

**CHAMPION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING AGENDA**

July 11, 2022

6:30pm

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The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on July 11, 2022 at 6:30pm at the Champion High School Community room for the purpose of conducting the business of the township. The Chairman called the meeting to order with a full board present.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Doug Emerine, Rex Fee, Bill Templeton

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Monthly Report from Tom Dempsey:** Fire Chief Discussion to replace the Captain who is retiring.

**Monthly Report from Dan Wasco:** Acting Chief of Police led a discussion that Golder is also retiring along with Chief White. Interviews are taking place, currently 144 hours are open.

**Report Shawn Davis:** Working Foreman Rotary signs were put up in the township and reported on road repairs being done. Question regarding boots having to be purchased from US Safety Gear in their contract, they can be found cheaper elsewhere. Issue will be re-visited during the next contract negotiation.

**Report Rhonda Fonce:** Zoning Inspector New contract for mowing with Tier I Landscaping, LLC. Not signed by Tier 1. This will bring savings to the township with an established cap for each property.

**22022-77 Discussion/Motion to invoke (505.87) 6149 Shaffer Road**

Motion made by: Doug Emerine and seconded by Rex Fee All voted yes. Motion Passed

The home at 455 Prentice Rd, can be invoked after August 12<sup>th</sup> as it has been declared unsafe. Rhonda will proceed with this property as well.

**Public Discussion:**

Jim Latimer, 1025 Prentice. Gas Aggregation, time frame and process.  
Mr. Lazor: Aspen. Gas Aggregation successful change to Constellation  
Discussion to inform the community through Champion website.

Russell Banks: Mahoning Ave. wishes to have Sadie Brown contacted after 5:00 pm for township needs as she is working for at RD Banks during business hour. Rex Fee will be the contact point and will respect her hours.

Mr. Banks also expressed frustration with zoning violations letters regarding the feather signs at his business when other businesses are also in violation they don't seem to be enforced, Mr. Banks would like the opinion of the prosecutor. Rhonda brought this question to the zoning commissioner's meeting where they stated that the feather signs have been prohibited since 2014.

Rex Fee's opinion that we should revisit the zoning regulations for our township. Doug Emerine stated that zoning needs to be revisited because advertising changes with the times. Emerine said he will get the opinion from the prosecutor for Mr. Banks.

Rick Berry 5171 Calla: commented on the flags in the township

Debbie Christ 401 Lauder: Commented there should be enforcement of flags being replaced when deteriorated.

Rick Berry 5171 Calla and Silas Dozier 6158 Shaffer Rd: Inquired about a Mercy Health update. Mercy Health insured that they will not annex to the City of Warren. Mercy Health has corporate policies that will define some decisions. There are concerns with the maintenance of Educational Highway. The township is not in a position to maintain at this time and Mercy Health is understanding.

Rick also inquired about the grindings we were to receive from the county. Rex will contact Randy Smith to check on the status

**G2022-78 - Discussion/Motion on the acceptance of an amended alternative tax budget for 2023** in the amount of ~~4,469,098.40~~ **5,040,553.95 Amended**  
Moted by Rex Fee seconded by Bill Templeton All voted yes. Motion passed.

**G2022-79 - Motion to accept the resolution accepting the amount and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor 15.35 mils.**

Bill Templeton made a motion Seconded by Rex Fee. All voted yes. Motion passed

**P2022-80 - Police Levy resolution, second reading Replacement Levy.** Motioned moved by Rex Fee, second Bill Templeton. All voted yes. Motion passed

**Discussion on advertising for office help** to replace the currently absent assistant. An ad will be put on social media, and the website to obtain list of potential candidates by Doug Emerine. This person will provide back-up payroll assistance. Courtney needs to provide Tom with missing log-ins and there needs to be a discussion to see if/when she is coming back.

**Discussion on Police Officer hiring** two men have yet to be interview out of five candidates. This is time sensitive to give time for two-week notices to be worked, background checks, psyche test, etc. to be done. July 18th at 6:00pm has been set for a video interview of Kevin Miller, an out of state candidate for Police Chief, 6:45 was established to interview Officer Wasko who is currently acting Chief of Police. There was a discussion as to whether two police officers should be hired with the current 144 hours uncovered.

