

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

*Minutes of the* **CONCORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES** *Meeting*

*Held October 24, 2011*

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The Concord Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Monday, October 24, 2011 at the Concord Township Administrative Building. Trustees and guests previewed power line maps prior to the meeting. Chairman Karen Koch called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm. The roll was called; in attendance were Trustees Karen Koch, Joe Garrett and Bart Johnson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. Mr. Garrett moved and Mr. Johnson seconded to approve the minutes with one correction. Vote: Koch-yes, Garrett-yes, Johnson-yes; motion passed.

**Public Input**

Maps of the First Energy (FE) proposed power lines were available for public viewing. Two representatives of FE met with Ms. Koch and a township firefighter to discuss possible routes, but FE would not leave their maps with the township due to them being incomplete and not accurate. Ms. Koch had photos taken of the maps while meeting with FE. Since the maps were shown at public hearings, Koch felt the township should be able to show them also.

One of the proposed routes uses existing easements with a sixty foot right-of-way along Route 42, five hundred feet off the road. If that path is selected, an additional forty-five feet would be needed. The chosen path for the power lines will be based on studies weighted as follows: 40% environmental, 40% socio-economics, 20% engineering and cost. FE will conduct field studies through the end of the year and then file the project with the Ohio Sighting Board the first of the year. At their meeting with Ms. Koch, FE commented they had a good route until they reached the Conklin Farm. Other existing easements from 1962 are located along the Koch and Boyer properties. Mr. Boyer is concerned about the new lines due to an airplane runway that is on his property. Easements also go through the Glacier Ridge and Jerome Village development areas. Both developers were aware of the easements, but did not think they would ever be exercised. They are interested in partnering with the township to encourage the Route 42 path for the proposed new power lines. Nationwide Realty (Jerome Village) says they can re-design their development if need be, but would rather encourage an alternate route. Ms. Koch stated that some developments like Tartan, Wexner, and others do have power lines running through them.

Mr. Johnson has been in contact with both PUCO and the Sighting Board. He stated the township is early in the process, which is good. Until FE officially submits a file to the Ohio Sighting Board, there is no project. It is a long process to get everything to the Sighting Board for a preferred and alternate route. When submitted, there will be a time for public input. There is nothing that can be acted upon until then. As it stands, the entire sixty mile route will be surveyed. A couple landowners have already received letters stating FE will be on their land for surveying.

A similar situation occurred in Geauga County, where a township trustee has lines running through her property. That township fought the lines, delayed the project for four years, and were denied at the Supreme Court after a very costly process.

The Concord Township Board of Trustees suggested passing a Resolution on the subject, but after talking with an attorney, felt it would be premature. Mr. Johnson said the Board cannot do anything until the environmental impact studies are done, the file submitted, and preferred and alternate routes decided. Individual work will continue until then.

Resident, Frank Niday, asked if the project would use existing towers. Zoning Inspector Irvine stated no, that new poles would be installed. Mr. Johnson explained FE would use wood, single poles, with a boom off each side. Mr. Niday also asked if FE can come onto private property without notice. Resident, Nick Cua, read public documents and FE has the legal responsibility to provide power, but he feels existing right-of-ways and lines should be used. He said if the easements were from 1962, the original routes must have been planned back then, although the township has since changed. Mr. Cua asked why the township wasn't involved in other meetings held by FE. Ms. Koch said the only public notices found for earlier meetings in September were in the Dublin Villager (Franklin County) and the sports section of the Delaware Gazette.

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**Old Business**

Trustee Johnson reported the township is ready for a final punch-out inspection and is waiting for a phone call from Brad Rucker, National Contracting Group (NCG). The township still has not obtained a final occupancy permit. Mr. Garrett wants to ensure existing liens are released before release of the final payment to NCG, per assistant prosecuting attorney's advice. Mr. Johnson would like clarification on releasing NCG's bond or releasing final funds. Director of Operations, Todd Cooper, mentioned if all the ding marks from NCG were repaired on the metal roof, the cost would be \$8,570 from Capital Roofing. No response has been received from Advanced Glass on a bid to replace the leaking lobby windows. Two estimates are still needed.

**New Business**

Trustee Garrett presented a cemetery monument drawing from the Williams family. The monument height would be six feet nine inches, which is higher than the current cemetery rule of 48 inches. Mr. Garrett noted that at least eight similar monuments at the cemetery are eight feet or above. He asked the Board to consider this type of cemetery situation on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Garrett moved to approve the monument for the Williams family as a one-time variance to the cemetery rules. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion to approve this monument variance. Vote: Koch-yes, Johnson-yes, Garrett-yes; motion passed.

Director of Operations, Todd Cooper, reported the following:

- 1- The State of Ohio has completed its appraisal of the old zoning trailer office, so will issue a check to the township, then move the trailer to their site.
- 2- The new tennis court is complete, except for the final painting. Mr. Johnson would also like the bubbles in the old court checked. Some bubbles were ground off a couple years ago.
- 3- Capital Roofing submitted an estimate for ice guards at the new building in the amount of \$1840.00. Mr. Garrett moved and Mr. Johnson seconded to approve the estimate for ice guards from Capital Roofing. Ordering and labor will take two weeks. Vote: Koch-yes, Johnson-yes, Garrett-yes; motion passed.
- 4- The full-time firefighters annual holiday pay schedule was discussed. They are requesting their holiday pay schedule be shifted a month earlier (for accumulated holidays worked throughout the year), so the annual payment will arrive in time for holiday shopping. Therefore, instead of the annual payment including the holidays Christmas through the following year Thanksgiving, it will include Thanksgiving through the following year Veteran's Day. Ms. Koch moved to approve the annual holiday pay schedule change for full-time firefighters as requested. Mr. Garrett seconded this motion. Vote: Koch-yes, Johnson-yes, Garrett-yes; motion passed.

Inspector Irvine reported October zoning activity was slow and issued nine permits, five or six for new homes. A resolution to a Calhoun Road variance will hopefully be finalized soon. Mr. Irvine also reminded the candidates running for office to keep signs out of the road right-of-way and remove them within fourteen days post-election.

The 2011 park grant for the new tennis court is nearing deadline for submittal. Mr. Garrett moved and Mr. Johnson seconded to issue final payment to Roese Brothers for the tennis court, pending it meets the satisfaction of the Director of Operations. This will allow the Fiscal Officer time to prepare the grant packet before deadline. Vote: Koch-yes, Johnson-yes, Garrett-yes; motion passed.

Chairman Koch certified the Fiscal Officer provided current financial reports for the township. Completing business the Fiscal Officer certified funds have been appropriated and money is in the treasury to pay the bills. Therefore, Ms. Koch moved and Mr. Garrett seconded to approve purchase orders and pending warrants #949-953, 8231-8257, all totaling \$140,800.24. Vote: 3-0; passed.

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Ms. Koch noted a response was received from Sheriff Davis regarding the township cancelling its deputy contract. The current deputy contract will be in effect until the end of the year. If future services are needed, special duty deputies or a presentation from Shawnee Hills police may be warranted.

As there was no further business, Trustee Garrett moved and Trustee Johnson seconded to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Koch-yes, Garrett-yes, Johnson-yes. Meeting adjourned.

**ATTEST**

  
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Fiscal Officer

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

  
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