

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met for a public hearing on a Zoning Amendment on Paring Facilities and removing other sections from the Zoning Book on December 2, 2019 at 5:40pm. The Chairman called the meeting to order with a full board present.

The Fiscal Officer showed proof of publication.

The Chairman swore in John Streitferdt, the only community member present, who wished to speak not for or against, but as a Zoning Commissioner.

Chairman Fee called for Opponents to the Zone Change.

Mr. Streitferdt described a minor text change, where the word "length" had been left out of the original Parking Facilities information given to the board.

The Board understood the minor text change and thought it was acceptable.

Trustee Emerine questioned if this change is just for new construction or for any resurfacing of old lots.

Trustee Bugos asked how many businesses were currently in compliance with the standards for parking. The Zoning Commissioner stated that they found many businesses all over the place, from as narrow as 7' to as short as 15'.

Trustee Fee interjected that he did not want to have to put an undue burden on businesses to pay for a permit.

Trustee Emerine stated that he did not see anything in our zoning that even required them to stripe their lots in the first place. He stated he was afraid that businesses would just not bother to stripe their parking lots if they were required to pay a fee. Trustee Fee remarked that this could be an undue hardship on something that a business was required to do pretty regularly when up keeping their property. Much concern was expressed on the small business population within the Township that would have an extra fee.

Mr. Streitferdt stated that the Zoning Commission did not care about the permit price per se, they just wanted to see compliance with standards and the new recommendation was the current County regulations. The Board addressed Zoning Inspector Fonce with a question about fining businesses not in compliance but making the permit free. Zoning Inspector Fonce stated that the only authority the Board had was to double the fine, so if the fee was zero, there would be no consequence.

Trustee Bugos discussed that he had experience in this business and he has seen the mess left behind if someone were to have to change their lines and the prior resurfacing job had been "cut" too thinly.

Trustee Fee made mention of an issue with the new school being out of compliance and that they were not made to fix their stripes.

Chairman Fee called twice more for Opponents and Proponents.

Zoning Inspector Fonce asked the Board to accept or deny the change.

Trustee Bugos made a motion for the Board denied the Zoning Change due to requesting that the Zoning Commission make more distinct recommendations on which business activities would need a permit (every time or just on new construction), a lower cost fee or an idea of how to bring the current violators in to process. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Commissioner Streitferdt said that he would relay the message to the Zoning Commission.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on December 2, 2019 at 6:30p.m. for the purpose of conducting the business of the Township. Chairman Fee called the meeting to order with a full board present.

The acceptance of the November minutes was tabled due to last minute changes.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to accept a donation from Rowene Weisse in memory of Frank Fiest. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-100 Trustee Emerine made a motion to approve at the request of Fiscal Officer Hatt the appointment per statute of Vanessa Teuscher, 4692 Hummel Drive NW, Warren, Ohio, to the position of Assistant to the Fiscal Officer, at a rate of \$10.00/hour, not to exceed a maximum of 500 hours per year. Appointment is retroactive to start date of September 16, 2019. Trustee Fee seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes. Trustee Bugos interjected that he felt there were other more qualified applicants for the position who were not given this opportunity. Trustee Fee reminded those present that statute allows Fiscal Officer Hatt to choose whomever she would like to assist her, as verified by his call to the township legal counsel.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to accept the donation of Vesey's Carpet Care, approximately \$150 value, for cleaning the chapel carpets. This service was requested as part of the 2019 Division of Commerce Real Estate and Professional Licensing Cemetery Grant recently awarded in the amount of \$5,000.00. This donation will allow the Township to tackle other projects with the grant dollars. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

R2019-101 Trustee Bugos made a motion (see full text attached) at the request of OPWC to grant Trustee Doug Emerine power to act as applicant and Chief Executive Officer on the 2020 Bridge Rehabilitation and Resurfacing Project, Michael Rozzo as Project Manager and Fiscal Officer Hatt, by default the Chief Financial Officer. Trustee Emerine accepts this appointment. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

R2019-102 Trustee Bugos made a motion to encumber the 2020 Bridge Rehabilitation and Resurfacing Project the Township share of \$68,823, a 24.8% share, partially of in-kind services. The County share will be 21.2%, with our share of OPWC grant dollars being \$73,921.00, to be placed per OPWC rules in a new fund for that sole purpose. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Trustee Emerine made a motion to accept the 2019 Scrap Tire Grant Disbursement, in the amount of \$2,072.10 from Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

The department heads gave their respective reports.

Road Supervisor Rozzo gave the storage facility inventory. He plans to get a dumpster and remove several items from the inventory as worthless when there is time for the Road Department to get to that project.

The Fiscal Officer presented correspondence.

The Park Land Use Proposals were considered. Public comment was mildly interjected at this time. The Trustees went back and forth on budgetary and community needs in this matter.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to appropriate up to \$10,000.00 from the Park fund to move forward with an update to the Comprehensive Plan to be completed by the GPD Group. The motion failed for lack of second.