**Discussion on the 2023 OPWC Grant:** To pave Pierce and Emerson. After the grant we must pay \$233,986. Allison and Grady with shared Warren Township and cost is over \$67,000. It has been 26 years since Pierce it has been re-done and it is worst road in Champion. It was suggested to hold off on Emerson to have a safety net of funds. Discussion tabled until next meeting where Shawn will break down monies for each road.

**Approve March, April and May 2022 minutes :** Not all trustees has copies, so they will be forward again and tabled until the next meeting.

**New Business:**

Tabled until next meeting in hopes that the new office assistant could help cover these needs

**Old Business:**

*Gas Aggregation Program:* Put it on the web, Tribune and Social Media

*ARP discussion:* funding and grants discussion with soccer leagues about upgrading the property. A meeting needs to be scheduled with Adam Miller as this will shorten the soccer season. Building for concessions and restrooms will need a General Manager.

*Cemetery Grant:* Only can be used for a fence. Shawn will get a price on materials to determine if the grant will be used or sent back.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm by Doug Emerine

  
Chairman

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Deputy Fiscal Officer

Amended 10/3/2022

Courtney Helt

**CHAMPION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING  
July 19, 2022  
6:30pm**

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The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in a Regular Meeting on July 19, 2022 at 6:30pm at the Champion High School Community room for the purpose of conducting the business of the township. The Chairman called the meeting to order with a full board present.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Douglas Emerine, Rex Fee, William Templeton

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**G2022-81 Discussion with possible motion on contract for John Sisler (Champion Community Calendar, LLC) to take over the Champion Township website.** Options are \$75 per month or annual price of \$810 per year (10% discount). There is also an initial \$150 start-up fee. **Motion by Rex Fee to accept the annual \$810 fee and initial \$150 start-up fee. Seconded by Bill Templeton All voted yes - motion passed.**

It was noted that earlier on 07/19/2022 Becky Lowery offered her website services for free.

**R2022-82 Discussion with possible motion on the payout to Road Department employees per the ASCME Contract**

The Union offered a simpler \$1,200 fixed payout for four (4) employees as a retention bonus check rather than a \$0.50 per hour retro pay needing calculated for the period April 20, 2021 thru May 29, 2022.

**Motion made by Doug Emerine seconded by Rex Fee. two yes. Motion passed (Templeton voted no)**

**R2022-83 Discussion with possible motion on the approval of architectural plans (Sexton & Associates Architects, Inc.) for the road department building. Cost of \$11,575 using ARP funds. 40'x 120'x 16' building. Rex Fee motioned seconded by Bill Templeton all yes – passed**

**P2022-84 Discussion with possible motion on hiring two full time police officers**

Per Acting Chief of Police Dan Wasco, six (6) interviews were completed by a panel of three:

Steven Lyden - recommended @ \$19/hour

Michael Bussinger – declined

Michael Evans - recommended @ \$19/hour

DJ Robinson - declined

Austin Eckenrod

Jarrett Pishotti - declined

*Amended, per contract  
pay rate is \$19<sup>74</sup>/hr  
CHatt  
10/3/22*

**Rex Fee made a motion to hire Steven Lyden at \$19/hour, Pending background check, psych evaluation, drug screening and one-year probationary period. Bill Templeton second all voted yes - Passed.**

**Rex Fee made a motion to hire Michael Evans at \$19/hour. Pending background check, psych evaluation, drug screening and one-year probationary period. Bill Templeton second all voted yes - Passed.**

**Public Comments:**

Debbie Christ, 401 Lauder: Commented about Courtney Hatt current Fiscal Officer out on a leave of absence, resumes and references regarding Police Chief candidates, use of a volunteer fire department or a cadet program, and questions regarding the soccer field engineering.

Rex Fee motioned for Executive session after a break at 7:35 seconded by Bill Templeton all voted yes. Motion passed.

Executive Session started at 7:55 pm for the consideration of hiring a Public Employee and matters required to be kept confidential under Federal law  
Interviewed Dan Wasko for Police Chief position. Dan was excused at 9:20 pm.  
10-3-22

Further discussed Fiscal Officer Courtney Hatt's leave of absence.

Bill Templeton motioned to adjourn both the Executive Session and Regular Meeting at 10:40pm. Rex Fee seconded, all voted yes. Both meetings were adjourned.

  
Chairman

  
Deputy Fiscal Officer