

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on March 1, 2021 at 6:30pm via teleconference 727-731-0901, with a full board present.

**G2021-36** Trustee Templeton made a Motion to set the healthcare premium contribution per employee for calendar year 2021, based on coverage level, at: Family, \$2,340; Employee+spouse, \$1,950; Employee+Child(ren), \$1,690; and Employee only, \$1,300. These premiums have been previously agreed to by all three bargaining units and will include all other hourly and salary and at will employees. Emerine seconded. Bugos abstain due to issues with the law on elected officials healthcare contributions not being required, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Announcement: The Champion Township Fiscal Officer announces that 2020 Year End reports are available for review at this time. If anyone wishes to obtain a hard copy, they may do so by mailing a self-addressed stamped catalog envelop and pay a \$3.00 fee. Email copies are free of charge.

**G2021-37** Trustee Bugos made a motion to increase the revenue budget to \$4,137,708.18 to account for carryover amounts and additional revenue from contracts and other sources that were unaccounted for when the original budget was submitted to the Trumbull County Budget Commission in July 2020. It is required that the Fiscal Officer certify the carryover amounts when the year is closed and large revenue increases when these have been confirmed. Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

**G2021-38** Trustee Bugos made a motion to adopt permanent appropriations in the amount of \$3,750,000 for fiscal year 2021, see attached documentation for amount per fund by account category, Individual transactions for purchases of \$2,000.00 or more, with exception of payroll expenses and utilities, will still need to be passed by resolution of the Board of Trustees. Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton no. Trustee Templeton had objections about the authority to spend \$2,000.00 per transaction and wanted to reduce to statutory level of \$750.

**F2021-39** Trustee Bugos made a motion to purchase Super Vac V18-BD 12-AC-SP Battery operated positive pressure fan for Engine 21. This was an item that we wanted to purchase when the engine was bought in 2019, but were unable due to funding status. This battery-operated positive pressure fan would replace one that was purchased in 1998 and will reduce back strain and injury due to its minimal weight. The cost of the unit and accessory supplies is \$4,510.00 through Flashover Fire Apparatus and Equipment of McKeesport, PA. Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

**F2021-40** Trustee Bugos made a motion to purchase new set of Halligan forcible entry irons for Engine 21. The cost of the forcible entry irons is \$310.63 through The Fire Store. This would also come from the donations fund. Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

**Tabled** Motion to authorize the Fiscal Officer to begin the process for direct deposit of paychecks and approve the costs associated with this service (\$75 set up fee, \$30 monthly charge, \$0.35 per check). Trustee Templeton looked in to Seven Seventeen Credit Union and they do not have a set up fee. The board wanted to check with Huntington since they are merging with TCF.

A workshop date was set to discuss AFSCME contract prior to meeting with the Union for negotiations. March 11 @6pm for Fire Budget and Road Budget, which will be an in person meeting at the Administration building.

Trustee Emerine and Fiscal Officer Hatt will attend the planning commission TIRC Committee meeting virtually on March 19, 2021 at 10am. A request will be made to Joel or discuss webcam options since it is a hybrid meeting.

New Business:

**F2021-41** Trustee Bugos made a motion to direct Mark Finamore to write a resolution to help the township establish a fire escrow fund. Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Notice to the Chairman to attend the March 10, 2021 TCCHD Annual Advisory Council Meeting or appoint an alternate. This meeting will be via Zoom unless "first come-first serve" in person attendance is requested. The Chairman will attend.

The department heads gave their respective reports, including the following:

**P2021-42** Trustee Templeton made a motion at the request of Police Chief Jeffery White to authorize the purchase of online training through PoliceOneAcademy.com up to \$1,200.00 for 2021 in order to keep the departmental training up to date. Chief will set up a schedule of approximate classes he would like to see within the department by the end of the year. He will expect one certificate weekly. Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Sorber will be going on medical leave 3/15/2021.

Approval of the November 2020 and January 2021 minutes was tabled as Trustee Templeton had still not reviewed them. Trustee Templeton indicated that he will have them reviewed by the workshop. Fiscal Officer Hatt also requested December 2020 be reviewed for approval as well as there are outstanding records requests for them.

