

Minutes
LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2020

Members Present: Trustee Lynda Bowers, Trustee Michael Costello, Trustee Martin Warchola, Legal Counsel William Thorne, Fiscal Officer Laura Ruebensaal- Absent

Meeting called to order: 6:05 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board accepted written department reports and will continue to receive written reports for future meetings. The reports will be attached to the monthly meeting minutes.

Trustee Bowers read the highlights from the financial report submitted. The fiscal officer thanked Captain Savetski for working with her in preparing a revised payroll sheet. Trustee Bowers read a statement from newly elected Fiscal Officer, Laura Ruebensaal, explaining she has been in quarantine since March 15, 2020 due to COVID-19. The quarantine has made it a challenge however, she continues working diligently with Fiscal Officer Assistant, Martha Evans and looks forward taking over when it is safe for all parties to do so. She anticipates the quarantine being lifted within the next week. No requisitions have been submitted.

Public Participation:

Mr. Ed Mewhinney, Ryan Road, apologized for having an open burn. He has lived in the township for 29 years and has never had an issue. He was provided information regarding open burns.

Mr. Brett Kirby, Hunter's Run HOA Board member questioned whether the patch on Fayette Boulevard on the concrete on would be permanently fixed. He inquired whether the manhole cover located on the sidewalk of the north side of Shawnee Trail would be addressed. Trustee Bowers said Mr. Evans, service supervisor, monitors Hunter's Run regularly and reports issues with the catch basins to the county. There are county funds in reserve in which catch basin repairs are made and some include the manhole covers. She will inform Mr. Evans and have him inspect the manhole cover. Trustee Bowers explained Mr. Evans suffered a bad injury and is on paperwork duty only and she is not quite sure when he will resume full activity.

Numerous complaints have been received regarding parking citations. Mr. Brett said the development has concerns when sidewalks are blocked, and children are forced to walk/ride bikes out on the road. Trustee Bowers explained residents can notify the Medina Police Department and inform them if a vehicle needs to be left on the road overnight provided it is not on a regular basis. Ms. Buell said there are several citations that have not been paid. Mr. Thorne will look at the current law and advise the process in which the township can take. Ms. Buell said there is a safety concern when residents park on the road during the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., as this hinders safety apparatus from efficiently responding, as well as snow plowing efforts.

Mr. Alan Robins, Chippewa Lake requested permission for the fire department to participate in the Village golf pride parade on Sunday, May 24, 2020.

Trustee Bowers made a motion to add the Village of Chippewa Lake Golf Cart Pride Parade on Sunday, May 24, 2020 to the township list of sponsored events, so they can include the vehicle to prevent any insurance issues. Trustee Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

The Board agreed to hold fire chief interviews on Thursday, May 28, 2020.

Old Business:

Trustee Bowers said the Senate passed bill 310 for reimbursement for COVID-19 related issues. She said in order to apply for the reimbursement a resolution must be on file with the county auditor and commissioners.

Trustee Bowers made a motion to approve the request for reimbursement for Covid-19 related expenses regarding Senate Bill 310. Trustee Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Resolution 9-2020: Trustee Bowers made a motion recognizing May 17th through May 23, 2020 as EMS week in Lafayette Township, Medina county, Ohio with a theme of “EMS Strong, Ready Today, Prepare for Tomorrow”. Trustee Costello seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

The Board will plan a future day of recognition when it is safe to do so due to the pandemic.

Chief Winkler confirmed all repairs have been made to the ambulance.

The insurance renewal healthcare benefit proposal has been received from Frank Harmon.

Trustee Bowers made a motion to renew the township insurance with Ohio Insurance Agency Incorporated. Trustee Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Trustee Costello made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of April 20, 2020, Special meeting of April 22, 2020, Special meeting of April 28, 2020, Special meeting of May 1, 2020. Trustee Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Trustee Bowers moved to approve eliminating service to the AT&T cell phone utilized by the former fiscal officer. Trustee Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Discussion took place concerning the use of town hall for public activities. It was determined Trustee Bowers will forward the State of Ohio guidelines to Ms. Buell to hang in town hall and allow the residents to exercise their own discretion. Trustee Warchola has concerns about the township’s legal liability regarding the use of the town hall and explained the Governor stated fines can be imposed on individuals and establishments that are not complying with the guidelines. Mr. Thorne said if fines are being issued, it is not a guideline. Trustee Bowers said we are not a licensed establishment.

