

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on June 1, 2020 at 6:30p.m. for the purpose of conducting the business of the township, via conference call, Phone-In Meeting 872-240-3311, Participant Code 839-490-237. Chairman Emerine called the meeting to order with a full board present.

Trustee Templeton made a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters; IAFF Union Rep Corey Wilson, Union leadership and Attorney Dan Letson were invited to be present. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

IAFF representatives were excused from the meeting with paperwork to follow a union vote. Additional personnel topics dealing with the Coronavirus and current litigation were discussed.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to exit executive session and recess until Regular session. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes. Templeton excused himself.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on June 1, 2020 at 6:30p.m. for the purpose of conducting the business of the township, via conference call, Phone-In Meeting 978-990-5272, Participant Code 3519757. Chairman Emerine called the meeting to order, Trustee Templeton arriving late.

R 2020-57 Trustee Bugos made a motion at the request of Road Supervisor Rozzo, to approve the purchase of 300 tons #8 Limestone from Arrowhead International in the amount of \$22.95/ton. This is for the Airport Road chip seal project and will be paid for through the Road Levy fund. Estimated cost \$6,855.00. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

R2020-58 Trustee Bugos made a motion at the request of Road Supervisor Rozzo, to purchase 11,000 gallons of CR2 from the Trumbull County Engineers at a cost of \$1.73 per gallon. This is for the Airport Road chip seal project and will be paid for from the Road Levy fund. Estimated cost \$19,030.00. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

F2020-59 Trustee Emerine made a motion at the request of Chief Hickey, to purchase 1 set of protective clothing (turn out gear) for Scott Bower. He had budgeted for 3 sets this year, but for now needs to just purchase the set that is needed the most for Bower. The total cost for coat and pant is \$2,370.00 from Warren Fire Equipment. The purchase will be made out of account 2192-760-740. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

Trustee Emerine announce that Mosquito Spraying dates have been set for June 18 and July 23 Call 330-847-8915 to get your name added to the do not spray list if you do not want your property sprayed. Road Supervisor Rozzo was going to double check on the rain dates.

P2020-60 Trustee Bugos made a motion, having found it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten mill limitation a renewal tax for the providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications and other equipment used directly in the operation of a police department, or the payment of salaries of permanent police personnel, including the payment of policeman’s employer’s contribution required under Section 742.33 of the Revised Code at a rate not exceeding 1.1 mills for each one dollar valuation for a period of five years, beginning with the tax year 2021. Said tax renewal levy shall be submitted to the electors of Champion Township in the general election to be held on November 3, 2020. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

R2020-61 Trustee Bugos made a motion, having found it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten mill limitation a renewal tax for the construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of roads and bridges, excluding state roads and bridges, including the township's portion of the cost of the construction, improvement, maintenance, and repair of county roads and bridges; at a rate not exceeding 1.5 mills for each one dollar valuation for a period of five years, beginning with the tax

year 2021. Said tax renewal levy shall be submitted to the electors of Champion Township in the general election to be held on November 3, 2020. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

G2020-62 Trustee Bugos made a motion to Increase appropriations to the following funds General- \$21,000.00; Motor Vehicle \$6,000.00; Gas \$12,500.00; Zone \$6,000.00; Fire \$8,500. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

F2020-63 Trustee Bugos made a motion to amend F2020-48 to purchase the skid unit to \$7,800, an increase from original amount of \$7,735. Chief Hickey explained that the lift gate was originally quoted but left out of the math when writing the proposal for the Board, so the slight increase was necessary. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

Trustee Emerine announced a thank you to all our volunteers from the Township Clean Up Day held on May 30, 2020. Additional scrap tires may be brought by residents and dropped off until we reach our maximum grant amount. A special thank you to the Trustees and the Road Supervisor and Fire Chief and their families who came out to make sure this day went smoothly.

Trustee Emerine announced a thank you to all of the volunteers who placed flags in the Cemetery in remembrance of Memorial Day. Thank you to the families of those who served and have passed on. May their sacrifices always be remembered. A special thank you to the Cemetery staff who made the Cemetery beautiful. *Trustee Bugos made special mention of Adam Carpenter and John Streitferdt who gathered volunteers later during the Road Supervisor's report.*

Another thank you: Delta Dental for recognizing that most of our employees were unable to use dental services during the month of April due to Coronavirus and waiving the payment for the month of June equal to our April premiums. We appreciate the gesture!

Thank you to the Fire and Police for helping to escort the Champion High School Class of 2020 in their graduation. Also, congratulations to the class of 2020! Trustee Bugos received a special letter of thankyou from the School who was extremely pleased with how it turned out and would like to discuss the service further with the Township.

Thank you to OTARMA for providing the Township with a \$500 premium rebate due to Coronavirus. The Trustees graciously accept this premium rebate.

Our platform for virtual meetings is free, but has reminded its clients that there is much demand right now and any donation would be appreciated. Trustee Emerine would like to wait to see how long the service is needed. Trustee Bugos believes this may be in use for the rest of the year.