New Business:

Trustee Bugos will work with Working Foreman Davis to get our press releases with regard to setting the Cemetery Clean Up dates to remove decorations no later than April 30. Residents may redecorate on 5/8/2021. Also, one will announce that the Board set Township Clean Up date on 4/24/2021. Trustee Templeton had questions about the Township gas aggregation. The rate is set through March 2022. The Board normally got a new rate yearly but in order to get a rate as good as the County, they needed to sign a multiyear rate in 2019. Therefore, a reminder will go out to residents, but the Board does not have to do a new approval this year.

Old Business:

The Township has purchased new email addresses for the department heads and trustees. Trustee Templeton is not using his yet. Trustee Bugos will coordinate to provide tech support when Trustee Templeton is ready to begin using his.

New Emails: dougemerine@championtownship.org; brianbugos@championtownship.org; zoning@championtownship.org; shawndavis@championtownship.org; john.hickey@championtownship.org

Comprehensive Plan update Dave Murduck, Champion Local Schools...Andy Bednar, BBS...looking to give dollar amounts for some of the ideas that have come in to play. Mr. Murduck offered to come to a meeting. Working Foreman Davis was interested in having Murduck speak with him. Trustee Templeton wanted to know if the school was going to put forth monies. BB said only about grant dollars, not actual cash funds.

School Resource Officer Chief White and BB will be going to the school for a meeting tomorrow.

Employee Announcement: FormFire needs completed. The Township requests this be done no later than March 8.

Trustee Templeton asked about the PPE, sanitizer, etc. levels available to the employees.

Working Foreman Davis asked the Trustees about setting a date for the county meeting to be set up with the elected officials. Templeton said it would be better on Tuesdays and Mondays.

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 meeting on March 11, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Township Administration Building, with a full board present.

Fire Chief Hickey presented on Fire Department financials. Brief discussion was held on approving conference attendance. Trustee Templeton said it could wait until after the tax collections were posted as he did not believe the department could handle the expenditure.

Approval of the minutes was tabled again because Trustee Templeton had not completed reading them. He offered to accept the November and December 2020 and January 2021

minutes and reserve the right to amend, but the others declined to approve until he had reviewed.

**G2021-43** Trustee Bugos made a motion to declare worthless the old fiscal office HP Laptop and remove it from the Fiscal Office inventory and to accept the Dell UAN desktop computer and accessories into fiscal office inventory from the Ohio Auditor of State. Trustee Emerine requested that the hard drive not be recycled, but either destroyed or reformatted so the information not be accessible. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

**G2021-44** Trustee Bugos made a motion to accept the Amended official Certificate of Estimated Resources, dated March 3, 2021, in the amount of \$4,737,110.02. This certificate reflects the increased revenue budget and permanent appropriations passed on March 1, 2021. Trustee Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

A healthcare cost containment committee meeting was set for April 5, 2021 at 5:30pm. The Board briefly reviewed initial renewal rates, which had gone up over 19%.

Working Foreman Davis discussed road projects for 2021 but bids were not back from the county.

**R2021-45** Trustee Templeton made a motion to purchase two skids of crack seal at a cost not to exceed \$1,300 each for a trial on Warrenton and Chapel Hill, cracked roads within the township. Cost of equipment rental is free with purchase of the materials. Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes. If there is additional material, it will be used in other areas also.

Brief discussion was held on the AFSCME Union contract negotiations, whether or not the union had received a formal request from Zoning Inspector Fonce to join the union and how well the Road Department had been performing with so many new employees.

**G2021-46** Trustee Bugos, believing the value of the Fire Chief’s attendance of the conference to be invaluable for networking, grants, and education of the department as a whole, made a motion to approve Fire Chief Hickey's attendance at the 2021 Ohio Fire Chiefs Annual Conference July 12th - July 16th in Columbus. Cost to attend the Conference: \$ 435.00, but due to attending the winter symposium online, Chief Hickey qualifies for a \$40.00 reduction. The cost of the hotel for the 4 days that it would be needed is: \$ 637.29. Cost of Conference plus hotel stay: \$ 1,032.29. Chief will drive township's car to Columbus and all meals are included for the week. Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton no because believes Chief Hickey should be covering vacation shifts to prevent overtime due to finances.

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 on March 24, 2021 at 4pm with the Trumbull County Highway Engineer. Foreman Davis was Pro Tempore Fiscal Officer Trustee Templeton was absent. Agenda attached.*

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Chairman

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Pro Tempore Fiscal Officer