

Meeting Minutes
Lafayette Township Board of Trustees and Fire District
Lafayette Safety Services Building; 6367 Technology Lane, Medina, OH 44256
Monday, February 3, 2025, 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: O'Neil and Peroli here; Fullerton is ill.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes Pending Approval

- **January 13, 2025**

Trustee O'Neil had 1 edit and FO Ruebensaal had a few edits that Kristen will fix.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to approve the January 13, 2025 Minutes. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Consent Agenda

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

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to approve the Consent Agenda. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Fiscal

FO Ruebensaal reporting. The Star Ohio accounts were merged on the Township side. New account application has been submitted for the bond fund.

BWC Permanent Appropriation

Trustee Peroli asks if that just covers the Township employees or FD as well. He asks why we are paying workers compensation for the FD with Township funds. FO Ruebensaal responds that from the BWC audit 2 years ago, the way they have it separated it is by code, then they bill it accordingly. The Fire Department always came out more than Township and we bill Fire accordingly.

Motion by Trustee Peroli, seconded by Trustee O'Neil to approve \$6,775.00 for the BWC Permanent Appropriations. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Service

Trustee Peroli inquiries about the salt delay and what the issue was. Trustee O'Neil said it was a transportation issue, and it also happened to several other entities. Trustee Peroli asks if there is

something we can do next year so we are not in the same situation. Trustee O'Neil said they could possibly load up on more salt so that they don't run out.

Fire District Report

Fire Chief Cavanaugh reporting. 69 incidents in January. 1 Chatham Township, 1 City of Medina, 57 Lafayette Township, 5 Village of Chippewa Lake, 3 Gloria Glens, 2 Seville. 45 Daytime and 24 Nighttime. 67% EMS. 1m:59s average turn out time. 1m:28s YTD turnout time. 5m:28s on scene.

Community: Conducted a community blood drive on January 18, 2025, they ended up with 17 donations, thank you to Bob Engel for arranging this. We will continue this program and offer blood drives every few months. This past weekend we participated in the Chippewa Lake Lions Club Polar Bear Jump and Run/Walk, this was a collaborative effort with Seville and Westfield Fire Departments.

Department: Twenty-four-hour staffing with three personnel has begun, the majority of this month and next month we have all three shifts covered with at least one medic per shift. I would like to see our roster grow to about 40 members, so we stay under the restriction on part-time hours. New phone system was installed at the station, still working on getting connected to our front door buzzer system. Our combination Cutter-spreader delivered and is in service on our medical units.

Dylan Wargowsky, an Akron University Emergency Management Student is interning with us until mid-February, he has been assisting in getting our inventory entered into ESO our reporting software. He also planned and prepared with assistance the Emergency Action Plan for the Polar Bear Jump and Fun Run.

Gabe Smith and Noah Gable have begun paramedic school at UH Parma's Paramedic Program. They will be graduating from the program in December of 2025.

Kelly Parker and Tara Powell are doing very well in paramedic school, and they are scheduled to be completed by August 2025.

Ben Grega has submitted his resignation; he was hired full-time in Seville, and he also lives in Litchfield and works in their Fire Department; his resignation letter is in this report.

Recommend to the board to hire Spencer Pappas, Blake Paul, Ashton Porec, Nathan Stankovich, and Austin Neel all Firefighter/EMTs, three of them are currently enrolled in Medic School, the other two plan on enrolling in Medic School in the fall. This will give the department a total of seven new medics by the end of 2025.

Also like to hire Jovan Russell, FFII/Paramedic, he is full-time with Macedonia Fire Department.

Chief recommends the following for the position of Engineer: Andrew Berger and Alex Thomas, both have interviewed well, and have vast experience in mechanical work, they have committed to the hour requirements and will be a valuable resource for our department going into the future.

Would like to recommend the following for the position of Lieutenant: Tara Powell a long-standing member of this department, she is currently enrolled in Medic School and doing a

fantastic job. She has been serving as our Community Outreach Coordinator and has been doing a fantastic job. She is a very active and very committed member of our department. I would recommend we hire her now as a Lieutenant pending her passing and certifying as a paramedic.

Dennis Basch, a newer member of our department, is the regional coordinator for Summit County Hazmat Team and a Hazmat instructor he has been a paramedic/firefighter for the past 8 years and is full-time on Macedonia Fire Department.

All interviewed well, paperwork, background checks and drug screening completed.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to accept Ben Grega's resignation. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to hire Austin Neel, Jovan Russell, Ashton Porec, Nathan Stankovich, Blake Paul, Spencer Pappas, and Jovan Russell for the Lafayette Fire Department as FF/EMT. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to appoint Alex Thomas and Andrew Berger to Engineer Positions. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to appoint Tara Powell and Dennis Basch to Lieutenant Positions. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Zoning Report

Trustee Peroli reporting. Only 6 permits for January.

Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Safety Services Building for a possible nuisance property. This will be Resolution 23-2024

Property on Technology Lane is under new ownership, and we will keep everyone updated on the plans for that property.

Kevin Piatt was sworn in as a Zoning Alternate. Lee Weinerman and Timothy Kassouf were sworn in for alternate members for the Zoning Commission.

March 11 ZC is finalizing the verbiage on commercial vs. private property.

Zoning Fees updates have been made. Adoption of new fees will be tabled until Trustee Fullerton returns.

Police Report

Lt. Marcum reporting. Year End reports were sent over. Sept. 1 was the first full 6 years servicing Lafayette Township. There are 3 more years on the contract. During these first 6 years the Medina Police Department has responded to 113 alarms, assisted 486 to other agencies, 115 citizen assistance, 802 extra patrol requests, 253 times they ran radar/lazar, 90 disturbance, 52 domestic calls, 31 fraud calls, 89 non-injury crashes, 40 injury crashes, 245 traffic stops, vacation watch 624 program. Just over 3700 total incidents in 2024.

Public Comment

None.

Correspondence

Land Utilization letter

Trustee O'Neil reporting. He states that we are probably not interested because it's a residential property.

Trustee Peroli reporting. Lake Rd. Resident mailbox issue. County Took care of it.

Elected Official Compensation. Trustees are still waiting for a response from the Prosecutor's Office.

Unresolved Business

Old Siren Lions Park

Trustee O'Neil will be meeting with the siren guy next week. A couple thousand dollars to repair but the new siren in the village will be able to be heard.

Employee Handbook

Discussion will be tabled until Trustee Fullerton returns.

Harger and Ryan Road lot

Trustee O'Neil reporting. Obstructed view seems to be cut down.

Kimble Trucks

Trustee O'Neil spoke with Kimble. Kimble would let their drivers know about trash coming out of their trucks

Mailboxes

Trustee Peroli visited the county and spoke with someone on the issue. The county had 24 incidents in 2024. They have replaced 15 mailboxes, and their policy is still \$35 replacement. Trustee O'Neil would like to revisit the subject at some point. He is not sure every time should be case by case. Trustee Peroli states that this situation was special because there was video evidence of it being the township's responsibility.

New Business

Permanent Appropriations

Table until March meeting when Trustee Fullerton responds.

Lafayette Clean-Up Days

\$1100 in 2023; \$1400 in 2024. Trustees agree it is a well-received program.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to offer the Lafayette Clean-Up days program with 1 voucher per household in Lafayette Township; April 1 - July 31, 2025. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Health Insurance Renewal

Trustees discuss getting some new quotes and talking to Scott Nosse. Not having FormFire limits our ability to shop for better quotes. Trustee O'Neil will reach out to the employees to see what they think. Trustee O'Neil is not a fan of having sensitive and personal information stored digitally. Trustee Peroli states that the FormFire system has the information; no one gets a copy

of that personal information. Renewal dates are up May 1, 2025, so we need to get someone shopping. Trustees will follow up with Scott Nassi.

F.O. Ruebensaal asks if they have any objections with the Temporary Appropriations because she has to close UAN by Feb. 28, 2025. She said you can always revise if needed. Chief Cavanaugh needs to add \$2K for bench testing and had a couple other tweaks to the appropriations. Repair and Maintenance to the Station said TBD.

Allocation from Road and Bridge

\$14,088 for Trustee Salaries for the year and \$12,328.50 for FO Salary. Trustee Peroli suggests leaving the money for Trustee and FO salary in the General Fund. Trustee O'Neil agrees that it's a wash and it can come out of either one. Trustee Peroli asks if there is any reason it needs to come out of Road and Bridge. FO says they make the decisions. Trustees agree to leave money in the General Fund.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to approve the Fire District Permanent Appropriations for \$1,927,657.30.

Roll Call Vote

O'Neil: Yes

Peroli: Yes

Fullerton: Not in attendance.

Motion Passes 2-0.

Motion by Trustee O'Neil, seconded by Trustee Peroli to approve the Township Permanent Appropriations for \$1,735,058.42

Roll Call Vote

O'Neil: Yes

Peroli: Yes

Fullerton: Not in attendance.

Motion Passes 2-0.

Public Comment

Melanie King. Asked about mailboxes and who came through with the Fiber. She asks who she needs to call to dig for a new mailbox. Trustee O'Neil states that Medina Fiber, Lit Fiber, and Frontier. They suggest calling 811.

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

Pay the warrants of the Township

Motion to Adjourn: Trustee O'Neil

2nd: Trustee Peroli

Board Chair declares meeting adjourned: 7:06 p.m.

