

**Lafayette Township Board of Trustees and
Lafayette Township Fire District Meeting
April 4, 2022**

Trustee Martin Warchola, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
Roll call: Warchola, Fullerton, O'Neil, Ruebensaal- all in attendance

Other township departments in attendance: Alliss Strogan, Zoning Inspector; Assistant Fire Chief Holzman; Rick Evans, Service Department; Bill Thorne, Legal Advisor

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Marty Warchola, Chair, asked the board whether they had the opportunity to review & read the meeting minutes from the meeting of 4.21.22. Any comments? Any issues? Motion was made by Trustee Fullerton to accept the minutes; seconded by Trustee O'Neil. All in favor? Aye- Minutes have been approved. This is our first meeting of the month, so no reports. We will start with public participation.

Public Participation from anyone?

- Shirley Bailey; I want to know when the electric sign is going to be fixed?
- Marty: So, would I.
- Tim: We had that to talk about later.
- Marty: Is there a hold up on that? Only hold up is whether it's our fault or Greenskeeper, or someone, looks like a projectile that was launched into it. We should pursue it. We are going to get it fixed, regardless.
- Tim: We mow, Greenskeeper mows, and the state mows.
- Marty: we do have a quote; do you remember what the quote was?
- Tim: The quote was for \$840.00 dollars, but the cost for diagnosing the issue was \$450.00, so the total is \$1290.00.
- Marty: I would move that we approve the funds to repair the sign, and continue to pursue if someone else might be responsible. Seconded by Ty Fullerton, all in favor aye, all opposed same sign. Motion was passed
- Marty: Can you make that happen Mr. Savetski? Yes, I will need a signature on that.
- Dianne Wenslow: Do we not have insurance on that?
- Marty: I will check into that; I suspect it is under the deductible for buildings like this. Laura, can you check into that?
- Marty: Anyone else?
- **Fiscal Officer:**
 - We received a letter from Osborne of Medina regarding price increases; \$2.00 per load, and \$15.00 surcharge on ready mix concrete delivery and \$12.00 for regular deliveries.
 - Need to adjust the resolution for the appropriations from last week, the police department was omitted.
 - Marty: We are adding to that; Resolution 11-A -2022; to add the \$5000.00 for policing services. Do I have a motion to accept? Chris made a motion to accept; seconded by Ty. All those in favor Aye; all those opposed the same sign. Motion was passed.
- **Service Department:**

- o **Rick- No**
- o **Ty:** Clean up voucher program. We are waiting for the recycling department's printer to print the vouchers. Some people have already called regarding the program. We have plenty of time, the program runs from April 4th through July 30th.
- o **Shirley Bailey:** Are we going to have shredding this year?
- o **Marty:** We haven't talked about that yet. Difficult to get them scheduled, and I believe it has become more costly. Are you interested in looking into that?
- o **Chris & Ty:** yes, let's look into prices.
- o **Marty:** I will work on that. Any particular day?
- **Fire Department:**
 - o **Tim Holzman:** Regarding items the fire department wants to get rid of, some can be repurposed. New list, some just rubbish. Another list to Ty & the service department, some radios that might be used by the service department. Email was sent to all trustees.
 - o **Marty:** I have no issues with the recommendations Chief.
 - o **Chris:** motion to approve recommendations in the email; seconded by Ty.
 - o **Marty:** All those in favor- Aye; all those opposed same sign; Motion was passed.
 - o **Tim:** Issue with some of the lights in the parking lot; Rick Evans I believe is getting the electrician out there to look at them. Parts have been ordered. We already talked about the sign damage. Did the Chief send you the update on the siren at Lyons Park?
 - o **Marty:** I received brief info on it, it looked different from what Kristina from EMA said. She said that something was screwed up with the electrical wiring, looked like someone had been messing w/it and crossed the wiring, but she thought it was repairable.
 - o **Tim:** I'm not sure we are talking about the same thing; I'm talking about the siren at Lyon's Park.
 - o **Marty:** sorry.
 - o **Tim:** We had a couple of really close lightning strikes over there; about a week and ½ ago. The siren started going off, and wouldn't shut off. We didn't think it would work, but the lightning strikes made it work. We disconnected the power to it, Rick came out and was able to help kill the power, it was still popping, like popcorn. Mixture of DC power coming off & AC power coming in, transformer in there. Ohio Edison came out and pulled the meter and it was still popping. Not sure why we have two sirens so close. Do we need two sirens?
 - o **Marty:** Based on the coverage, no. There is one at the EMA building that should be adequate. The EMA one is fixable.
 - o **Tim:** The one at Lyon's Park, if we are not going to fix it, we should disassemble it. There is power out there, power is shut off, there is a box with batteries.
 - o **Marty:** we should probably just disassemble and take it down. Do we have the capability to do this ourselves? Or do we need to bring someone in?
 - o **Brief discussion**
 - o **Marty:** we need to call someone out there. Can you work with Rick on someone to do that? I'm thinking that whoever we use for electrical work can go out and take a look at that.
 - o **Tim:** Sure.
 - o **Marty:** anything else?
 - o **Tim:** As far as our technical difficulties, KGC is reaching out to help us with those.
 - o **Marty:** Is the fax line working?
 - o **Tim:** Not yet. I wanted to Thank everyone for a successful breakfast yesterday. We had a lot of help, thanks to all the people that helped. We had about 430 people. It was nice after having to put it off the last couple of years, to actually have a breakfast. We've done over 600 in the past, but this is about average.

