

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SANDUSKY TOWNSHIP  
SANDUSKY COUNTY, OHIO**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of October 19, 2021**

The Trustees of Sandusky Township met in regular session at Sandusky Township Hall at 6:00 p.m., with the following members present:

Mr. Paul Lotycz

Mr. Mike Willis

Mr. Gilbert Overmyer

There was discussion on the previous minutes. Mr. Mike Willis would like the following clarifications. The part where Mr. Willis said his political opponent is placing signs in the right-of-way. He said this is not something that he specifically said.

Mr. Willis would also like to add that he contacted County Commissioner Scott Miller to see if signs are placed in county property. He was curious if signs could be placed in county property and if they were allowing it. That is why he contacted a county commissioner.

Mr. Willis stated a sign was placed at the corner of North Street and Rawson Avenue. To his knowledge, Mr. Kurt Hirt did not remove the sign and he does not think he stated that. He is currently working for Mr. Hirt right now and happened to talk to him about it.

Mr. Mike Willis made motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Paul Lotycz seconded motion. Vote as follows: Mr. Overmyer - yes, Mr. Willis - yes, Mr. Lotycz - yes.

Mr. Gilbert Overmyer made motion to accept and pay the bills. Mr. Mike Willis seconded motion. Vote as follows: Mr. Overmyer - yes, Mr. Willis - yes, Mr. Lotycz - yes.

Ms. Zienta reported the following Revenue and Expenditures:

	10-6-2021 through 10-19-2021	Year to Date
Revenue	141,818.58	1,248,649.37
Expenditures	20,679.33	984,146.36

Ms. Katherine Lopez attended meeting to update the Board on her father's property located on St. Thomas Drive. Some trees have been cut down. One bigger tree in the back of the property needs a bigger truck and she is working on estimates for removal. Once the tree is gone, they can repair the roof.

Mr. Paul Lotycz encouraged her to keep up the progress. Mr. Lotycz also mentioned, they can bring all the brush that is piled up at the house to the township hall for recycling.

Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation Director (SCEDC) Beth Hannam attended meeting. Ms. Hannam was checking on how things are going for the township. She is excited about the new Industrial park development going in the township.

SCEDC has created a task force to look at different sites around the county. Inventory is low on buildings and industrial sites in the county. There is money available to help with industrial park development and brown sites. They are currently ranking the sites and will present them to JOBS Ohio.

A Workforce Development Task Force has also been created.

Trustees mentioned township property on CR 89 that is zoned Industrial and is near the railroad. She asked if they informed Ballville Township Trustee Bob Kusmer about the property as he is on the task force. They had not. Ms. Hannam will let Mr. Kusmer know of this property.

Ms. Hannam has talked to Mr. Bob Gross, City of Fremont, regarding the JEDD (Joint Economic Development District) between the City and Township. Law Director Jim Melle is still reviewing the JEDD.

A gentleman from AEP Energy in California stopped at Ms. Hannam's office today. He will be attending Ballville Township's meeting tonight as AEP is interested in some parcels in the township to develop solar farms. He asked Ms. Hannam if any other township would be interested in solar farms.

Trustees stated, if they find a property in Sandusky Township for solar farm development, Trustees will be willing to discuss with them.

Mr. Brent Saionz provided the following report:

- Not a whole lot going on right now.
- Waiting for a frost to complete the last round of road side mowing.
- The leaf vacuum is ready for leaf pickup. Installed plexiglass on the vacuum for protection. Will begin picking up leaves in about a week.
- Madison Township picked up the tractor the township sold to them.

Mr. Paul Lotycz asked Mr. Saionz to place the Jerry Preston Memorial Stone by the tree dedicated to him before this Sunday. Angle the stone towards Ms. Joni Preston's house. The stone will be placed on a concrete base in the mulch as to not interrupt mowing. Mr. Lotycz noted his wife was going to contact Ms. Preston regarding a dedication ceremony, however he heard that Ms. Preston does not like a lot of attention.

Mr. Mike Willis discussed his directive to remove signs from the right-of-way. He did not mean it as a personal attack against anyone. Mr. Willis received a call from Mr. Tom Walsh the day after the last meeting. Mr. Walsh was upset that he made the order to remove all of his signs and wanted to know the Ohio Revised Code section to allowed him to do it. Mr. Willis did not know at the time and contacted Attorney Jim Barney to give a legal opinion. It was determined the township is covered by the Zoning Resolution. Mr. Jim Barney stated no signs are to be placed in the right-of-way.

Mr. Willis' concern was not necessarily all of Mr. Walsh's political signs that were placed in someone's yard that he had permission for. The reason Mr. Willis brought this up were the two Walsh signs placed at the end of Port Clinton Road. One was against the guard rail and the other was in the stones along the road almost on the edge of the road.

