Special Beavercreek Trustee's Meeting

Thursday, June 2, 2011

Mr. Glaser called the Special Trustee Meeting to order at 1:02 P.M. Those present were Trustees: Robert Glaser, Carol Graff and Bob Stone. Fiscal Officer, Christy Ahrens was also present. Staff present: Township Administrator Alex Zaharieff, Assistant to the Fiscal Officer James Barone, and Road Superintendent Tim Parks. Beavercreek Parks and Recreation Director Mike Thonnerieux, Beavercreek City Public Administrative Services Director David Beach, Beavercreek City Recreation Program Supervisor Kim Farrell, and Beavercreek Township Park Board Member Bob Darden were also present.

The purpose of this Special Meeting is to meet in Open Session to discuss the park consolidation presentation.

Mr. Thonnerieux began by thanking the people that helped with this consolidation project and recapped where the Trustees left off at the last meeting concerning park consolidation.

Mr. Thonnerieux gave the Trustees and those present a copy of the Park Management Efficiencies Progress Report 2, budget numbers, a proposed 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program sheet, a proposed Summary of a 1.4 mil Beavercreek Park District levy, and a proposed Beavercreek Township Park District Consolidation Agreement. Mr. Thonnerieux then went through the Parks Management Efficiencies slide presentation. The presentation discussed: Progress Report; Combined Services; Planning For the Future; Estate Tax and Local Government Fund numbers; the elimination of these tax dollars in Beavercreek; Consolidation Agreement; Phase I – Interim Period; Phase II – Joint Operation; Phase III – Full Operation Period; General Provisions and Exhibits; Proposed Budget; Levy for Proposed District; Budget Considerations – Expense and Revenue; Next Steps; and Recommendation.

After the presentation, Mr. Thonnerieux explained that now it was up to the Trustees. They could move forward with working toward a consolidation or stop all together. The Township Park District and Beavercreek City Council both approved the recommendation to move forward.

Mr. Glaser began discussion regarding Hanes Road and a neighborhood park. General discussion occurred.

Discussion occurred regarding Combined Services and how the group got to the Park District being the entity in control. Discussion occurred regarding the Consolidation Agreement and the Advisory Board with respect to wording. Discussion occurred regarding the future levy and why the Park District would put it on the ballot instead of the Township. Ms. Graff questioned why we would duplicate what we already have in financial offices in both the City and the Township. Both Mr. Glaser and Ms. Graff felt the Township should be the main funding entity for the levy. Mr. Bob Darden stated that sometime it is easier for people to vote for something that is not from the City or Township. Discussion occurred regarding the City's possible Earnings Tax in 2012 and the possibility that if it passed it would bring in enough money to lower property taxes and not need the use of a levy for parks. Mr. Parks, Township Road Superintendent reminded the Trustees that would not solve the financial problems the Township will see in the future. Discussion continued on the topic regarding: meshing of the various tax districts; timing; and consequences.

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Mr. Stone stated that Beavercreek taxpayers want control of how their money is spent and that we are here to decide either to move forward toward a consolidation or not. The details do not need to be finalized at this time.

Mr. Darden stated that the Park District Board does not care if the taxing is through the Park District or the Township, they would just like to see a funding source and one entity working for better parks.

Discussion occurred regarding operations versus ownership of park land.

Mr. Stone stated he was in favor of moving forward. Mr. Glaser stated that he still had issues and questioned whether to straighten them out now or move forward with the issues.

Mr. Parks asked that the Trustees take time to read the proposed Consolidation Agreement and get any questions back to staff so that they can start working on fixing those issues. Then at the June 20, 2011 combined Trustee/City Council Meeting we can give answers to your questions and have legal advisors become involved.

Mr. Stone's concerns were: donation of land; potential discrepancy with the Senior Center Bond, and wanted to know how the County Park District works and how they levy. Ms. Graff stated that the concept was good but that the details have issues that need to be resolved such as: how not to duplicate – services, equipment, and facilities; and she would like to know what each entity spent in 2010 and what capital funds each entity has that could be used for Parks.

2011-253 Mr. Stone made a motion to support moving forward with plans to improve the Park Management Efficiencies Report presented and to iron out the various differences between the entities. Ms. Graff seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Stone, yes; Ms. Graff, yes; and Mr. Glaser, yes.

2011-254 Mr. Stone made a motion to Adjourn at 2:32 P.M. Ms. Graff seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Stone, yes; Ms. Graff, yes; and Mr. Glaser, yes.

Trustee: _____

Fiscal Officer: _____