

Minutes
Special Meeting – December 30, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.
Lafayette Township Board of Trustees & Lafayette Township Fire District

The Lafayette Township Board of Trustees and Lafayette Township Fire District, Medina County, Ohio met in special session, December 30, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Lafayette Township Townhall, 6776 Wedgewood Road, Medina. Notice was given consistent with the Lafayette Township public body rule for the notification of meetings to the public and news media and ORC Section 121.22.

Trustee Costello called the meeting to order followed by roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance

Members present: Trustees Costello, Bowers, Warchola & Fiscal Officer Ruebensaal.

Trustee Costello made a motion second by Trustee Warchola to approve the minutes of the regular meeting December 20, 2021. All voting in favor, motion passed.

Trustee Costello reported the recommendations of the Records Commission are to add the category of transitory emails and to maintain eye-readable backup of any digital records deemed of permanent value. Trustee Bowers made a motion second by Trustee Costello to accept the recommendations and to direct the Fiscal Officer submit updated R-2 documents to the Ohio Historical Society to include the recommendation and eliminate records no longer maintained by the township as marked up on the R-2 forms. Trustee Bowers noted that on the current schedule, there are still a lot of PD records that should have been removed in the 2014 submission as they were transferred to the Sheriff's office and became subject to that office's schedule. For PD records with a Historical Society check on the right side of the current schedule, can be left off of the new submission. But for the categories checked on the right but not the left, those items were transferred to SO. Someone should check with the Historical Society to see how they want that handled, maybe wait until after conference and just ask someone who will be doing the records presentation.

Trustee Bowers made a motion second by Trustee Costello accepting the resignation of Kim Buell effective the date it was received, appointing Kim Detchon temporarily to cover those duties retroactive to the effective date at the same rate of pay per hour the resigned employee was receiving and to serve until the position is filled by the 2022 board. All voting in favor, motion passed.

Fiscal Officer Ruebensaal reported the township received notice of an unemployment claim made by a terminated employee asking how the board wants it handled. Trustee Warchola made a motion second by Trustee Costello to object to the unemployment. The matter will be referred to Law Director Thorne.

Trustee Bowers reported she spoke with Zoning Inspector Strogan at the last meeting regarding the need for a severe weather warning siren. Due to pending and development over the past ten years, a siren located at the safety services building would cover Laurel Crossing, Bennington Point, Ryan Farms, Dover Highlands, Wedgewood Estates, Redwood, the Technology Park, Medina Country Club, Fairway Landing and Buckeye Woods Park which is the most used park in the County – an area containing approaching 70% of the township population and both public

outdoor recreation areas. After the conversation, Trustee Costello pursued a quote while Trustee Bowers pursued funding. Trustee Costello reported the quote came in at about \$28,000. They had projected and hoped for about \$20,000 by installing on the training tower but realized that could void the roof warranty so it will have to be on a pole. Trustee Bowers inquired of First Energy for assistance with the pole but there is nothing available there. Trustee Bowers reported the principal of the Redwood development has committed to a \$10K donation toward the project. A response is expected from the owner of Medina Country Club & developer of Fairway Landing, the Medina County Park District Board after their next meeting on January 20, the Dover Highland HOA and Nexus. Trustee Bowers inquired if the new board would like to see this through and if so, who should she hand it off to?

Trustee Bowers explained Resolution 33 – 2021 for ARPA Fund distribution, is going to be a bit unique. Because half of the funds have been received and the second half comes in 2022, it will need a majority of the current and a majority of the 2022 board to agree to the distribution. If the resolution is approved, the follow up needed would be: 1) Temporary appropriations by the 2021 board would need to be reflected in permanents made by the 2022 board. 2) The agreement would need to be completed with Armstrong Cable, 3) ARPA reporting needs to be completed on or before April 30, 2022 with all the first distribution obligated in that reporting in order to receive the second distribution on or about May 22, 2022. 4) When second tranche is received, the appropriations outlined in section 4 of Resolution 33-021 need to be made to the appropriate accounts. She noted that ARPA funds can only be used to cover costs incurred on or before December 31, 2024. She also advised the contact in Columbus is Peter Voderberg, Chief of Broadband Ohio, Department of Development, Trustee Bowers has already reached out to him requesting to know whether there is any match assistance available from the State. If so, there may be an opportunity to divert more funding to staffing expansion. Trustee Bowers explained because the funding is in two cycles, 2021 and 2022, the project requires the approval of both of the different boards in those years. Trustees elect Ty Fullerton and Chris O'Neil were both in attendance. They were asked to support the project. Both responded "yes". Trustee Bowers made a motion second by Trustee Costello to approve, all voting in favor, motion passed. Residents Frank and Athena McAfee who were in attendance, thanked the board for their work on this matter. Trustee Bowers noted that the project is approximately 4 miles of 'last mile' installation.


Trustee Bowers explained she had the Fiscal officer send account summaries to her yesterday. The carryovers are strong, especially compared to some other years. The finances are in good shape but as she pointed out, as they have discussed with the trustees elect before, they do need to be very careful with the General Fund, keeping a close eye on the spending there.

Fiscal Officer Ruebensaal requested all fire department accounts should carry the official township address, 6776 Wedgewood Road, Medina, OH. She indicated she has been having difficulty receiving invoices, as an example, she just received one that was due in October and bills need to be paid within 30 days. Trustee Warchola agreed to follow up on that with the Fire Chief.

Trustee Costello made a motion to pay the warrants of the township second by Trustee Bowers.

In order to start the new board with a clean slate, minutes of this meeting were prepared for passage at the conclusion. Trustee Bowers made a motion second by Trustee Costello to approve, all voting in favor. Motion passed.

As there was no further business to come before the board, Trustee Costello adjourned.

Approved: 
Laura Ruebensaal, Fiscal Officer


Lynda Bowers, Trustee


Michael Costello, Trustee


Marty Warchola, Trustee