

Wells Township

May 13, 2025

The Board of Trustees of Wells Township met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 6:30 PM at 79 Hudson St, Brilliant, OH.

Officials present were:

Ben Batenburg, Trustee
Rodney Roe, Trustee
Leslie Harvey, Fiscal Officer
Bruce Clark, Solicitor

Others in attendance

Sean Norman, Butch Keyoski, Bub Lazear, Mickey Nest, Erik Paslay, Patty Paslay, Georgia Jarman, Brian Harvey, Bob Kendle, Gary Kendle, Ricky Crawford, Chrissy Crawford, Mark Woods

Trustee Roe stated the Board has had time to read the minutes from the April 27, 2025 meeting and if there are no additions, deletions, or amendments, the minutes of April 27, 2025 stand as approved.

25-05-01 Trustee Kamerer motioned to accept the April 27, 2025 minutes as approved. Trustee Batenburg seconded that motion and it passed 3:0.

25-05-02 Trustee Kamerer motioned to approve bills totaling \$105,436.70. Trustee Roe the motion and it passed 3:0.

Trustee Batenburg stated the Trustees would be getting a report from the County Engineer's office and the road superintendent regarding the chip and seal project for this year. Butch Keyoski stated he usually does the double seal and has Beech Flats, Young Rd, and Norris Rd earmarked for this year. The Jefferson County Engineer's Office provided the Trustees with the 2025 cost of Chip Seal and Dust Control. It was approved at the previous meeting, April 22, 2025 to have 3 miles of road(s) chip sealed for a total of \$54,416.30 to be appropriated from the gasoline tax fund. According to Butch Keyoski, the roads to receive chip seal in 2025 are Beech Flats, Young Rd, and Norris Rd. The Request for Assistance from the Jefferson County Highway Department needs top half of form completed; the Agreement between Wells Township and the Jefferson County Engineers Office needs approval and three Trustees to sign; and Resolution #25-05-03 to enter into an agreement with the Jefferson County Ohio Engineers office to provide chip seal services needs signed by all three Trustees and the Fiscal Officer. All forms will be submitted by the Fiscal Officer to the Engineers office prior to the deadline of June 2, 2025. Trustees will sign documentation to send to the County Engineer's office before the June 2, 2025 deadline.

Trustee Roe reports the 2025-2027 Fire Contracts between Wells Township and Brilliant Fire Department and New Alexandria Fire Department will be completed this evening. Need a motion from the Board of Trustees to approve these contracts and approve the 90% to Brilliant Fire Department and 10% to New Alexandria Fire Department beginning with the 2025 contractual year, of which Brilliant will receive \$96,405.23 and New Alexandria will receive \$11,096.53 for the first half of 2025.

25-05-03 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve the 2025-2027 Fire Contracts between Wells Township and Brilliant Fire Department and New Alexandria Fire Department and to pay the first half 2025 with Brilliant to receive \$96,405.23 (90%) and New Alexandria to receive \$11,096.53 (10%). Trustee Roe seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Trustee Roe also reports the 2025-2027 EMS Contract between Wells Township and Brilliant Fire Department to be completed this evening. Need a motion from the Board of Trustees to approve the contract and Brilliant to receive \$525,218.67 for the first half of 2025.

25-05-04 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve the 2025-2027 EMS Contract between Wells Township and Brilliant Fire Department and to pay the first half of 2025 amount of \$525,218.67. Trustee Roe seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Trustee Roe stated the Police Department has bottled water received from Water Transport on a monthly basis. Maximum monthly fee is \$36.00. No contract required, this is a month-to-month basis. Invoices previously paid via credit card. Monthly billing will now take place. Need to approve Then and Now PO #104-2025 in the amount of \$71.25 for March and April 2025, and to also approve the PO for the remainder of the 2025 year (8 months) at \$36.00 per month for a total of \$288.00 for operating supplies.

25-05-05 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve the Then and Now PO #104-2025 in the amount of \$71.25 for March and April 2025 and to approve the PO for the remainder of 2025 at \$36.00 per month for a total of \$288.00 for operating supplies. Trustee Roe seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Trustee Roe reported that Axion Enterprise Inc is the company maintaining the police departments tasers. They bill Wells Township annually at an amount due of \$6,421.41. The 2025 invoice #INUS343367 has been received and a motion to accept and pay this invoice is needed.

