

Meeting Minutes
Lafayette Township Board of Trustees and Fire District
Monday, April 1, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order

The notice requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and the implementing rules adopted by the Board pursuant thereto were complied with for the meeting.

Roll Call 6:31: Peroli, Fullerton, O'Neil
Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes Pending Approval

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, second Trustee Fullerton to approve September 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Trustee O'Neil says Aye, Trustee Fullerton says Aye. Trustee Peroli abstained. Motion passes.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, second by Trustee Peroli to approve Feb. 22 and March 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes pending edits. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Consent Agenda

- **Fiscal Report**
- **Service Department**
- **Fire District Report**
- **Police Report**
- **Zoning Report**

Fiscal

Laura Ruebensaal reporting. Nothing to report.

Service

Rick Evans, Service Director, reporting. Ballash Road Commencement & Contract Signatures. Concrete Cul-de-sac on Honey Shade Ct in Hunter's Run. Trustee O'Neil stated we took core samples in the cul-de-sac. Completion of Administration Building Conference Room. Waiting on electrical hook up and wireless internet for full completion of the conference room.

Fire

Chief Cavanaugh reporting. He discussed all items listed on his report. Reports can be viewed on the Lafayette Township website; Community Report, Education Report, Department Report. Future planning of the fire district discussion presenting on PowerPoint by Chief Cavanaugh. Past 9 months, we are running at a deficit. We have limited funding. We are trying to make up for that funding by writing a lot of grants. Future planning major purchases would be the purchase of vehicles. Chief touched on staffing issues and Lafayette being a part-time district and minimum staffing. We will need more staff as the baby boomers are aging and need medical care. We are actually on the low end in terms of salaries. LTFD has created a survey. Chief would like to get feedback from the residents.

He presented ideas for concepts for levies to offset our costs. You can see the full presentation by clicking the link on the Lafayette Township website.

Resident question on the vehicles. Do we have to put money down on the vehicle up front? Depends on the vehicle purchased. Resident asked if it would be worth while to lock in a price? Chief is meeting with 2 separate ambulance companies next week to talk pricing. Another resident asked if our old equipment can be sold? Chief said, yes, that is an option, but we need to work out the timing. Another resident asked will the sirens work tomorrow? Chief said, yes, they will be fixed. Another resident asked about taxes and levies and how much taxes would go up. Chief explained the math. (this is all speaking in terms of examples. No real numbers or real levies were used). Assessed value is what you use. Resident asked if there is a testing for the alarms. Chief said yes. They are tested monthly, but we don't get feedback. It was the county repeater that caused it to not go off. Not our sirens.

Motion by Trustee Fullerton, and second by Trustee Peroli to approve the hiring of Gabriel Smith and Volodymyr Novitskyi. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Trustee Peroli asked what qualifications does Volodymyr have? Chief replied that he will be doing trainings to earn qualifications. Fire Fighter 1 school. He will not be paid until he is certified.

Motion by Trustee Fullerton, and second by Trustee O'Neil to approve Koorsen to install new key fobs for the Safety Service Building in the amount of \$32,253.50. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Discussion: Trustee O'Neil asked what does that include? Chief said it will include 13 door strikes and says who goes in and out. Also, it includes remote locks from your phone to make sure the whole station is locked down. It is not a big concern, but is something that needs to be done. Trustee Peroli asked about ARPA funds. Do we have a running total of what is left? Laura, fiscal officer, said to take out \$20K for the roof and that is all we had left. There is nothing else floating out there that is not already accounted for.

Police

Lt. Marcum reporting. 378 incidents last month. There were a few complaints last month about traffic enforcement in several areas and we have been more present in those areas.

