

Minutes: Russell Township Zoning Commission
Russell Fire-Rescue Station
October 24, 2012

Present: Richard E. Snyder, Chairman
Bruce Murphy
Donna Weiss Carson
Ben Kotowski
Tom Warren
Diana Steffen, Secretary

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 22, 2012 – *Mr. Murphy moved to accept the minutes as amended, Mr. Warren seconded and the motion passed unanimously by 4-0. Ms. Weiss Carson abstained due to her absence from that meeting.*

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 – *Ms. Weiss Carson moved to accept the minutes as presented, Mr. Kotowski seconded and the motion passed unanimously by 4-0. Mr. Warren abstained due to his absence from that meeting.*

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2012 – *Mr. Murphy moved to accept the minutes as presented, Mr. Kotowski seconded and the motion passed unanimously by 3-0. Ms. Weiss Carson and Mr. Warren abstained due to their absence from that meeting.*

FOLLOW-UP ON "FRACKING AND OUR AQUIFERS" PROGRAM – Mr. Snyder said that because Dr. Eckstein was taken ill and not able to be on the panel, there was not a speaker who could discuss the importance of the well casing being installed correctly. Mr. Snyder noted that Mrs. Steffen wrote a report documenting the process for the program that will be helpful when another program is held in the future. He suggested adding to it the circulation of the two newspapers in which advertisements were placed.

GUIDE PLAN – C.S.U. INVOICE – Mr. Snyder said that C.S.U. has submitted an invoice for the lump sum that was agreed to be paid upon execution of the contract to conduct the survey.

Mr. Murphy made the motion to approve Invoice #URB102012-1 dated October 4, 2012, from Cleveland State University in the amount of \$7,000.00, Ms. Weiss Carson seconded and upon roll call the vote was Mr. Murphy – yes, Ms. Weiss Carson – yes, Mr. Kotowski – yes, Mr. Warren – yes, Mr. Snyder – yes, and the motion passed unanimously.

GUIDE PLAN - PROGRESS REPORTS

Land use patterns – Mr. Murphy said he has not made any progress since his computer crashed, and he asked Mrs. Steffen to resend some information to him.

Environmental infrastructure – Mr. Warren suggested that the Commission research what well water analysis might be appropriate to establish a baseline before any further drilling is performed within the Township. Dr. Eckstein's proposal, which included testing 30 wells, was too expensive, but because the Township cannot regulate oil and gas well drilling it would be good practice to try to protect the community by collecting well water test results performed on samples for home owners, and organizing the results in a database. The Commission discussed how to obtain data on the water, since it is expensive to test for volatiles.

Action Item: Mr. Warren to research if communities in other states have a model in place for water analysis. He will contact Bob Weisdack at the Geauga County Health Department to find out if he has a data set or can provide free analysis. If necessary, Mr. Warren will then contact Dr. Eckstein to ask if sampling less than thirty wells would still provide data that is statistically significant.

