

Importance of manufacturing recognized again at meeting

BY MARIAN MCMAHON
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LAKE COUNTY - The importance of manufacturing in the county was recognized once again at the Oct. 13 meeting of the Lake County Board of Commissioners.

The Board had declared October as "Manufacturing Month" in Lake County at its Oct. 1 meeting, noting there were about 650 manufacturers in the county which were responsible for providing about 20 percent of the jobs.

Board President Dan Troy read the resolution, which stated in part, "Whereas the Alliance for Working Together (AWT) has banded together the collective efforts of manufacturers in our region to ensure the future of the manufacturing industry through exposure and education to those in grade school through college; ..."

Commissioner Kevin Malecek welcomed AWT members Roger Sustar, Alyson Scott and Toni Noday-Krager. He stated they were working to educate young people on the career opportunities available in manufacturing, which is so important to the local economy.

"We thank you for coming today ... and are happy to join with you for the Manufacturing Roundtable Summit here in a couple of weeks," he said.

Commissioner Judy Moran said, being the daughter of a former manufacturer, she was aware that it had been difficult but made easier with technology.

"Yes, I know how to run a Bridgeport (milling machine). There you have it—one of my hidden talents," she said, drawing laughter.

Troy commented he could speak of being a former sheet metal worker.

"People need to recognize how important manufacturing is, and I think Commissioner Moran and I felt that at the time when we put you, Mr. Sustar, on the Lakeland Community College Board of Trustees," Troy said, stressing the importance of manufacturing education.

The "Manufacturing Month" resolution was officially presented to Sustar.

A press release stated, "In addition to the resolution and recognition, the commissioners will join with the Mayors and Managers Association of Lake County to host a Manufacturing Roundtable Summit on Oct. 26 as a component of the Mayors and Managers monthly meeting. The summit is directed towards

building relationships between local officials and manufacturing representatives to ensure a constant flow of communication between the groups as future developments warrant. The Alliance for Working Together (AWT) is also a partner in this effort, coordinating the attendance and organization of manufacturers at the Summit."

RESOLUTIONS PASSED OCT. 13: ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

- Authorizing the Lake County Engineer to prepare and submit an application to The Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program(s), and to execute an OPWC agreement for Auburn and Hardy Roads Resurfacing and Safety Improvement Project in Concord and Painesville townships.

There would be a \$275,000 grant and \$50,000 loan with construction to begin after July 1, 2016.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

- Transferring appropriations from LCDU Water District hospitalization to LCDU Water District materials and supplies.

- Authorizing the Lake County sanitary engineer to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program and to execute contracts as required for Deerfield Relief Sanitary Sewer Project No. 366-S in Painesville Township.

The project is the installation of 3,595 lineal feet of 6-inch forcemain pipe and about 4,150 feet of 8-inch forcemain pipe and replacement of two pumps to service about 2,500 residents.

The estimated cost is \$820,000 for the project.

The grant application would be for \$349,000 and the loan for \$150,000.

- Authorizing the Lake County sanitary engineer to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program and to execute contracts as required for Nan Linn Road Waterline Replacement Project 373-W in the city of Willoughby.

The project would be the replacement of 3,000 feet of 8-inch DI pipe, 10 fire hydrants and replacement of 92 service connections to serve about 200 residents.

The project cost estimate is \$726,000. The grant sought would be \$213,000 and the loan would be \$150,000.

- Approving plans, specifications and estimates of cost in the amount of \$6,435 for sanitary sewers for Ace's Paradise Subdivision in the city of Mentor.

Funding for the proposed subdivision is being provided by the estate of Jerome T. Osborne, Richard M. Osborne, Sr., co-executor. The sewers would serve six lots.

- Approving plans, specifications and estimates of cost in the amount of \$79,677.40 for sanitary sewers for North Ridge Road Sanitary Extension in Madison Township.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

- Urging support for State Issue 1, which creates a bipartisan, public process for drawing legislative districts.

- Urging support for State Issue 2, which protects the initiative process from being used for personal economic benefit by adopting an anti-monopoly amendment to the Ohio Constitution.

- Opposing State Issue 3, which grants a monopoly for the commercial production and sale of marijuana for recreational and medicinal purposes.

- To join with the Lake County prosecuting attorney to apply to the Lake County Court of Common Pleas, pursuant to R.C. 305.14(A), to employ and compensate legal counsel to assist the Board of Lake County Commissioners and the Lake County Engineer in litigation arising out of the Vrooman Road Bridge Project, known as the Ruhlin Company v. Board of County Commissioners Case No. 15CV001600 to prosecute, defend and represent the Board and Engineer in all ancillary matters and appeals.

"Basically, the contractor is saying that the county breached; the county feels the contractor breached," said Lake County Prosecutor Charles Coulson, when called for comment. It's a very complicated lawsuit. It's going to involve, if it goes all the way, some substantial time and effort. As in every lawsuit, you hope that the parties can sit down and reconcile their differences."

The suit was filed by Ruhlin. Coulson said the outside counsel being hired has expertise in construction issues.

Lake County Engineer

Jim Gills said the suit would not delay work on the Vrooman Road Bridge, since it was a separate issue.

Currently, they are waiting on the Ohio EPA permit, which precedes the permit which would be issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Once the permits are received, Ruhlin will be ordered back to work.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Approving payment of bills in the amount of \$794,210.15.

- Approving purchase orders in the amount of \$152,196.81.

- Increasing appropriations for various general and non-general fund accounts.

- Appropriations within various general and non-general fund accounts.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Brenda Spadaro of Lake Shore Boulevard in Madison Township asked when the commissioners might decide on whether or not to vacate the northern terminus of Dock Road in Madison Township.

Troy said they would make their decision when they felt they had enough information and it would not likely be within the next couple weeks.

"Right now the road is not vacated, so if the commissioners do nothing at this time, everything remains the way it is," he said.

Spadaro said she knows of a number of residents who are willing to donate their time to clean up the area and make it more attractive.

At the previous meeting, she had presented a petition with 316 signatures in opposition to the vacation requested by another resident, as well as references to the historic significance of the area.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The commissioners adjourned to executive session to discuss personnel.

MEETINGS

- Meetings are held in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Lake County Administration Building, 105 Main St., Painesville. All meetings are open to the public. Requests to address the government board may be made at any board meeting or presented to the Commissioners' Office by calling (440) 350-2753.

There was a meeting Oct. 22. The next regular meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 29 at 10 a.m.