Zoning

Trustee Peroli is reporting for Sherri Meinke. For the month of March, the zoning fees were \$2452.37, with an estimated value of \$1, 572, 545. There are 3 on-going issues over on Palker Road. The property with the tent is going to be moved and everything will be going into storage by the end of this month. Pace property update. Sherri has been over there to talk with Mr. Pace. This is more of a neighborly dispute and the clean up process is coming along. We will continue to monitor. What defines a junk vehicle and what defines 'living on the property?' Mike will decide on that. Palker Sr. property update. Sherri was just out there and they have made progress as well. The piles are getting smaller and more organized. We will need to keep monitoring. It doesn't seem like we need to intervene. Resident neighbor says that the piles are not getting smaller, they are re-distributing piles. Trustee Peroli said it looked to be getting worse, then better. We will keep an eye on it. Trustee

O'Neil states we are coming up on a year where we held a hearing and declared that property a public nuisance. We have up to a year to repeat the process without having a whole hearing again. He has paid his taxes and the driveway is still not cleaned up. Trustee Peroli asked Mike. Can we do the same thing again, but have to act accordingly? Mike said yes, we can. It has to be within those 12 months. I don't know if we need to rush to do it, but you do have that authority. In the future, if you face this situation again, if they clean it up and then start to accumulate again. Don't wait. Trustee O'Neil said they purposely waited this time to see if they would pay the taxes. Taxes have been paid to the Treasurer's office, but not over to the Township yet. Trustee O'Neil asked what Mike's opinion is on the injunction? He said to do it as a nuisance. It is not best to treat as a zoning offense. It is best to get the money through taxes, because you know the township will get the money back even through foreclosure. Mike states it's difficult to enforce cleanup when Sherri has been in contact with him and he is responding. Trustee Peroli asked about the exact date. He would have no problem having another hearing. Trustee O'Neil suggests that we send him a letter saying that their intention to have another hearing since the property is not cleaned up yet. Trustee O'Neil would like to do another title search and get the process rolling on the notice process. Mike recommends starting the notice process. Trustee O'Neil will take lead on that and start the process.

Public Participation

Mark Freddrick; 6146 West Smith Road. Complaint about people who snuck across the border. Government is out of control. Taxes are out of control. He wants a revolution. He wants no government. No police or fire department, no schools, no libraries, no courts, no judges, no roads. Wants 1 guy with a snow plow and a dump truck. Suggests that we are broke. Why? Why did payroll almost double? Wants a state audit. Says the FD tells the Trustees what to do. Free healthcare is over. Tells Trustees to go get a real job.

Renee Drake; Lake Road. Laura was sworn in and she believes Justin was left out and wants a reason why. Trustee O'Neil responds that he doesn't mean this to be derogatory, but most folks up here don't have a big level of trust for Trustee Peroli right now, which he sincerely hopes that will change over the coming months. This is because for the past 2+ years, he has tried to burn us at every turn. i.e. find fault with what the Trustees do for the township. She thinks it was childish. People voted Justin in and trust him. Trustee O'Neil agrees. She states that people voted you in and trusted you. Trustee O'Neil agrees again. She asks where is 2020-2021 audit is? It has been 822 days. She says most township audits are 300-500 days. Laura Ruebensaal states you are welcome to contact Perry auditors. We have nothing to do with that. We have given them all the information and it is in their hands.

Trustee Peroli interjects and states that he could care less about the swearing in, but thanks the resident for her dispute. It bothers him that the other trustees don't trust him. Says that the insurance information was never forwarded to him. Communications on the audit are not of public record until the audit is complete. Trustee Peroli asks if he is entitled to all communications between the Fiscal Officer and the State Auditor. Mike says yes. Trustee Peroli asks Fiscal Officer Ruebensaal if he can have access to those records. She says, "sure." Renee Drake asks Trustee Peroli if he has asked for those records before? He states he asked what the status was and the response from Laura was that there are investigations going back and forth with Perry Associates.

Mike Costello. 5525 Wagon Trail. Speaking to Trustees O'Neil and Fullerton he stated that they don't trust Trustee Peroli, but how many times over the past 24 months have you stated that our FD had plenty of money? You actually had meeting saying how sound the FD was. Now you are stating that the FD doesn't have funds. Now why should we trust you? Trustee O'Neil responded that he is entitled to his view, but when we spoke back in Oct, with numbers that we had, we never said that we were financially sound. We didn't know where the numbers were going to end up. Laura Ruebensaal interjected and said to not forget that one of the things Perry is the one going back and forth on is this Fire District. You can contract Perry. The money has to be split a certain way. Where should the bond fund live? Should it live in the Township? Should it live in the FD? That's not a decision that the Fiscal Officer can make. Perry is still deciding on that.

