

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on January 7, 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.

Chairman Fee turned the meeting over to Fiscal Officer Hatt for the reorganization of the Board.

Fiscal Officer Hatt called for a vote for a new Chairman. Trustee Bugos made a motion to re-appoint Rex Fee as Chairman. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Fiscal Officer Hatt turned the meeting back over to Chairman Fee for appointment of a Vice Chairman. Trustee Emerine made a motion to appoint Brian Bugos as Vice Chairman. Trustee Fee seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Minutes were approved as submitted.

G2019-1 Trustee Bugos made a motion to schedule the Township's regular meetings in the Champion High School Community Room in compliance with the Ohio Sunshine Laws for the following 2019 dates: January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 9 (due to the Labor Day holiday on the first Monday of September), October 7, November 4 and December 2. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-2 Trustee Emerine made a motion to appoint the 2019 Records Commission consisting of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Township Fiscal Officer and the Trumbull County Auditor. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

R2019-3 Trustee Bugos made a motion at the request of the Fiscal Officer to request the advancement of Real Estate Taxes for the Road and Bridge fund (not the Special Levy Road Improvement fund) from the Trumbull County Auditor. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-4 Trustee Emerine made a motion to appoint Township Legal Counsel Letson and Swader, Co., LPA and Atty. Mark S. Fnamore at \$150.00 and \$100.00 per hour respectively. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-5 Trustee Bugos made a motion to approve membership in the Ohio Township Association and the Trumbull County Township Association and attendance at the annual association conferences, county meetings, and approval of payment of expenses for the Trustees and Fiscal Officer. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-6 Trustee Emerine made a motion to increase the mileage reimbursement to the IRS rate of \$0.58 per mile for approved travel expenses of Township Officials and employees. This is a \$0.04 increase from last year. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

R2019-7 Trustee Bugos made a motion to approve the 2018 ODOT Mileage Certification of 41,385 miles of Township road. Trustee Emerine seconded. The Trustees noted that this is the same as last year and does not include Research Drive. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Chairman Fee announced a reminder that all Department Heads must have their inventories turned in to the Fiscal Office by January 31, 2019.

The department heads presented their respective reports.

Z2019-8 see attached resolution declaring 3 nuisance properties through ORC 505.87

Correspondence

Fiscal Officer Hatt announced that the OPERS (Ohio Public Employees Retirement System) would be coming to present pertinent information and additional training in the Fiscal Office.

Old Business

G2019-9 Trustee Bugos made a motion to approve an annual membership in the Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber of Commerce at a cost of \$273. The rate is based on non-elected employee headcount. Trustee Emerine seconded. Chairman Fee discussed the need for attracting and retaining new businesses within the area and how the Chamber could assist the Township in this economic development endeavor. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

New Business

Trustee Bugos presented information at the request of Chairman Fee on Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) grants available to Ohio Townships that would potentially be beneficial in bringing new funding sources to the township at a time when there is opportunity for a park and recreational activities to advance due to the upcoming transfer of the Central Elementary property. Trustee Emerine discussed the need for a community forum on resident opinions on a park. Chairman Fee discussed liability concerns and maintenance costs of a splash pad or pool and why Cortland and Warren did not have the same cost prohibitions that Champion would have due to their ease of access to a water treatment facility in their districts.

The Chairman requested Chiefs White and Hickey to attend the January workshop scheduled for January 26, 2018 at 9:00 am in the Township Administration Building. Potential topics include personnel policies and the Police and Fire Department needs for the year.

Public Comment

Ron Fako, 655 Prentice, questions and concerns about the Constellation Energy Gas Aggregation rate and rate changes with our aggregation.

Holly Catron, 408 Atwood, encouraged the Board to install light poles, flag signs, etc. that holiday flags and "Champion" flags could fly on in the main drag to show pride in our township. She expressed interest in the park having an area for a dog park. She also demonstrated concern for coyotes in the area near her home.

Brian and Deanna Ainsley, 428 Earl Drive, showed pictures of flooding in neighborhood and property. He believes this is caused by recent logging activity because he had French drains installed that alleviated his prior flooding problem. He requested the township write a letter to the logging company to rectify the situation.

Carol Castel, 4841 Damon, new resident asked the Board if they would consider allowing up to 6 hens in a platted subdivision rather than the current zoning prohibition. Zoning Inspector Fonce indicated steps that Ms. Castel would need to take in order to get the current zoning regulation considered to be changed.

Jim Latimer, 1025 Prentice, had questions on when the Comprehensive Plan would be updated again as there have been impactful changes in the township.

Tami Hoostal, 4901 Brookside Drive, had questions on the status of the Noise Wall Study requested of ODOT by the Trustees. There has been no communication to the Board as of this date. Chairman Fee was going to attempt to get an update from them.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to enter into Executive Session for discussing personnel issues in the Zoning department and Fiscal Office after a ten minute recess. Zoning Inspector Fonce was requested to attend. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Trustee Emerine made a motion to enter back into regular session. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-11 Trustee Bugos made a motion to set the pay rate for the administrative position in the Fiscal Office at \$10.00 per hour. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-12 Trustee Emerine made a motion to appoint Lois Stockdale as staff in the Fiscal Office pending pre-employment drug screening, background check and bond issuance. Trustee Bugos 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

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in a Special Meeting on January 26, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of conducting the business of the township. The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order absent Chairman Fee.

F2019-13 Trustee Emerine made a motion at the request of Fire Chief Hickey to approve an emergency supplemental appropriation of \$2301.00 in the 2192-760-740 account code for replacement of turnout gear for Stephen Kisk, whose gear was destroyed in a recent garage fire. Turnout gear is state mandated not to be shared and required to protect the firefighters from bodily damage. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

Fire Chief Hickey requested the Board to approve his attendance at an upcoming symposium so that he could get the discounted rate on his hotel room. He also requested the Board consider a \$500.00 uniform allowance, including footwear, as it has been a couple of years since his last allowance. He reminded the Board that his full time staff and the Police Chief get these every year.

Fire Chief Hickey and Police Chief White explained the impending implementation of the MARCS radio system and what that would mean for the Township departments, financially and otherwise. Police Chief White discussed the state of the current vehicle inventory and how soon he wanted a replacement for the next round of vehicles. He also discussed trying to obtain a grant for bulletproof vests that were due to be replaced by state mandate in August.

Trustees Emerine and Fiscal Officer Hatt discussed the personnel policies in depth and came up with a list to implement as soon as Chairman Fee and Legal Counsel had reviewed.

Hearing no further comment, the Vice Chairman adjourned the meeting.

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Vice Chairman

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Fiscal Officer