 South Poorman Road. Quality One Tree Service at a cost of \$300.00, Carty's Tree Service at a cost of \$500.00, and Warren's Tree at a cost of \$600.00.

MOTION BY R. Dickel, second by C. Hill authorizing to hire Quality One Tree Service for tree removal (removal, chipping brush, clean up) located at 7809 South Poorman Road at a cost of \$300.00. Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, yes; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

MOTION BY R. Dickel, to go into Executive Session, ORC 121.22 (G) (1) at 7:50 p.m. for personnel matters employee compensation. Motion fails due to lack of second.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Hill stated Covid was running rampant. City Hall was down, schools were down. Trustee Hill recommended closing the offices to the public until things lighten up a little bit. Trustee Dickel stated there have been no problems so far in the offices. Fiscal Officer Zsebik stated that schools, Vermilion and Lorain are off an extra week prior to returning. Other schools are in session. Fiscal Officer Zsebik stated if someone doesn't want to come into the offices, they can call the township, or they could be greeted at the door. Fiscal Officer Zsebik did not recommend the offices being closed.

MOTION BY C. Hill, second by R. Scott authorizing to close the township office building to the public until further notice to keep everyone safe, but business can be conducted through the door or in the drop box. Discussion: Fiscal Officer Zsebik stated business was conducted through the door previously and could be conducted through the door this time as well. Trustee Hill agreed business could be conducted through the door and the drop box. Masks were discussed. Trustee Dickel stated he felt it should be left up to the individual conducting business. The township is open for business if the individual would like to come in, but they could also be met by an employee outside if so requested. T. Karres, Township Secretary stated that is what individuals are doing currently. January is a slow month and there aren't that many people coming in at the same time. Individuals can also complete paperwork online as well. Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, no; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

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Discussion ensued about skipping one meeting regarding closing to see how things progress and/or exempting the meetings from closure.

MOTION BY C. Hill, second by R. Scott authorizing to exempt the public meetings from the office building closure. Public may come to meetings if they choose to. The regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2022, will be skipped and the next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, yes; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

MOTION BY C. Hill, second by R. Scott authorizing to call a special meeting to discuss ORC 121.22 (G) (1) on Friday, January 7, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. Trustee Hill stated he asked Assistant Prosecutors Susan Brown, and Jason Hinnners to attend. Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, yes; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

Trustee Dickel informed the Board the road crew dug up tile on west Bailey Road and will need to purchase 120 feet of pipe for replacement. Board agreed.

MOTION BY: R. Dickel, second by C. Hill to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:05 p.m. with no further business to discuss. Roll Call – C. Hill, yes; R. Dickel, yes; R. Scott, yes; Motion Carried.

*Ronald T. Dickel*

Trustee

*Carl Hill*

Trustee

*Rory Scott*

Trustee

*Tina J. Harres*

Township Secretary