Lynda Bowers. 6440 Ryan Road. On the \$130 K that the fire chief showed for donations from the public, how much of that was from the old Chippewa Lake Fire Department. Fiscal Officer states that she is not aware what that is. That's not something we can count on every year, correct? Laura responds that is correct.

Linda Collins; 129 Shade Slope. I have just started coming to these meetings. She wants to know who will support Justin?

Stacey Maleckaz. Superintendent the Medina County Board of Disabilities. Presented a report for people with developmental disabilities. They serve around 1500 residents who are qualified for developmental disabilities. Once they are approved, they are in the program for life. People who need help in their home, etc. How do we make the community more inclusive with a disability? More adult changing tables in the community. We don't think about that, but there is a need. They appreciate the support.

Lynda Bowers. Election night. Stopped to see the election results. Claims doors were open and equipment inside. Police investigation on that. States she wasn't trying to cause trouble, wanted to make sure someone locked the door. She was surprised to hear from the police department. Trustee O'Neil asked if she found the numbers? She said no, saying there was nothing posted. Trustee O'Neil corrects her and states that they were posted on the west side of the building. She states again she was worried about the doors being unlocked.

Brian Grabowski. Ryan Road. He would like engine brake restrictions off of Wedgewood and Ryan Road. Wants restrictions because of the loud noises. Trustee O'Neil states we are going to address that later in the meeting.

Kerrie Bellar. Why are the numbers not available on the website? What is the delay? How can we speed up the process of seeing financial records? Laura stated you can go to the auditor of states website and search for them. When the Auditor of State approves them, they will be posted on their website. 2020-2021 is delayed because the auditor's office is still reviewing them? Laura responds that you would have to ask the Auditor of State's office. We have sent them all of the information they asked for. As far as we know, they are still in the hands of the Auditor of State.

Kathy Stavalish. The entrance of 162 to the Safety Service Center is very dark. Trustee O'Neil said we did have plans for a street light. They drilled the hole and then filled it back in and took the pole. Rick is contacting Ohio Edison to ask where it went. So we are hoping they come back and put up the light.

6808 Spencer Lake Road Property.

We talked about controlled access. Trustee O'Neil, we touched on in February. We were waiting to see if they paid their taxes. They did indeed pay their taxes. We are obligated to do something now to rectify the problem? Mike said you are not obligated to, but you have the authority to do something. There are vermin (rats/mice) all over the counter tops. The process is similar to the Palker road property, although we don't have to hold a hearing. Mike: We would have to do a title search and set the notice. Mike said your action is based on the determination from the building department. We would have to do a Resolution to give them public notice. Mike agrees. Trustee O'Neil would say he could have Resolution for the May meeting.

Trustee Peroli feels like we don't need to intervene if it's inside the home. If they are current on their taxes, we don't need to be getting involved at the time. Trustee Fullerton has a resident complaint that more vermin, rats, and mice are coming by and near his house because of the state of the condition of the inside of the house. Mike: Its not structural. It's an infestation of the inside of the house. It's not an external problem. It was declared unfit for anyone to live there, so it's a matter of what do you do with it? Does it warrant tearing the house down? Etc.? As a board you have to evaluate, based on the information, what is the appropriate action to take as a Board? Trustee O'Neil said the most cost-effective method would be best. Trustee Peroli asked if we talked to the property owner yet? Trustee O'Neil replied no.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, second by Trustee Peroli to do a title search for Spencer Lake Road property to find out more about the property. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Depository Contracts/Banking Relationships

Trustee Peroli is following up about the Westfield discussion from last meeting. Laura: We need Trustee O'Neil's notarized signature to open Star Ohio account for the FD. He's the Chairman. Trustee Peroli said we should make a decision on this and Trustee Fullerton agreed. Trustee Fullerton said Huntington sent us information. We read Westfield proposals last month. Huntington sent some new information. We still have the 3 accounts with them. The balance is \$2,330,000 – service charges & Interest rate is 3%. Potential net annual income is \$69,254. I am assuming this is a new proposal. When I was comparing the 2, Westfield's annual interest rate earned would be \$72, 659. The number they used was \$2,107,000 so \$200,000 less and \$5000 more in interest. Trustee O'Neil: When comparing the 2 banks, Westfield seems like the odds on favorite. Trustee Peroli states that Westfield proposal was to keep\$ 400,000 in each account that gained 0 interest with the balance being in investments that were pegged to Star Ohio for 10 basis points less. Whereas, Huntington will give us 3% on every dollar that we invest with them, so trying to use forecasted interest seems like waste. The first \$800,000 we deposit in Westfield earns no interest; the first \$800,000 we would invest in Huntington would earn \$24 K, so Westfield's already \$24K in the hole and Huntington doesn't hinder us from putting whatever we want in Star Ohio.