- o Anything else? No, that would be it.
- o Discussion regarding a police car that was in the fire department building, is out of the building. It has been moved over to the police division. If I remember, it was offered to the Medina Parks, they didn't want it. The car in question was one we were using for the community resource officer. It sat here for basically 2 years. We would like to find some use for it. Medina Police didn't want it, but now they are willing to take it and use it for a special purpose vehicle. It will not be a patrolling car. Further discussion on who it will be titled under.
- o Marty: I would put that to the board, if Medina City is willing to take it, are you guys okay with letting them, have it?
- o Ty: IF they take ownership of it, responsibilities, and all the monies that follow it- yes.
- o Chris: I agree
- o Marty: If they don't want to do that, I think I would rather dump it, scrap it, just get rid of it.
- o Laura: Marty what about ??, have you tried that?
- o Marty: We haven't yet, we could try it on there.
- o Ty: Let us know what they say.
- o Tim: Engine 1, we also want to jettison that.
- o Discussion about value from Brimley's and govdeals.com; Brimley's puts out a catalog with items available.
- o Marty: Bill are we allowed to do that?
- o Bill: If it's over a certain amount, you would have to auction it off.
- o Marty: Could you (Bill Thorne) sit down with Chief Winkler when he gets back in town?
- o Marty: Anything else on Fire?
- o Shirley Bailey: Resident ask her about Lyon's Park; during the winter we do plow it, but when winter's over we don't do anything with it. Because it's a private road. In the summer why can't we fix it? It's full of potholes.
- o Marty: If it's a private road, we shouldn't be plowing it.
- o Shirley: But he says we do.
- o Comment, we plow it to get access to the park, not because of the people who reside there.
- o Bill Thorne: Is it open for general use at this point?
- o Discussion regarding the only use we had was the tornado siren and if we dismantled that....
- o Chris asked the question, if we don't use the park anymore, why do we even own it? What's the purpose of it?
- o Marty: Not sure, it's always been there. Don't know if there are any conditions on it; to maintain it, not sure. We would need to look into that.
- o Shirley Bailey: I think that was given to us by the Fire Association, similar to Mann's Park.
- o Discussion; pre-dates all the trustees, comment was made there were projects to re-vitalize it at some points. None of them came to fruition. We would have to investigate the history of it and any restrictions before we decide what to do. Add it to the list.
- **Police Department:**
 - o No representatives from Medina PD
- **Zoning Department:**
 - o Couple of mylars on lot splits that need to be signed.
 - o We've been busy.
- **Correspondence:**
 - o Ty: Ballash Road resident has had many near misses coming out of his driveway, there is this hill to the north. So, Rick & I looked at it, decided we would put a sign up heading south before this hill that says "Hill Blocks View". Then I reached out to Lt. Marcum, once we put that sign up to

see if the PD could bolt one of those radar digital signs that shows your speed. We want to alert people to the new sign, make them more aware of their speed, we don't want anyone to get hurt. Hopefully that sign helps.