Mr. Paul Lotycz mentioned a sign was placed at the end of CR 89 beside the stop sign. That was Mr. Willis' point of concern, not signs in someone's yard or on the other side of the right-of-way. That is why he brought it up.

Mr. Willis informed Mr. Walsh that if he was wrong, he will rescind the order and apologize to him at the meeting. Mr. Willis forwarded the email of the legal opinion provided by Mr. Jim Barney regarding placing signs in the right-of-way to Mr. Walsh.

It was noted that Mr. Walsh has moved some of his signs.

Mr. Ed Artz has contacted Zoning Inspector Brian Woods regarding the cost of a building permit. Mr. Woods informed him that being zoned agriculture, the fee is waived. Mr. Artz then questioned the need for a building permit at all. Mr. Woods explained he would have to apply for a permit stating if building would be for agricultural purposes only and the building would still need to meet all the zoning setbacks. Mr. Woods will meet with him on Thursday to look at the project.

It was noted that Mr. Artz intends to put two buildings up. One shed for the animals and a barn for his shop.

Mr. Woods has questions about Mr. Artz's business and if that is allowed under "agricultural use". If he has a business, he would have to obtain commercial permits through the county.

Trustees discussed and if he is selling anything to the public other than his own products, he will need to obtain a commercial building permit. Mr. Artz does have a "Kent Seeds" sign on the property.

Mr. Willis will contact County Emergency Management Agency Director Lisa Kuehling to let her know he is moving forward with rebuilding and where the cleanup stands for the property. The EPA should be informed he is planning on rebuilding soon.

Mr. Gilbert Overmyer had questions regarding cutting back tree branches from the property on Brush Street to allow for the removal of the junk vehicles in the backyard. Mr. Jim Barney stated the township can remove the branches to allow for the removal of the junk vehicles. Mr. Lotycz has been in contact with Madison Motors on the removal of the vehicles.

Mr. Overmyer received a letter from Century 21 regarding the high grass letter he sent to them regarding property located at 2512 Port Clinton Road. They informed Mr. Overmyer Century 21 does not own this property and they are an independent contractor. All future notices should be sent to the owners of the property.

Mr. Lotycz spoke with Attorney John Albers regarding the JEDD. He has not heard back from the City yet.

Mr. Lotycz asked the Board if they have any projects they would like to do with the American Rescue Plan money the township will receive. The township will receive around \$300,000.00. Trustees discussed building a new shelter house at the park with the money.

Mr. Lotycz attended a meeting at the Yacht Club regarding extending the No Wake Zone at Wightman's Grove. From what he understands, they are a conservatory over the levy all and the storm sewer pumps - not the lots. They will still have to abide by Riley Township Zoning Regulations for any lot improvements.

Mr. Lotycz has contacted Lieutenant Trump of ODNR regarding his concerns with the No Wake Zone and also signage on the river. EMA Director Lisa Kuehling is proposing markers down the river in case of emergencies. Boaters would know their location in times of emergency.

Mr. Jim Barney reviewed the Mitten issue. They have encroached on the road right-of-way and the alley behind their house. Mr. Barney requested the Mitten's attend the meeting tonight to discuss. They did not attend.

Mr. Barney suggests that all the land owners can petition the county to vacate the alley located behind their properties as long as the utility company agrees. This would help with the problem of them building in the alley.

Mr. Gilbert Overmyer will contact the Mittens.

Mr. Mike Willis made motion to approve a Supplemental Appropriation of \$12,000.00 to account number 1000-110-311-0000 - Legal Fees in order to pay Albers and Albers. Mr. Paul Lotycz seconded motion. Vote as follows: Mr. Overmyer - yes, Mr. Willis - yes, Mr. Lotycz - yes.

Mr. Mike Willis made motion to approve Permanent Appropriation of \$3,000.00 to account number 4901-760-700-0000 - Capital Projects to pay govdeals charges. Mr. Gilbert Overmyer seconded motion. Vote as follows: Mr. Overmyer - yes, Mr. Willis - yes, Mr. Lotycz - yes.

Mr. Mike Willis made motion to approve Supplemental Appropriation of \$11,075.00 to account number 4901-760-700-0000 - Capital Projects to pay govdeals charges. Mr. Gilbert Overmyer seconded motion. Vote as follows: Mr. Overmyer - yes, Mr. Willis - yes, Mr. Lotycz - yes.


Ms. Cyndi Zienta provided information from Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation on free Trenching and Excavation Training.

At 6:55 p.m. with there being no further Business to come before the Board of Trustees, Mr. Willis made motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. Lotycz.

  
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Mr. Paul Lotycz, Chairman

  
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Ms. Cynthia Zienta, Fiscal Officer

  
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Mr. Mike Willis, Trustee

  
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Mr. Gilbert Overmyer, Trustee