Announce a thank you to Emerine's Towing for bringing a new car for the Police department up from Columbus so our employees did not have to ride two in a car for three hours, a provision enacted to protect the safety and health of the workers during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Trustee Emerine stated that with the new guidelines, there does not seem to be any reason to delay bringing Zoning back in to the office and setting of zoning office hours.

Trustee Bugos feels that the Board should wait before bringing office staff back in to the office until the legislature moves on bills that are related to Coronavirus relief.

Trustee Templeton asked Zoning Inspector Fonce how she felt about returning to the office. She stated that she was unprepared for this item to be placed on the agenda and she would not feel comfortable going back in to the office until some sort of construction, such as plexiglass barriers is completed.

Trustee Templeton and Emerine asked how she was serving the public now without such means. She stated that most of her interaction was through the internet or mail. Trustee Templeton brought up the idea of using the police station lobby as a place for the Zoning Inspector to be behind a barricade. The Zoning Inspector indicated that occasionally people would stop and drop off items at the road department or police department and the other employees would call her and she would come and

pick up mail. The Police Chief was asked his thoughts and he indicated that that had already been ruled out as an option due to security measures with the equipment that he kept in that room and that he had nowhere else to put it. He felt it would violate the state mandates to have non-Police personnel having access to that area.

Trustee Templeton indicated that it was important to him to have her back in the office with regular office hours because he felt her clock in times were all over the place and so were her clock out times. He voiced a desire to set the office hours at 8am-4:30pm Monday- Friday, giving her a half an hour unpaid lunch. Trustee Emerine asked Zoning Inspector Fonce if that sounded right, and she said that the paperwork she had been given indicated that she was entitled to an hour paid lunch. Zoning Inspector Fonce stated that her being an hourly employee was not her idea and that she had always been allowed to leave early on Tuesdays and Thursdays so that she could work her other job.

Trustee Templeton asked her how she had managed to work forty hours a week before this and she stated that she worked longer hours on the other days. Trustee Templeton told her that was not going to cut it, there was no reason to be clocking in so early and she needed to make Champion Township her priority. Zoning Inspector Fonce indicated that she needed to be paid more money if she was to not have a second job or she needed to be allowed to leave early. Trustee Templeton indicated that she needed to decide whether or not she wanted to discuss this further in executive session.

Zoning Inspector Fonce indicated that she would have to consult her legal counsel and that her legal counsel would probably not advise her to do so.

Trustee Templeton asked the other Board members and Zoning Inspector Fonce to check their calendars to hold an executive session for Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6:30pm. Zoning Inspector Fonce said that she would have to consult with her legal counsel and Trustee Bugos said he would like to hear from our legal counsel and check with his schedule. Trustee Templeton asked if that sounded fair. Zoning Inspector Fonce responded that it did not sound fair to her. Trustee Emerine asked what was not fair and Zoning Inspector Fonce stated that she did not believe that changing the conditions of her employment was fair and she would have to consult her legal counsel. Trustee Emerine reminded her that the question was about it being fair to try to set a date to discuss these items with legal counsel.

Zoning Inspector Fonce gave her report. Trustee Templeton asked a question about a cul de sac on Gertrude. Road Supervisor Rozzo indicated he would follow up on the issue. Trustee Emerine discussed the ongoing interest in rescheduling the free garage sale weekend. Trustee Bugos mentioned the long list of items to comply with. Zoning Inspector Fonce mentioned the expected wariness of many people to attend a larger event, even with the guidelines.

Z2020-64 Trustee Bugos made a motion at the suggestion of Zoning Inspector Fonce to allow one free garage sale per household for the rest of 2020, and return the funds for the garage sale that has already paid. Trustee Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Trustee Templeton asked Zoning Inspector Fonce if there had been further inquiry on the Ken Patterson records request and whether or not it had been fulfilled. Zoning Inspector Fonce indicated that the request had been fulfilled and she believed that satisfied the inquiry for now.

Road Supervisor Rozzo presented his report.

Police Chief White presented his report, giving an update on the status of the open position within the department.

Fire Chief Hickey gave his report stating that he will officially be done offering birthday drive by parades on Saturday, June 7, 2020. Chief needs the canceled check for submission of grant paperwork for the skid unit when the Fiscal Officer finished the bank reconciliation. The Emergency Operations Center has been downgraded effective May 29, 2020, essentially meaning that it is not manned daily

anymore. Staff will work only as needed to man it, such as for the incoming PPE shipment for June from the Federal Surplus.

Previously skipped item of receiving the Zoning Amendment books on Fences/Outdoor Signs was brought forth. The Board acknowledged the receipt of the Zoning books and set a date for June 15, 2020 at 6:30pm for the public hearing. Because the levies will need a second reading and other items may pop up, as well as the need for discussion with legal counsel, the executive session with Zoning Inspector Fonce was also tentatively rescheduled for a meeting following the hearing.

New Business

While the old Central Property playground will remain closed, residents have requested to use the property for events, such as drive by girl scout cookie sales, etc. In order to facilitate this, the Facilities Use Form and the Hold Harmless will be placed on the Website to be returned to the Fiscal Officer via email to ensure there are no scheduling conflicts for use of the property

SB310 has had at least 3 readings in the Ohio House so it is likely to pass soon. Immediate release of the early retirement options documents for gauging interest and getting packages put together that may help employees impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Discussion on moving meetings back to the Administration building and searching for a location for the Fiscal Office instead. Fiscal Officer Hatt does not believe her home is suitable for long term use as office space. Previously unbudgeted rental of office space/meeting room space will fall under the SB310 use of funds, as it is currently written.