- **Old Business:**
- Marty: Any other old business? No

New Business:

- **Denise Testa speaking from the Medina County Planning Department**
 - I brought the updated plans for the Chippewa Lake Main Drive and the culvert. Nate Epic from the Medina County Parks Department is with me, as well as Scott Miller from the county. We were here a couple of weeks ago. This is for the replacement of the box culvert and the paving of Main Drive. As we have gone through the wetland delineation and survey; and we met with township officials last Oct-November. The grant that we received of three hundred and eight-nine thousand dollars, may not be able to pay for the full amount due to price increases as well as the supply chain issues we anticipated. As a result, the county has allocated eighty thousand additional dollars. We also have fifty from the Sanitary Department, and thirty from the County Commissioners. When we talked with Lafayette back in November, we had talked about some allocation from the township to assist with this project. We anticipate the final cost of the project moving forward is \$550,628.00. We plan to post the bid work by dividing it into two separate projects. The first and the primary project is the replacement of the box culvert because that bridge, as we all know, needs to be replaced sooner rather than later. That is our priority. The second bid that will go out is the pavement and the improvements to the wetland area off of Main Drive. We have come to the township to ask for some support. I believe you had discussed this at your special budget meeting. I am here to answer any question you have as well as Scott and Nate. The park district has kicked in forty thousand dollars as well. So, we have a lot of partners. The County Engineer is assisting us with the bid process, as well as the engineering. We have been working with Lafayette to make sure this project goes well. The bid for the culvert is scheduled to go out this Thursday.
 - Marty: What is the total amount you are looking for from us?
 - Denise: Ninety thousand dollars.
 - Ty: I brought that motion up at our special budgeting meeting; and we appropriated for it. Although there were concerns from the board, and there were some questions. That's why we asked Denise to come this evening. Rick did get the rest of the access road completed today. Access road is ready for full traffic once construction starts. We need to schedule a public meeting for those residents that will be affected by this project. I would like to get that done in May, the beginning of May if at all possible. We did draft up a letter that can go out to those folks, we need to set a date, so all the parties can be there to answer questions.
 - Denise: The other piece too is this grant has been allocated through the Community Block Grant with the intent to spend that money first. Once we spend down that money first, we would then access the county money, the township money if you approve that.
 - Chris: That was my biggest concern, but that makes sense.
 - Ty: the bridge/culvert goes out for bid this Thursday, they will then wait two weeks and put the road up for bid?
 - Denise: Correct.
 - Ty: What is the completion date on the bridge/culvert?
 - Denise: The bridge, once we place the order for the bridge it will be 12-16 weeks out for delivery. We can install the bridge/culvert during the winter months. We also have to install the

headers and the footers leading to and from the bridge. We will start working on that. The deadline to utilize the funding from the grant is March 2023. We can install it in the fall.

- o Ty: The 12-16 weeks are waiting on the box culvert to be made. What's the completion date on the bridge though? Do they put a completion date on the bridge?
- o Denise: The completion date is March of 2023. That is the date we need to utilize the grant money by. At this point, I don't have the timing until the bid is accepted.
- o Scott: The goal is to have it done by the year end. When talking to the highway engineer's office, he mentioned the November time frame. Once we get the bids, the contractor will let us know what the lead time is on the material, and a schedule at that time. What will happen is the road will be done first
- o Denise: That is why we are bidding the road and the culvert separately. The road will have to be completed in the warmer months.
- o Nate: for clarification, Medina County Park District is not the sole owner of the Main Dr currently, a portion of it is still privately owned. We are working on a land swap with the owner. We have some small parcels off of some roads that we are working to swap for the section of Main Dr. we need to complete the road. We are in the process of doing that, the surveys have been completed. The swaps should take place in the next couple of weeks.
- o Chris: Is that the part on the map that is listed as private and is shaded?
- o Nate: yes, the park district owns from Lake Road, kind of the apron to the first house, then it is a private drive a little beyond an abandon ...we will become the proud owners of that section of land before it's paved.
- o Denise: Main Drive will then end in a cul de sac. The reason we are putting the cul de sac in is for turnaround capabilities, but also, after that cul de sac that is where the private road begins to lead into the culvert, and off of the box culvert, continues the private drive and leads into Euclid.
- o Ty: And just to clarify, the map as well, that will full asphalt pavement after the cul de sac, over the bridge and into..
- o Denise: IF we can afford it. What we have done with the bidding process is we have included some alternates in that process which does include a gravel drive after the cul de sac. Primarily again, because we anticipate that prices will continue to climb. They will go up, and according to the County Engineer, they are. The hard surface drive after the cul de sac is put in there as an alternate, if we can afford it, we will try to make that work.
- o Chris: From the current apron to the cul de sac will that be township road at the end of the project?
- o Denise: I believe that will be a township road.
- o Nate: the private portion that is beyond the cul de sac to Euclid Ave. would be private but it would be owned by the Park District. I am very much in favor of that part being paved, if you can afford it. To have to smooth that out every spring, would be less than ideal for us.
- o Ty: Nate, I have a question. When you go in Main Drive, we talked about this a couple of weeks ago at Cunningham's; there is a homeowner that has a cyclone fence that goes way past the easement. When that property becomes the park, are you going to take care of the fence so construction can start.
- o Nate: we will be in touch, once we know the exact bounds of the right of way. We will reach out to that homeowner, and explain the project and the encroachment that is there.
- o Ty: you will take care of making sure, it's been their backyard forever well before I make a motion to approve, are there any other questions?