The township did a Request for Qualifications for engineering services for projects less than \$50,000.00. The township can adopt a list of qualified people. Trustee Bowers announced the following Requests that have been received:

- The Thrasher Group
- Geotechnical Services
- TGC Engineering
- AEG Adaptive Engineering Group
- Lewis Land Professionals
- Cunningham and Associates
- Ceso Engineering
- Civpro Engineering
- Greenland Engineering

The Board typically reviews the qualifications and those that comply will be added to the list for a full calendar year from the date the Board accepts the list. Trustee Bowers volunteered to compile the list and present at next months meeting.

An issue in the Hunter's Run Development was brought to the township's attention regarding a swimming pool constructed in 2008 that received a permit and determined once again this is a boundary issue, not a township issue. Trustee Bowers thanked Zoning Inspector, Alliss Strogan, for her assistance with this situation.

6:33 p.m. Trustee Bowers moved to recess into executive session for the purposes of discussing personnel compensation pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22G1 exceptions to open meetings. Joining executive session is Legal Counsel, William Thorne.

Roll Call Vote: Bowers-yes, Costello- yes Warchola-yes.

**7:20 p.m. Trustee Bowers moved to reconvene the regular meeting
Roll Call: Bowers-yes, Warchola-yes, Costello- yes**

The Board had previously discussed a goal of increasing staffing within the fire department. Currently, the department attempts to staff 12 hours/day seven days a week. With a goal of 24hr/day, the Board discussed trialing 18hr/day paid staffing which would be adding an additional 6 hours for 2 members with paid coverage from 6:00 am to midnight. Midnight to 6:00 a.m. a stipend is paid to those individuals that are on standby and if they respond to a call they will be paid their hourly call rate. The Board has agreed to trial for the month of June and reevaluate. The Board has agreed not make the staffing changes permanent at this time due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 and how it will affect the second half of township revenue. It is clear there is a significant difference in response times between when the township is staffed and unstaffed. At a recent fire within the township, Seville Fire Department responding slightly quicker than the township because Seville staffs. There is a separate budget for staffing and for response to actual calls. The Board requests fire department input with the new staffing changes.

Trustee Bowers made a motion to authorize increase staffing an additional 6 hours per day for two members and the midnight to 6:00 a.m. stipend for the month of June. Trustee Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Chief Winkler said he has received positive feedback on the newly hired personnel and feels they are doing well.

Chief Winkler was not able to provide the requested Ems data on a resident. Trustee Bowers said due to the nature of the calls, it is reasonable to assume this could be an unsafe environment for this individual and recommends informing Protective Services to evaluate the situation.

Trustee Bowers said the audio from last month's meeting has been download and requested Firefighter, Mr. Steve Kile's video portion for the Board to place on the township website. Mr. Kile declined saying he is unable to do so. Trustee Bowers asked if Mr. Kile had any issues with the township utilizing the audio from the previous meeting to which Mr. Kile responded he did not have an issue as it is a public file.

Chief Winkler confirmed four other departments have committed to a joint purchase of a fit tester which will save the township funds from not having to send individuals out annually to be fitted. A rotating schedule and policy will be devised amongst the departments. Trustee Costello noted the added benefit that N-95 testing can also be conducted. Chief Winkler thanked Captain Noftz for his hard work.

Trustee Bowers moved to approve the joint acquisition for the Fit Tester in an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00. Trustee Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.

Trustee Bowers suggested Chief Winkler obtain pricing for a newer "used" truck for the fire department and report back. The Board agreed the truck needs replaced. Chief Winkler said he has received competitive pricing on state term.

Chief Winkler informed Aladtech can upgrade the payroll software for a \$500.00 fee which will allow all the payroll from one program, streamlining the payroll process. Chief Winkler will request solid pricing and report back to the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Approved: _____

Lynda Bowers, Trustee

Michael Costello, Trustee

Martin Warchola, Trustee

Laura Ruebensaal, Fiscal Officer

MOTIONS and RESOLUTIONS

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