#### New Business

The December Year End meeting was set for December 18, 2019 at 3:30 pm.

Chairman Fee gave an update on the Research Parkway situation with the County engineer's office. Chief Hickey presented information on the Squad 21 accident. Deductible is \$2,500 and repairs were estimated at \$1,671.

Public Comment

Debbie Christ, 400 Lauder, had comments about the park, thanking Rex for his 4 years of service and thanking the Board for including the public/Trustee Elect Templeton on the park discussion.

Holly Capron, 408 Atwood, had comments about a drug/warehouse in her neighborhood. Trustee Fee asked for the location. She let him know she had reported it numerous times and was going to burn the place down if the drama continues. The Police Chief stated that they were aware of the ongoing problem.

Tami Hoostal, 4901 Brookside, called ODOT for an update on the Noise Wall and is awaiting a call back.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Special "Emergency" Session on December 13, 2019 at 11:30am for the purpose of meeting with legal counsel on responding to the allegations of the Township absent Trustee Bugos.

Trustee Emerine made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Trustee Fee seconded. Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Trustee Fee made a motion to exit Executive Session. Trustee Emerine seconded. Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Hearing no further comment, the meeting was adjourned.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Special Meeting on December 18, 2019 at 3:30pm for the purposes of conducting the business of the Township.

G2019-103 Trustee Emerine made a motion to approve through resolution, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019 the Champion Township Board of Trustees hereby recognize and support the Howland and Weathersfield Townships' Board of Trustees in support of their contesting the recent City of Niles resolution that would force residents that utilize City of Niles utilities to annex into the City. We agree with Howland Township Trustee, Matthew VanSuch, who stated, "When it is critically important for all of us in the Mahoning Valley to work together, it is disheartening that the City of Niles has consciously chosen to go its own way with an aggressive, offensive attack on its neighbors. Now, more than ever we need to cooperate and collaborate." Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-104 Trustee Bugos made a motion to adopt the year 2020 salary method of compensation for the Trustees and Fiscal Officer to be equal monthly payments of the respective annual salaries. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-105 Trustee Emerine made a motion to authorize the continuation of healthcare benefits for all full time employees and elected officials. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-106 Trustee Bugos made a motion to rehire all department heads, collective bargaining unit and part time employees at their respective rates of pay. Trustee Emerine seconded. The department heads present thanked the Board for their rehire. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-107 Trustee Emerine made a motion to approve all supplemental appropriations as are necessary to cover end of year expenditures. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-108 Trustee Bugos made a motion to approve 2020 temporary appropriations to all funds to meet all necessary and regular expenditures, pending the filing of the permanent appropriations with the County Auditor. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G5019 Trustee Emerine made a motion to accept the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for 2019 dated November 12, 2019 in the amount of \$6,004,069.83. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-110 Trustee Bugos made a motion to accept the 2020 Official Certificate of Estimated Resources in the amount of \$5,938,493.96. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

F2019-111 Trustee Emerine made a motion to create fund 4403 "2020 OPWC Bridge Rehabilitation" Fund. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

F2019-112 Trustee Bugos made a motion to reappoint Virginia Pattinson and Fire Chief John Hickey to the Fire Dependency Board for 2020. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Z2019-113 Trustee Emerine made a motion to use Legal News to advertise all required legal notices for Zoning hearings. Trustee Bugos seconded. Zoning Commissioner Streitferdt requested that correspondence be sent to the Zoning Boards to let them know of this change. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-114 Trustee Bugos made a motion to set regular Township meetings in compliance with Ohio Sunshine Laws in 2020 for the first Monday of each month, with the exception of September 7, due to the Labor Day holiday, to be held September 14, 2020. All meetings will be conducted at 6:30pm, in the Champion Board of Education Community Room. Entrance is at the southeast corner of Champion High School, 5976 Mahoning Ave NW, Warren, OH 44483. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

The department heads presented their respective reports, absent the Zoning Inspector who was on vacation.

R2019-115 Trustee Emerine made a motion at the request of Road Supervisor Rozzo to purchase a 2014 Ford Explorer from Ohio State Surplus at a cost not to exceed \$3,875.00. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

At this time, Zoning Commissioner Streitferdt and Trustee Emerine requested that the Board reconsider the Zoning Amendment from the hearing on December 2, which was originally voted on and denied. Due to questions of legality of making a decision on the amendment without advertising again, the Board accepted the Zoning Books again and set a hearing date of January 6, 2020 at 6:00pm.

Fiscal Officer Hatt presented 3 bids for copiers from Staples, Ricoh and Valley Office Solutions. Ricoh was the low bid at \$5,750 but Trustee Fee wanted more concrete information on the cost per copy of the service contract. No motion was made.

G2019-116 Trustee Bugos made a motion to purchase cell phones for the Township employees that currently have phones that need updated from the 3G network at a cost not to exceed \$750.00, for equipment. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer