

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MIAMI TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

JULY 21, 2020

Held _____

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The Miami Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 7:00 PM. Trustee Tracy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given. Mr. Ferry called the roll. Attending were Ken Tracy, Mary Makley Wolff and Karl Schultz. Ms. Wolff made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2020 Business Meeting, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

Chief Kelly conducted the badge pinning ceremony for Firefighter/Paramedic Caden Smolenski with members of the Smolenski family present. Law Director Braun administered the oath of office. Mrs. Smolenski, Caden's mother, assisted in the pinning of the badge.

Department Reports: A representative of each department presented a report of activities during the month of June 2020.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Mr. Schultz made a motion to pay the bills of the Township with 29 checks numbered 136957 to 137247 and 29 electronic checks numbered 1786 to 1814 for the total amount of \$1,809,744.74 plus payroll and payroll taxes for the check dates 6/19/2020 in the amount of \$290,797.74 and 7/2/2020 in the amount of \$280,993.26, and 7/17/20 in the amount of \$314,348.73, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Tracy advised of the need for a Then and Now Certificate in the amount of \$45,395.47.

Ms. Wolff made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-17 authorizing the Township Fiscal Officer to issue and certify a Then and Now Certificate for payment of various expenditures, totaling \$45,395.47 and declaring an emergency, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised he and Ms. Thibodeau are requesting a conditional offer of part-time seasonal employment to Township resident and former employee Sammi Connor for the position of Recreation Leader at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective July 22, 2020.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to grant an offer of part-time seasonal employment to Sammi Connor as Recreation Leader at a pay rate of \$15 per hour, pending successful completion of a background process, and effective July 22, 2020, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised of another position opening soon to backfill within the Service Department. He and Mr. Musselman are requesting the appointment of existing Maintenance Worker Brad Roettele who is also a Township resident to the position of Park Maintenance Supervisor at an hourly rate of \$33.51 effective August 1, 2020. This will backfill the vacancy from Allen Leab's retirement occurring July 31, 2020.

Ms. Wolff made a motion to appoint existing Maintenance Worker Brad Roettele to the position of Park Maintenance Supervisor at an hourly rate of \$33.51 effective August 1, 2020, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised of three personnel items within the Fire Department. The first one is to rescind the conditional employment offers of full-time employment for Corey Barney, Andrew Logan, Liam Herold, Paul Peters, Brian Welshans; and rescind the offer of part-time employment for Corey Barney.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to rescind the conditional offers of full-time employment for Corey Barney, Andrew Logan, Liam Herold, Paul Peters, Brian Welshans; and rescind the final offer of part-time employment for Corey Barney, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised he and Chief Kelly are requesting to release two full-time Firefighter/Paramedics, Luke Palmer and Christopher Dotson, from probation.

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Ms. Wolff made a motion to release Firefighter/Medic Luke Palmer from probationary status effective August 8, 2020 with an hourly rate of \$26.21 per hour, and release Firefighter/Medic Christopher Dotson from probationary status effective August 9, 2020 with an hourly rate of \$24.84 per hour.

Mr. Wright advised that Chief Kelly has provided the Board with a position description for the Community Paramedicine Coordinator, noting the discussions over the past year and a half for the position including its benefits, liability research and coverage necessary, and the reimbursements for this expense to come from two large hospitals in our region. In the short term, CARES Act Funding will reimburse payroll expenses.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to approve the Community Paramedicine Coordinator job description, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised a bid opening was recently held for the Happy Hollow slope stabilization project. This project was part of the 2020 capital projects budget. He shared the engineer's estimate was approximately \$131,500. Two bids were received—with the lower bid being approximately \$18,000 under budget and submitted by W.E. Smith Construction totaling \$113,195. He noted a positive past experience with this contractor and that the project was one of the two competitive grants received from the Ohio Public Works Commission which will fund 49% of the costs.

Ms. Wolff made a motion to contract with W.E. Smith to perform construction of a pier and retaining wall on lower Happy Hollow in the amount of \$113,195, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised of a housekeeping item necessary every four years as Mr. Ferry took office again on April 1, 2020, thus it is time to renew the \$250,000 bond.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to approve the public official bond for Fiscal Officer, Eric C. Ferry, for the term beginning April 1, 2020, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised the property owner at 324 Poplar Street circulated a petition signed by at least 16 of his neighbors and submitted this request to the Clermont County Board of Commissioners. The process, when an owner of a property adjacent to unused, dedicated right of way would like to have it vacated, starts with the County and then it comes to the appropriate township; the legislative body acts and then refers it back to the County. He stated the property in discussion is a 50 by 100 foot section of unimproved right of way that is essentially grass. The public does not have benefits of that right of way.

Mr. Wright continued that the property owner is building a home on the lot, and where the on-site utilities are located, it is practical the home be sited in that location. The adjacent property owners have signed off with no concerns, and Moeller is also understanding of this request and does not have any concerns. Mr. Wright added that there will remain two other access points for Moeller ingress and egress which will be good for the neighborhood. He proposed the Board adopt Resolution 2020-18 to vacate the right of way and send it on to the County Commissioners.

Ms. Wolff made a motion to adopt resolution 2020-18, a Resolution Supporting the Vacating of a Section of Poplar Street, and Dispensing with the Second Reading, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised the Board discussed with Chief Kelly in December as part of the 2020 capital budget review an amount of \$14,500 to complete a three-year phase of replacing all of the antiquated thermal imaging cameras.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to approve the purchase of two FLIR Thermal Imaging Cameras from First In, Last Out Fire Equipment and Training in the amount of \$14,065, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

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Mr. Wright advised the Board is very familiar that many years ago the Township began a remounting process to receive more years of service out of components of the ambulances. This is a 2014 unit that in six years of service already has over 140,000 miles throughout our community and area hospitals. Earlier in the year, this ambulance had several expensive repair bills and we cannot defer its replacement process any longer. The amount is budgeted in our safety funds. Crossroads Ambulance supplies this type of equipment for many of the largest cities in the country and offers the lowest bid as they are part of the Ohio State Pricing program.

Ms. Wolff made a motion to contract with Crossroads Ambulance to perform remounting of Ambulance 11 to a new Ford F-550 chassis at a cost not to exceed \$180,000, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised it is very common when local governments and school districts are about halfway through their budget year that they do go back to their legislative body for appropriation items. There are three specific items included in the request to amend appropriations and are all good news. The Township had to establish a local coronavirus relief fund to be eligible to receive it, and the other two items are to increase the revenue-sharing payment to schools. The Panera and Athens Community TIF are performing well and thus increases the share to the schools.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-19, a Resolution to Amend Appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of Miami Township, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020, and declaring an emergency, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright presented a resolution for disposal of surplus property which were old Verizon jetpacks and iPhone 4s which used to be new technology several years ago. These items will be auctioned. These items were inventoried from the IT room recently by Will Menz and Mitchell McManis.

Ms. Wolff made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-20, a resolution authorizing the disposal of surplus property and authorizing the sale of unneeded or obsolescent personal property no longer necessary for Township use by internet auction pursuant to Section 505.10 of the Ohio Revised Code and dispensing with the second reading, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

Public Comment: Mr. Tom Hoffman, 586 Wards Corner Road, thanked the Board for the time to speak and thanked the Police Department. He shared concerns and asked questions related to a demonstration by protestors that occurred recently near his property.

Law Director Braun responded informing Mr. Hoffman that the Township did not give permission to the individuals who held the demonstration and held meetings in an attempt to mitigate related issues such as safety, property rights, expectations and applicable laws. No bond existed because the Township did not provide consent for the event. Mr. Braun explained that the police officers on-duty are paid by tax dollars, whether providing service for this event or another event. He also reviewed how mutual aid functions among police departments and nearby jurisdictions.

Mr. Wright responded as to the expense of police officers responding to the demonstration. He stated that some officers were on-duty and some were called in from other shifts. He commented that he could work with Chief Mills to quantify the cost, and he was very proud of the planning that went into the event. It is not something that occurs very frequently, and there was an amount of money spent to ensure peace was kept. He highlighted that there were no arrests that evening and no destruction of property.

Mr. Mike Mason, 5272 Deerpath, introduced himself as Chair of the Homeowners Association Board of Whitetail Woodlands, and noted his support from nearby subdivisions, spoke in reference to his recent email to the Board and Mr. Wright's response received on June 15, 2020

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relative to plans for 2021 road improvements on Dry Run. He reiterated from his initial email concerns that Dry Run is over traveled, cited an increase in construction volume and developments in recent years, an increase in accidents, and his desire to restrict semi-trucks from traveling Dry Run due to its limited width. He expressed he would like this road placed higher on the priority list of street repairs as well as truck restrictions.

Mr. George Nicholas, 1242 Spotted Farm Run, stated he was Vice Chair with Mr. Mason on the Whitetail HOA, and asked for a clarification on the pavement quality index document received from the Township as to street rankings and would like to gain an understanding on where Dry Run ranks on the project list.

The Board and Mr. Wright held discussion with Messrs. Mason and Nicholas as to the condition of the street, what improvements have been made in recent years, funding cycles for road improvements, authority to post restrictive signage residing with the County, and other factors that would go into developing an approach for engineering and pavement improvements to Dry Run as everyone shared similar concerns for improvement. Mr. Tracy encouraged Messrs. Mason and Nicholas to stay in contact with Mr. Wright and Service Director John Musselman going forward to follow-up. Mr. Wright clarified there would be proposed a series of phased-in improvements.

Executive Session: Ms. Wolff made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to ORC Section 121.22(G)(1) to discuss the compensation of a public employee, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

Ms. Wolff made a motion to come out of executive session, seconded by Mr. Schultz with all voting "AYE".

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

ATTEST:



Eric C. Ferry, Fiscal Officer


Ken Tracy, Chairperson