25-05-06 Trustee Roe motioned to approve the annual payment for maintaining the police tasers to Axion Enterprise Inc, in the amount of \$6,421.41. Trustee Batenburg seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Trustee Roe announced Wells Township has received the OTARMA anniversary coverage outline and contribution invoice. A motion to accept as stated the coverage liability, with the Chairman signing the Anniversary Information Acknowledgement, the Fiscal Officer signing the Commitment to Continue Membership mailing the payment on or before May 30, 2025 and approve the invoice for \$71,577.00.

25-05-07 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve the OTARMA insurance coverage for 2025-2026 and to pay the invoice in the amount of \$71,577.00. Trustee Roe seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

April 1, 2025 meeting, the Trustees approved Chrissy Crawford to order a vacuum head and fiberglass pole for a total of \$378.01. The invoice was received and additional items were added to that order of filter powder at \$116.00 and granular pool stabilizer at \$209.90. Need motion to approve the additional items totaling \$325.90 and to pay the invoice in full at \$703.91.

25-05-08 Trustee Roe motioned to approve the additional purchase totaling \$325.90 and to pay the invoice in full of \$703.91 to The Pool Place. Trustee Batenburg seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Trustee Batenburg stated it has been brought to his attention that residents have been dumping lawn clippings over the edge of the road into the sand pit area. The Township used to have someone monitor an area down by the sanitary sewer system where residents could take the clippings to have chipped up. The cost became prohibitive to have that area manned 3-4 days a week and also had to be EPA approved. Trustee Batenburg feels that as a Township, there should be a designated place the residents could dump/drop off their clippings and is looking at possibly putting a 30 yard dumpster down by the sanitary sewer system. Trustee Batenburg has talked with Wells Excavating, and they said they could provide a 30 yard dumpster, running between \$300.00 and \$400.00 dollars. When full, they would pick up and bring back as long as they have access to retrieve and drop off the dumpsters. Trustee Batenburg would like to consider a motion to approve the cost and get a dumpster down there. Fiscal Officer Harvey asked if this was a monthly fee, Trustee Batenburg stated it would be billed only when they retrieve the dumpster for emptying. Trustee Batenburg and Trustee Roe both agree this is a good idea. All Township residents have access to dumping their clippings and trimmings – NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE.

25-05-09 Trustee Roe motioned to approve Wells Excavating to provide a 30 yard dumpster to be located at the sanitary sewer system for residents to dispose of their yard clippings and bush trimmings, at a cost for each emptying at between \$300.00 and \$400.00 dollars. Trustee Batenburg seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Butch Keyoski reported several trees down that need cleaned up. Crew resealed curbs throughout the Township. Road crew also had to replace the culvert pipe on Strupe Rd that collapsed. Replaced couple of pieces of machinery at the garage.

Sean Norman would like to send Shawn Starosciak, our SRO, to ALICE training in Mt Lebanon OH. The cost for attendance is \$749.00, and Chief Norman asks for approval to pay for Officer Starosciak's attendance. He is attending DARE class that will be reimbursed by Jefferson County Drug Task Force. Officer Starosciak will also be attending and advanced SRO course in the future.

25-05-10 Trustee Roe motioned to approve Officer Shawn Starosciak to attend the upcoming ALICE training in Mt Lebanon at a cost of \$749.00. Trustee Batenburg seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Chrissy Crawford asks for approval to purchase pool paint for the baby pool in the amount of \$220.00.

25-05-11 Trustee Roe motioned to approve the purchase of paint for the baby pool in the amount of \$220.00. Trustee Batenburg seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Chrissy also asks to purchase supplies to repair the concrete around the pool, totaling \$368.17.

25-05-12 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve the purchase of supplies to repair the concrete around the pool, totaling \$368.17. Trustee Roe seconded and it passed 2:0.

Chrissy also needs to purchase floor paint for the bathrooms, from Sherwin Williams, not to exceed \$500.00.

25-05-13 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve the purchase of paint for the pool bathroom/concession stand areas from Sherwin Williams, not to exceed \$500.00. Trustee Roe seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Chrissy would also ask for permission to purchase supplies/materials for the startup of the concession stand not to exceed \$4,276.27, to include cleaning supplies, etc.

25-05-14 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve the purchase of startup supplies for the concession stand not to exceed \$4,276.27. Trustee Roe seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Chrissy noted the gas station is closing temporarily for remodeling. Paula Brown is an employee at the gas station, but also worked concession the last couple of years. Chrissy is requesting permission to hire Paula Brown to work the pool concession this summer, beginning May 19, 2025 at an hourly rate of \$10.70 (OH State minimum wage).

25-05-15 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve the rehire of Paula Brown for the 2025 summer season in the pool concession stand, effective May 19, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$10.70. Trustee Roe seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Chrissy has placed the order for the replacement picnic tables and benches, using the \$5,000.00 grant received from JB Green Team. Along with the required 20% match, the total for tables and benches comes to \$6,552.00. Chrissy is asking for approval to pay this invoice when the items are ready for pick up and have two road crew employees retrieve the products from Kaufman Lawn Furniture.

25-05-16 Trustee Batenburg motioned to approve payment to Kaufman Lawn Furniture, the amount of \$6,552.00 for the picnic tables and benches with \$5,000.00 of that amount covered by the \$5,000.00 grant received from JB Green Team and the remaining \$1,552.00 appropriated under Parks and Rec supplies. Trustee Roe seconded the motion and it passed 2:0.

Chrissy also asked for the pool parking lot to be supplied with gravel for the summer season. Trustee Batenburg noted Butch Keyoski can take care of that task.

Chrissy noted the Memorial Day parade is scheduled for May 26, 2025. She also noted depending upon the weather and pool water temperature, the pool might be open that day.

Chrissy also noted the school wanted to have their year-end swim, but she cautioned them if the water temperature was too low, they would only be allowed to have their duck races. Chrissy also informed the Trustees the tennis court has been taped off due to the cracks in the flooring to keep from anyone getting injured.

Chrissy also noted the pool robot has a working problem, possible the control board of power supply, or both. They are working on determining what the problem specifically is. Trustees asked they be informed what she finds out.

Patty Paslay asks what can be done about the property next to their property as the grass/weeds are 4 feet tall and the property needs addressed. Trustee Batenburg stated he planned to cut it, but hasn't been able to due to rain, but stated he will get down this week to cut it and his property across the street.

Bub Lazear asked if the intercom system is not working? He can't hear in the back.

Mickey Nest stated he is a little nervous about the flag pole situation with only 13 days left to Memorial Day. Trustee Batenburg said they will get it up by Memorial Day. Saturday, May 24th 9:00am the flags will be put up at New Alex cemetery. Anyone wants to help is welcome to come. He also noted the Legion's annual Hall of Fame dinner is that evening for anyone interested.

Mark Woods announced the web site is up and running. Will get with Leslie Harvey about training to keep things updated.

Bob Kendle asked if Smithfield Fire Department is going to be included in the fire contracts for this year. Trustee Batenburg asked if they turned in the required documentation? Fiscal Officer Harvey stated Workers’ Comp certificate has been supplied but not a copy of the liability policy. Trustee Batenburg asked if all the required equipment has been tested and passed? Mr. Kendle stated the pump has not been tested as the date was to be rescheduled. Mr. Kendle stated the Solicitor was to confirm what is required. A tense conversation ensued regarding Smithfield being included in the contracted coverage. Mr. Kendle then abruptly walked out of the meeting.

Gary Kendle, Smithfield’s Chief took up for the sentiment of his brother Bob Kendle. Trustee Batenburg asked how many people they have in their fire department. Chief Kendle responded 12 active members. The tense conversation continued with Chief Kendle and the Trustees. Smithfield Fire Department is in Short Creeks district. The Smithfield Fire Chief was not aware of the amount of monies they receive from the district or the Village of Smithfield. The Trustees ended the discussion with stating that Smithfield should have all their equipment tested and certified and to return afterwards to possibly revisit the potential offering of a contract to Smithfield for future fire coverage.

With no further business, Trustee Roe entertains a motion to adjourn.

25-05-17 Trustee Batenburg moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:17pm. Trustee Roe seconded and it passed 2:0.

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Fiscal Officer