

8:00 P.M.

December 6

22

The first meeting of the month was held in the Town Hall meeting room with John Kline, (John K.), Frank Ruehr, Jr., (Frank R.), and Ronald Kotkowski (Ron K.), from here on out will be addressed as the BOT (Board of Trustees), and Fiscal Officer, Jill Corbett present. Chairperson, John Kline called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Maude Bias.

Others present –Dean Engelhart, Lloyd Harper, Jr., Maude Bias, Chuck Keiper, Greg Benner, and Tony Blatnik.

Ron K. made a motion to dispense with the reading of the November 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes, and to approve as written. Frank R. seconded the motion. Roll call was taken: Frank Ruehr, Jr., Yes, John Kline, Yes, and Ronald Kotkowski, Yes.

Three Cemetery Deeds were signed by the BOT and witnesses.

Visitor: Tony Blatnik is a CP (Certified Professional in Construction and Erosion Control) Tony has been in the dirt construction for 39 years. Trustee Ron K. asked Tony to come and speak on the proposed new drive and parking lot on the township property next to the Town Hall that connects with the Shalersville Park. Tony and Ron K. walked the property, and he spoke on the different aspects of this construction. The BOT has hired Hal Stamm PE to complete a civil design for the proposed project. Tony gave the BOT a lot of helpful information on making a mound for erosion, possible retention pond, gravel drive and parking lot verses paving. He is willing to sit with Hal, and the BOT after Hal puts together the civil design so the BOT can move forward with the best options for this project.

Visitor: Chuck Keiper Executive Director of NOPEC was in attendance to speak on why NOPEC's electric rates got so high and what NOPEC did for their clients. Chuck explained that Shalersville Township enrolled with NOPEC under the Portage County umbrella in 1999. All the townships, villages, and cities in Portage County with the exception of two enrolled with NOPEC at the time. This was put on the ballot and was passed. Chuck explained that with passing of this, the residences were automatically enrolled with NOPEC unless they opt-out. What has happened this last year is NOPEC purchased their electricity well in advance. The electric used in the first half of 2022 was purchased in late 2020 and early 2021. When Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the electricity market skyrocketed. The timing was the main reason NOPEC became so much more expensive. There is another option for residents, it is called the standard service offer and is a safety net so if the utility company goes out of business or such, the standard service will be there to keep the lights on. They are a service as a last resort. They purchase electric with a variable price from auctions. Where NOPEC has a set price. In July of 2022 when NOPEC pricing was set and peaked at 12 cents per kilowatt The utility company that purchases for standard service was much lower. So NOPEC made the decision to temporarily drop close to 550,000 customers back to the standard service which was cheaper. In July all the customers will automatically be re-enrolled in NOPEC unless they opt out. Chuck explained that the future for NOPEC to sell electricity is being debated by the regulators from the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, their decision should be made in late December. NOPEC will continue to be allowed to sell natural gas. If NOPEC goes away it could be a big loss for customers, since it challenges FirstEnergy and forces competition in the market. This is a very complicated issue and the BOT thanked Chuck for coming to the meeting and shedding light on this very important issue.

Greg Benner: Shalersville Zoning Inspector reported on the following:

1. Greg has approximately 6 JMV cases he is currently working on. He has sent out 30-day notices. After that if they are still not compliant, he will send out another 30-day notice by Certified Mail.
2. Greg met with Brett Bencze, Portage County Asst. Prosecuting Attorney over the Carrie Crowder JMV case. The court has awarded judgment against Carrie Crowder in this case.
3. Sand Hill Stables are planning a music festival. The event planner will be attending the next BOT meeting to explain the plans.

Maude Bias; Secretary to the Shalersville Board of Zoning Commission, and the Shalersville Board of Zoning Appeals reported on the following:

1. Their next meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 8th. to discuss the Land Use Plan, and this will also be their last meeting of the year. They will have their end of the season Annual Cookie Meeting with both Zoning Boards attending. The BOT will also be attending and will bring pizza and sodas.
2. Maude informed the BOT that she had audited the BMV \$5.00 license plate tax distribution. This was for a one-month period. She found approximately 10 discrepancies. The BMV has a form that Maude will send to the township, village or city that is currently collecting the tax. They have 30 days to correct the mistake. If they don't, a form will be sent to the BMV in Columbus and they will correct it. The BOT asked her to look a little more into this to see if it is feasible to audit the whole year.

Dean Engelhart; Road Supervisor reported on the following:

1. Dean informed the BOT that they needed to purchase a new sump pump for the school. They had 3" of water in the basement. Chairman, John K. had approved the purchase.

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Lloyd Harper, Jr.; Road Crew reported on the following:

1. Lloyd informed the BOT that the 2012 International truck is ready for service.

Jill Corbett, Fiscal Officer reported on the following:

1. Jill presented to the BOT the 2023 pricing from Oscar Brugmann sand & Gravel and Stebbins Enterprises.
2. Jill asked the BOT to donate to the Kids Weekend Meals that the Mantua Center Christian Church sponsors. This is a project that the church community offers to the 198 families in need of extra food over the weekend for their children. Ron K. made a motion to donate \$300.00 to the KWM. Frank R. seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Frank Ruehr, Jr., Yes, John Kline, Yes, and Ronald Kotkowski, Yes.

John Kline: Trustee Chairman reported on the following:

1. John brought to the BOT attention that their website designer contract with Ilona Seaman with Ipanda Design is going to be coming to an end in the next few months. John would like the BOT consideration on renewing her contract for another year. He will be sitting down with her to learn more about the daily operations and how to navigate the website as well.
2. John informed the BOT that all the paperwork for leasing the 2021 International plow truck has been filed. Both the trucking company and the outfitting honored their 2021 prices.

Frank R. made a motion to pay the bills. Ron K. seconded the motion. Roll call was taken, Frank Ruehr, Jr., John Kline, Yes, and Ronald Kotkowski, Yes.

Jill presented to the BOT the July Bank Reconciliation with a balance of \$1,726,531.28.

Jill presented to the BOT the November Receipt Listing with a balance of \$39,807.00.

	Gregory Benner	\$	1,595.41
	Maude Bias	\$	347.48
	Jill R. Corbett	\$	1,520.18
	Michelle DeVos	\$	712.64
	Dean W. Engelhart	\$	1,796.00
	Lloyd Harper, Jr.	\$	1,414.26
	John Kline	\$	899.80
	Ronald Kotkowski	\$	979.07
	Frank Ruehr, Jr.	\$	899.80
	Auditor of State	\$	762.00
	SDC	\$	300.22
	Basic NEO	\$	7,185.43
25097	Bradley Hays	\$	550.00
25098	Ohio Edison	\$	772.47
25099	Dominion East	\$	302.00
25100	Aris Co.	\$	433.20
25101	Stebbins Enterprises	\$	1,855.93
25102	Industrial Connection	\$	194.77
25103	Dearborn Life Insurance	\$	180.90
25104	Loyal American	\$	119.20
25105	Nicki Wring	\$	204.25
25106	Copley Ohio Newspaper	\$	24.25
25107	Richard McIntyre	\$	100.00
25108	Laura Toth	\$	100.00
25109	Crestwood Youth Softball	\$	275.00
25110	Harper Well & Pump	\$	345.00
25111	Waste Management of Ohio	\$	235.49
25112	Mantua Auto Parts	\$	3,371.90
25113	Hal Stamm PE	\$	600.00
25114	Kids Weekend Meals	\$	300.00
		\$	28,376.65

Frank R. made a motion to go into Executive Session for ORC 121-22, To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Ron K. seconded the motion. Roll call was taken: Frank Ruehr, Jr., John Kline, Yes, and Ronald Kotkowski, Yes. 10:06 p.m.

Frank R. made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 10:21, Ron K. seconded the motion. Roll call was taken: Frank Ruehr, Jr., John Kline, Yes, and Ronald Kotkowski, Yes.

No further business, Chairperson, John Kline directed the meeting to be adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

John Kline, Chairperson

Jill Corbett, Fiscal Officer