When you look at the 2 proposals, there is no way that Westfield comes back with more interest for us, unless they change that the first \$800,000 won't earn any interest. Trustee Fullerton states he has not talked with Huntington; its their numbers on their letter head. They came up with \$69,000. Mr. Fredrick questions banking service charges. Trustee Peroli says that all banks do that. \$150 charge on both. Trustee O'Neil states that is banking. The banker wants to make money. Trustees discuss banking and compare and contrast both companies. Trustee Fullerton

Tim Kassoff. Lafayette Road. Huntington has given us 0 interest all these years until we said we would move our money. Trustee Peroli responded that that would be part of the story, but Huntington has been reaching out for a while. Westfield is committing to paying us a higher interest rate than what they are going to reinvest into, so they are willing to take a loss on them. He states that there is usually a reason a bank is willing to take a loss to acquire additional deposits. When you look at 3% from dollar one and 0 from Westfield, they are identical. The difference is the interest rates. The Huntington offer will earn us more interest. Trustee O'Neil interjects and states that it will earn us more in the long run. Trustee Peroli states that Westfield says that they anything under \$400,000 we get nothing on. Huntington doesn't require us to hold any minimum balance with them. There is no minimum balance on the paperwork they supplied. It's not possible for Westfield to make up the difference. Trustee Fullerton: They did compare the same numbers. Thank you for pointing that out. The numbers that off-set, \$400,000 in checking and the rest goes into investments that gains interest on. They are guaranteeing 5% on the first 6 months and after that they will reprice the highest rate tier of the premier money market currently at 5%. Trustee Peroli states that is not on the checking account. Business checking account target balance is \$400,000, excessive balance sweeps into the money market. The money market is what earns 5%. The first \$400,000 sits in the checking account and doesn't earn anything. We can take the overage and put it in Star Ohio. So, again, Huntington and Star Ohio are better than Westfield. This is a decision for the board. It is clear to me. Either way, we need to decide so that money is not sitting in there. Trustee O'Neil and Trustee Fullerton both agree. Trustee O'Neil states that he will sign for the new Star Ohio account. He feels apprehensive to keep it in there forever because we have everything in one fund. Trustee Peroli doesn't understand. States we are not investing. Trustee O'Neil states that is exactly what we are doing. We want to make a return on it. Trustee Peroli said there is no reason to diversify our accounts. Trustee O'Neil says there is difference between a bank and a Star Ohio account, which that is a fund that you are putting into. Trustee Peroli states that its clear the other trustees want to move to banking with Westfield, so let's do something so we can make interest on our money. Trustee O'Neil states that he is not married to Westfield. He is apprehensive about putting all of the money into one fund. It's not a guaranteed fund. I know they have had a good track record, but what if something happens and then 2/3 of our funds are gone? The thing with Star Ohio it is not a guaranteed. Its not a known. The bank is giving you an interest rate. Star Ohio tries to give a good return, which has been good the last couple of years. Trustee Peroli says that they are short term. 12-18 months is the sweet spot right now. Difference is Star Ohio manages billions of dollars for the state and are audited and managed by the people who run the state finances. Whereas, Westfield is just a reginal bank. Trustee O'Neil agrees. Trustee Fullerton would like to sit down and have a conversation with Huntington since he only received and email about their offers.

Resident asked Fiscal Officer about banks. She states that she can not comment on that. She doesn't work for any of those banks but cannot comment on that. Thank you for asking though. Trustee Fullerton states that with Trustee O'Neil signing off on the new Star Ohio account, it will take out the bulk of our worries. Trustee O'Neil says he has no problem going with Huntington if we have a better deal. Trustee Peroli states that we are losing 3%. We carried almost \$2,000,000. Trustee Fullerton said if he had to make a decision, he wouldn't go with Huntington. He gives them credit for changing their numbers.

Motion by Trustee Peroli, second by Trustee O'Neil to accept the new proposal to gain 3% interest for Huntington. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Linda Collins: She started coming to meetings in January and in Jan. we brought up the Star accounts and it was tabled to Feb and in March we were going to move it. Now it's April and we have lost at least \$15,000 in interest funds that we could have been making all this time.

New Business

Land Reutilization Program.

Trustee Peroli presenting. We have received a couple of notices from the Prosecutor's Office about The Land Reutilization Program. He spoke with Brian Rictor. Trustee Peroli states that any time there is foreclosure or sheriffs' sale they will send out those notices, we just have to say that "are we interested?" Suggests that when those notices come in, we would like to see them, and say that we are interested. If they don't sell, we would be able to take the property at court costs. He states that at end of the day, responding to these letters, tells the Prosecutors office to stop the process to be able to give us a decision point on whether or not we want these properties. Trustee Peroli will put together a formal letter to respond that we are interested. Trustee O'Neil states that is great idea.

Motion by Trustee Peroli, second by Trustee Fullerton to blanket accept/express interest in any property that we get notification on. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Payroll Funding Accounts.

Trustee O'Neil. Laura this came up from the FD. This is not about additional funds or salaries. It has to do with which funds are those salaries coming from? If it is Fire, do we need to take that out of the FD side, as opposed to the Township side? Mike responding. I started to look at your levies and the relationship between the township and the fire district and I am still trying to understand that. Mike will do some investigating to understand the levies and how they are accounted for. Laura: Only people who get paid from Fire are the fire fighters and the chief. They are operating expenses monies. Mike is not at a point to express an opinion on it. Mike states I would think you would not draw trustees' salaries from those, but that is preliminary. Laura: would it come out of the general fund on the township side? But the Liaison being on the Board of the fire district. How would that work? He states we will have to follow up with another discussion, but at this time I don't see paying Trustee salaries with FD funds. Laura: Would it come out of the general fund on the Township side? Mike said yes; the Trustee salaries would come out of Township funds. Laura asks where would the Fire Liaison be paid out of? Because Perry said to remove the title of Fire Liaison off of the Township side and move it to the FD side. Mike: What is the

function of the Trustee as the Fire Liasson? We will have to follow up with further discussion on the topic. Mike agrees that Trustee's salaries should be taken out of the General Fund. Trustee Peroli: Is there something I'm missing as to why we would do this? Laura: It's because Perry brought it up and we were doing what the Auditor told us to do. Trustee Peroli asks why would we not pay it all out of the township? Laura stated that the Auditor says, according to them, it's a separate legal entity. i.e. like Walmart vs. Target.

Endo Bankruptcy/Opioid Settlement

Mike reporting. A drug manufacturer that went into bankruptcy. They are monitoring it for the county. He wouldn't be concerned about it. Anything for the township would be minimal. Trustee Thank Mike for coming.

Unresolved Business

Zoning Resolution Assistance.

Trustee Peroli as of right now, unless we are going to start back at the beginning, it is not worth hiring a firm right now. My conversations with the zoning board is that they said they will be good very soon. We will revisit that in July and see where they are at.

MailChimp Update

Kristen Reporting. There is a problem with our web domain, which MailChimp is not responding to. Kristen has created a QR code that will be on the next Lafayette Township newsletter for residents to enter into the Resident Email Database. Future plan is to eventually email out the seasonal newsletter to the residents.

Lafayettetownship.com Domain.

Trustee Peroli reporting. Problems with registrar. Changing ownership is becoming an issue and being a public entity. We no longer have access to the account. The renewal is not until next year. While we work through the process of the registration, Trustee Peroli has researched the .gov websites. They register and we should all receive the emails. We would never run into this with a .gov entity. Trustee O'Neil talked with Mike last week and said Laura should draw up an affidavit to try to get the entity. Trustee Peroli: We need to have a backup plan as well. We might want to switch to the .gov anyway. All trustees agree. Trustee Fullerton: March 17, 2025 is the expiration date of lafayettetownship.com. Trustee O'Neil comments to Trustee Peroli that he is all for him going with the .gov route.

Engine Break Restrictions

Trustee Peroli reporting. He reached out to Ashland office for ODOT. We have to pass a resolution for any of the routes that we want to put engine break restrictions on. We can't put an engine break sign here and there in different sections. They bill us for them and put them up. We need to pass a resolution and forward it to them and they verify that the correct signs be put up. Trustee Fullerton asked about what Julie said about traffic studies? Trustee Peroli said the only thing they do traffic studies for is for traffic restrictions. I.e. lights, stop signs, etc. The last full traffic study was 2018. She said 4-6 weeks, it should be completed. Chief Cavanaugh also talked to Julie at ODOT and asked for a traffic study for speed and intersection at Ryan Road/Wedgewood. Trustee Peroli: They seem to be reluctant for speed changes. We can keep barking at them, but they seem more reluctant to do it. Trustee

Fullerton states that is their road, we just need to keep making our argument strong enough for them to change it. Resident asks: Can we say no Jake Break for all of Lafayette township? Trustee Peroli: There are valid reasons for the use or nonuse of the Jake break. They are not designed to just be annoying and loud. They are used for safety. If we want to consider it, we would have to label each road and area where a sign would be needed. We would not be able to say "All" of Lafayette Township is a 'No Brake Zone.' Trustee Fullerton states good update. Did Julie give a time frame? Trustee Peroli states no; we just need to draft a resolution and submit it to them. The traffic study is slated to be completed within 4-6 weeks. Julie Cichello is the contact at ODOT. Trustee Peroli says that this is bigger discussion that needs to be had in terms of creating resolutions.

Grant Review/Approval

Trustee Peroli reporting. Chief has done a great job with the grants. With a lot of grants there are a lot of stipulations. Do we have anything in place to make sure what stipulations we are committing to by taking the grant money? Do we have a process to review those? Is the Liaison reviewing the grants? Trustee O'Neil agrees there should definitely be a process, so that the trustees are in the know. Last year, Laura, Bill and Trustee O'Neil sat down and reviewed a bunch of them. Trustees agree a second set of eyes is always a good thing. Trustee O'Neil says we should use the Liasson to do that. They can update the board at the next meeting. All trustees agree.

VFIS Insurance renewal Fire Department

Trustee Fullerton. Chief did budget for this. It is just a renewal. Just went up \$70 some/year. \$2,463 for accidental death/injuries for everyone on the roster.

Motion by Trustee Fullerton, second by Trustee Peroli to approve the VFIS Insurance renewal for the Fire Department in the amount of \$2,463. All in Favor. Motion passes

Resolution #12 Countywide 9-1-1 system

Approving their process.

Roll call Vote:

Peroli: Yes

Fullerton: Yes

O'Neil: Yes

Resolution 12-2024 Countywide 9-1-1 passes.

Administration Building Hours

Present by Trustee O'Neil. We want to have someone in the office and as much coverage as we can. Kristen is there from 8-3 M, W, TH. Sherri is there from 7-2 T,W,F. Trustee Peroli: Sherri with the zoning inspector's role and maybe being out of the office. We were trying to have Wed. be here 'field day.' We should probably say that she might not be there. Kristen states she had a sample days/time schedule for the door with a disclaimer that someone might not be there. If that is the case. There will be a number posted that they can call Sherri in case of emergency. If there is something they know they need; appointments are always best to make sure someone is here, especially for Sherri. Trustee Fullerton asks them to repeat the schedule:

Monday: Kristen 8-3

Tuesday: Sherri 7-2
Wednesday: Sherri 7-2
 Kristen 8-3
Thursday: Kristen 8-3
Friday: Sherri 7-2

Trustee Peroli: Possibly weekends or evenings? Possibly rotating Saturdays for Trustees to be there? Thoughts? Trustee O'Neil: Likes the idea of being available for the residents. What about Saturdays by appointment? Trustee Fullerton agrees that appointments would be best. They have not had requests from residents in the past couple of years for weekend hours, but he thinks scheduling appointments would be beneficial to the residents. Trustee Peroli states that he thinks people are reluctant to ask for an appointment. Something to think about. Trustee Fullerton agrees it's something to think about.

Lions Club Plant Sale

Is there a policy about using that space for all non-profits? I.e. if the girl scouts wanted to use it? It's a good use for that land, but we want to make sure we are not singling out only one entity to use it. Saturday, May 2 is the plant sale.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, second by Trustee Peroli for the Lions Club to use the land for the plant sale. This would be the Saturday before Mother's Day. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Seasonal Hires for Roads

Rick usually hires some part time guys for mowing season. Trustee Peroli asked for the pay rates. Trustee O'Neil didn't know off the top of his head, but they would be the same as last year.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, second by Trustee Peroli for Rick Evans to hire Al and Tim back for summer help. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Health Insurance Renewal

Trustee O'Neil met with a man from GDK; he was a broker as well. If we don't take any action from our current plan, it will just turn over on the current plan with the increased rates. Trustee O'Neil proposes that we renew for \$48/month overall (not per person) increase. Keep current plan but increase deductible. Trustee O'Neil would like the other trustees to meet with GDK. Deductibles go to 5 and 10. Trustee Peroli actually talked to Scott and would like to get additional quotes for insurance. Trustee Peroli states that if the employees don't fill out the questionnaire with formfire, it's probably worthless to shop. Trustee O'Neil states, "well, he didn't say that." Trustee Peroli states that each employee should have to fill out a questionnaire, which would help us get the best policy. Trustee Peroli asks that if we are going to shop, he would like to have everyone fill out the questionnaire. Trustee Peroli would like to look at health insurance coverage premiums. From 1999-2023 the one thing that jumps out is that last year on average workers contributed \$6575 annually towards their family premium. In Lafayette Township it's \$600. If we are looking at increasing our FD from part time to full time, we need to get in line with what other townships are doing. Medina Township does 15%, we currently do 3%. I don't know if it's fair to compare us to

Medina Township, since they are much larger, but also not fair to compare to Chatham, which is smaller. Just increasing the premiums to 15% will likely save the township \$30,000 a year. Trustee Fullerton states that yes, it just keeps going up. Trustee Fullerton will meet with Scott from GDK and report back.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, second by Trustee Peroli to move to the proposed plan by Frank Harmon with the \$48/month increase. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Townhall Rentals/Construction

Trustee O'Neil reporting. New interior construction of Town Hall and demolition. The latest event that we have is May 12, 2024. Town Hall will be closed off for rentals from May 13- June 30 to be able to do demo work; new flooring, framing, dry wall. May 12 was the last paid-for event. There are 4-H groups scheduled, but Kristen will talk with them. Trustee Fullerton asks who is doing the work? Rick and the guys, except for the dry-wall.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, second by Trustee Peroli to close the Town Hall for rentals from May 13- June 30, 2024. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Township Mail Handling

Trustee Peroli. General Township business. Who is responsible for opening the mail? Date? Stamp? Anything addressed to: Lafayette Township Trustees, Kristen will open and scan and send to all Trustees.

Correspondence

Spring Clean Up Voucher Program

Pick up at the Admin Office. Bring proof of residency. 1 voucher per household. Good from April 1 – July 31, 2024. Kristen has flyers with information as well. If you can't pick up your voucher during normal business hours, please call to make an appointment.

Social Media Policy

Trustee Peroli states that a resident emailed additional information. One recommendation would be to reach out to the Medina County Police Department. He will send it out to everyone.

Hearing the meetings

Trustee Peroli says residents have complained about hearing them talk. Trustee Fullerton. We should invest in some microphones for residents to be able to hear better.

Internet at Admin Building

Trustee Peroli. Problem seems to stem that we share internet between the Admin Building and the Fire Station. The internet is horrible over at the admin building. Ask Keith for a proposal, it might make more sense to get a different internet for the admin building. Keith's proposal is around \$15K? Does it make better sense to have 2 separate internets? Trustee Peroli is going to look into getting another wifi address for the admin building. Seems like there is a more cost-effective way to get a better signal at the admin building. Trustee

Fullerton asks if he could bring that information to the next meeting? Trustee Peroli will reach out to Keith.

Executive Session (if needed) Pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(1)

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, second by Trustee Peroli to Pay the warrants of the Township and Adjourn the meeting at 9:19 PM. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Approved:



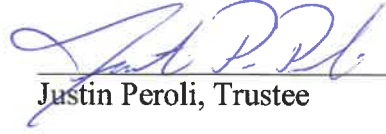
Laura Rubensaal, Fiscal Officer



Chris O'Neil, Trustee



Ty Fullerton, Trustee



Justin Peroli, Trustee