- o Chris: The portion from the cul de sac back to Euclid, it will hopefully be asphalt, but possibly gravel, who will be responsible for maintaining that? Plowing, etc.
- o Nate: That section is private and would be owned by the park district and so it would be us. I would not be opposed if the township wanted to volunteer. For the next few years, until our presence there expands, it's a very short drive which we would be heading down there to maintain. Eventually, once we have the park opened, we would have a more regular daily presence.
- o Ty: I guess I misunderstood your map. That private is yours (park), the next private is the homeowners where they have their private road.
- o Nate: Right, so Euclid Ave, Big Injun, Bigelow, would still remain privately owned. The "private" as part of this project is the Park District.
- o Brief discussion regarding plowing once the road is done.
- o Ty to the members of the board, any more questions? No more questions.
- o Ty made a motion to approve ninety thousand dollars for this project that we have appropriated, but wanted further answers and discussion on. Motion was seconded by Trustee Warchola.
- o Marty: All those in favor AYE, those opposed same sign. All right, motion carries.
- o Marty: there is a note on here, Denise do you want to talk about that?
- o Denise: I was contacted by Sherri at the township about Educational Zoning workshops. I have created other workshops for other townships, which can be customized to whatever we need. Basically, whatever you need we can customize it.
- **Any other New Business?**
 - o Chris: Tim Kassouf who is here tonight, has submitted his application for zoning alternate. Comes highly recommended. I would like to nominate him to be an alternate on the zoning commission.
 - o Marty: Bill, what is the proper procedure for the board? Do we just vote on it?
 - o Bill: some of the townships they go to every meeting and get paid, others, they don't go until they're needed. It's up to you guys how you want it.
 - o Marty: I would think that it would make a lot more sense that they should go to every meeting. You can learn as you go along.
 - o Alliss: so, we would have two alternates for the zoning commission?
 - o Marty: Yes, I think it should be the same compensation as the regular members.
 - o Chris: I agree. I make a motion to appoint Tim Kassouf as an alternate for the Zoning Commission. Marty seconded.
 - o Marty: All those in favor say Aye, all those opposed, same sign. Motion passed.
 - o Joe Praisler: Does he have to be sworn in?
 - o Chris: we did that a couple months ago, when we swore you in. Bill, do we have to swear them in?
 - o Bill: Not that I know.
 - o Marty: Joe, you were just special.
- **Any additional public participation?**
 - o Sheriff Terry Grice: I started in the sheriff's office fifteen months ago; it's gone by fast. One of the things we did is we met with all of our partner agencies that use dispatch. And you are one of our agencies that use dispatch. What we have done, is change some things up with dispatch. I want to go through a couple things. One thing that came to light last year is that our current staffing level was below what it was in 2012. We looked at that, adjusted it. If you look at the first page there. Discussion/review of handout. Increase in demand of service, demand on the

center has increased. In 2012 they switched over to receiving 911 calls from cellular phones. Most people now use their cell phones, but there are still some people with landlines. Our center receives all the 911 cell phone calls and we disperse them to the proper agency. Dispatch is a very difficult job. This handout gives you a good idea of how the numbers have increased. In December of 2021 we gathered up a group of our partners, Chief Winkler represented Lafayette. Trying to come up with a different approach of how we bill. Before, we were billing per call. In 2022 you would receive a bill for the calls made in 2021. Pretty difficult to budget for that. What we came up with in collaboration with all our partners is come up with a known fee going forward. If we added a dispatcher to go back to the number from 2012, that would bring us to 14. We had about 14 jurisdictions represented in the meetings. Universally, they thought we should add a second dispatcher, which would give us 15. That 15 does include the supervisor too. The commissioners would be happy to split the second position pay, with the commissioners paying $\frac{1}{2}$ the salary and the townships picking up the other $\frac{1}{2}$. Review of contract costs and numbers of calls for Lafayette Township, Fire, Police. Had a meeting in January to confirm that everyone was still on the same page. We developed a contract that outlines the cost. You have a copy of that. The first year it would be twenty- nine thousand three hundred and twenty- five dollars. The next three years it would go up depending on the union contract. Last page reviewed similar county comparisons; where Medina County is compared to other counties in Ohio. I share that with you, so you have an idea where we are coming up with some of this data. Happy to answer questions. Is there anything else I can specifically answer for you?

- o **Marty:** the total cost. What is the total cost for?
- o **Sheriff:** That adds up to 8 dispatchers. Our dispatch center is funded through three different sources; one is the county's general fund, one is the wireless 911 collection that we all pay on our cell phones; the other fund, is a co-operative fund that the township and villages pay into. That account will fund 8 dispatchers, the other 6 are funded out of the general fund, the other 1 (supervisor) is funded out of the 911 collection. Thank you for bringing that up, it can get confusing. So that total of \$439,000.00 funds is 8 dispatchers.
- o **Ty:** Explain what is the difference between 911 calls and dispatch calls, how they are paid, the fees.
- o Sheriff explained dispatch, mutual aid, keeping track of calls, and personnel cost. Etc. If someone requests mutual aid, there is only one charge, not multiple calls. Would be happy to come back another time to answer any additional questions. You have the contract.
- o **Marty:** Thank you very much
- o **Marty:** Anything else?
- o **Justin Peroli:** A couple meetings ago, you talked about the service contract for IT. The motion was made at the time; Marty was to continue talking about it. Was the motion approved?
- o **Marty:** Yes.
- o **Justin:** The motion when you approved to continue talking to them, you choose to abstain from the vote. You didn't state why, was that because the board had been advised that there was a potential conflict of interest between KGC and employees on the fire department staff?
- o **Marty:** There were a couple of reasons, that was one of the reasons.
- o **Justin:** Did you advise the other board members of that conflict?
- o **Marty:** I did, and I have since found that that was no longer a conflict.
- o **Justin:** when did you advise the other board members of the conflict?
- o **Marty:** I'm sorry, I thought you meant the old board, I did not advise this board of that.
- o **Justin:** okay. Thank you.

- o Marty: Anything else? We are going to go into executive session, pursuant to ORC 121.22 subsection G3 for pending legal matters, pending litigation. I don't know how long this is going to take. We will take a roll call vote: O'Neil, Fullerton, Warchola all yes. Into Executive Session at 8:02. Invite the law director, Bill Thorne and Fiscal Officer, Laura Ruebensaal.
- o Marty: At 8:08 we are back in session; no decisions were made. If there is nothing else before the board. I would make a motion that we pay the warrants of the township and adjourn. Is there a second? Ty Fullerton seconded. All in favor Aye, all opposed; same sign. Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

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- Approved:

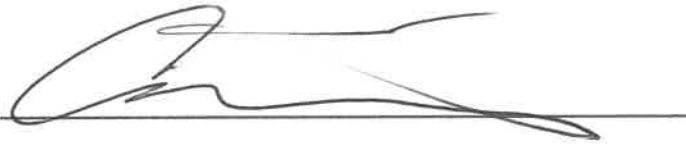
Martin Warchola, Chair



Ty Fullerton, Vice Chair



Chris O'Neil, Trustee



Laura Rubensaal, Fiscal Officer