Public Comment

J. Latimer, thanked the Trustees for their help with the Girl Scout Cookie sale and introduced fellow leader Sam Sirna.

Zoning Inspector Fonce had a question on whether or not the Board was denying her protective measures for return to the office. Trustee Emerine responded that any discussion on her requirements for dealing with the public safely would be discussed in executive session when her legal counsel could attend.

Trustee Templeton made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter within the police department inviting Chief White to join. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to exit executive session. Trustee Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in a Public Hearing on an amendment to the Zoning Resolution on June 15, 2020 at 6:30pm via a hybrid meeting, Call in # 978-990-5272, Participant Code 3519757. Chairman Emerine called the meeting to order with a full board present.

The Fiscal Officer presented proof of publication.

The amendment to the Zoning text was read, Section 16, Fences and Section 7, Outdoor Signs. The Trustees discussed the proposed changes.

A member of the community raised a question, neither for nor against the amendment, with regard to replacing a fence for an agricultural use. The Trustees informed him that he was grandfathered and this would have no bearing on his fence replacement. Additionally, the resident indicated that he was already in compliance with the one foot rule.

The Chairman called three times for proponents. There were none.

The Chairman called three times for opponents. There were none.

Z2020-65 Trustee Emerine called for a motion to amend the Zoning Resolution, Section 16 and Section 7. Trustee Templeton made the motion. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

The Chairman adjourned the hearing.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Special Session on June 16, 2020 at 7:00pm Call in # 978-990-5272, Participant Code 3519757. Chairman Emerine called the meeting to order with a full board present.

P2020-66 Trustee Bugos made a motion to submit upon the second reading of the Police 1.1 mill levy. Trustee Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

R2020-67 Trustee Bugos made a motion to submit upon the second reading of the Road 1.5 mill levy. Trustee Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to renew the JED Services contract for IT services. Trustee Emerine requested to have research done on the rates and potential residents who may be interested in handling our IT business given the current economic climate. The motion died for a lack of second.

The Trustees had a discussion on the potential pay rate increase for the Fire Department part time staff. The Board wanted to obtain additional input from Chief Hickey upon his return from vacation with regard to bonuses for staff who attain close to 1500 hours of service, so the raise was tabled.

A brief discussion was held on the OPWC funding of the 2020 Bridge Rehabilitation project and the potential paving of Sabrina, Esther, Kusmaul and Glenn. No action was taken due to bids not being back and the need for further information on OPWC funding. Trustee Templeton left the meeting for a phone call.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to accept the estate tax in the amount of \$4088.48 from the estate of Charles Knepper who passed away in 2012. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

G2020-68 Trustee Bugos made a motion (see attached) with regard to HB 481. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

G2020-69 Trustee Bugos made a motion to amend the cafeteria plan due to changes allowed by the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, due to the Coronavirus. This amendment allows employees to contribute above their Township required minimums, as well as make midyear changes and other rulings as appropriate to our plan. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

The board held a discussion on sending out a Frequently Asked Questions document with regard to Early Retirement Options being explored by the Township for employees who are at risk due to Coronavirus. There have been more updates from the Department of the Treasury and some employees have asked questions. The Board voted to release the FAQs and allow an additional 7 days for application submission by the employees. Trustee Templeton rejoined the meeting during this discussion.

Trustee Templeton made a motion to give 200 flags from the Champion Township Cemetery to local Veterans Streitferdt and Gardner, who placed non-Township owned flags on 200 graves. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

The Board held a discussion with regard to the use of the Central property soccer fields by a newly formed group YAYSL. The group CYSL has declined to hold a season this year and YAYSL is trying to

have the insurance policy transferred in to their name. No action by the Board until documentation is in place. Due to parking concerns, the Trustees considered putting the grindings in the grassy area to expand parking.

An intense discussion was held on the hiring of Joshua Rudesill as a full time police officer in the Champion Township Police Department. Officer Rudesill has been a part time officer since 2017 with the Township. The item was tabled at this time.

Trustee Templeton made a motion to enter into executive session for discussion on Personnel Matters in Zoning. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to exit executive session. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Trustee Templeton made a motion due to the current financial situation of the Township, to reduce the Zoning Inspector position to part time with no benefits. Fiscal Officer Hatt pointed out the Affordable Care Act specifications for benefits eligibility. Trustee Templeton amended the motion to remove the clause "with no benefits". The motion died for lack of a second; both Trustee Emerine and Trustee Bugos voiced their concerns over such a motion being made during such an uncertain time.

An intense discussion was held on appointing a Township doctor for employees who have health issues that need to return to work. Dr. Veres, Dr. Mahjoub and Dr. Naddour were discussed.

Trustee Templeton made a motion to place Chief White on administrative leave until such time as he could be cleared for duty by a Township appointed doctor. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos abstained, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer