

Record of proceedings Book for Champion Township Board of Trustees 2022-2025 1:

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on April 3, 2023 at 6:30p.m. 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.

Announcement: Township Clean Up Day, April 22, 2023 from 8am-2pm at the Township Building. Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District provided a grant in the amount of \$7,800. ID required for scrap tire drop off, maximum eight (8) per resident. Contact GTSWD for disposal of hazardous waste and chemicals.

Announcement: Community Garage Sale Dates May 17-21.

Announcement: Champion Senior Advisory Council is hosting the "Swing Into Spring" event at the K-8. The Jazz Band will be the featured performers. Call the school for tickets.

Eagle Scout Candidate, Brayden McElhinny, gave a presentation on his request for a project to complete for the Township Cemetery.

C2023-33 Trustee Fee made a motion to allow Brayden McElhinny to move forward with his project on the flag folding display for the Cemetery as his Eagle Scout Recognition, with the placement to be determined at a later date by the Board. Trustee Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously. **Trustee Fee commended Brayden for his participation in the Eagle Scouts. Mr. Fee will be the contact so that the trustees can coordinate with the Champion Rotary.**

ARP2022-49R Trustee Fee made a motion at the request of Trustee Templeton, after discussion, to rescind ARP2022-49 so that it can be reallocated to Revenue Replacement Standard Allowance. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

ARP2022-49RR Trustee Emerine made a motion at the request of Trustee Templeton to rescind the ARP2022-49R "rescind motion" as during debate, the decision to amend rather than rescind became clear as the better choice of parliamentary rule. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously. **The deadline to adopt and submit a report to the US Treasury Department is April 30, 2023 after that time, adoption of the Standard Allowance for Revenue Replacement is no longer available to Non-Entitlement Units of Government. Amounts previously appropriated under public health eligible uses were not included in the standard allowance motion, but given the concerns over the economic viability of the outdoor recreation project and the limited timeframe in which to apply the standard allowance, amending the motion to include these unspent funds protects the township from stricter Federal guidelines and allows the State guidelines for spending to rule.**

ARP2022-49A Trustee Fee made a motion to amend ARP-2022-49, text which reads:

Be It Resolved by the Township Trustees of Champion Township

WHEREAS, this date, May 2, 2022, Trustee Emerine moved the adoption of the following

Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township has received a distribution of monies (the "ARPA Funds") from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA" or the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Act effective March 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Section 603 created the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund which, among other things, appropriated money to cities, nonentitlement units of local government, and counties to mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19); and

WHEREAS, Section 603(c) generally provides that:

(1) USE OF FUNDS. Subject to paragraph (2), and except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), a metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county shall only use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover costs incurred by the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county, by December 31, 2024 –

(A) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;

(B) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;

(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency; or

(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

WHEREAS, Department of Treasury Final Rule, published on January 6, 2022, and effective April 1, 2022, provides in part that:

Treasury presumes that up to \$10 million in revenue has been lost due to the public health emergency and recipients are permitted to use that amount (not to exceed the award amount) to fund "government services." [The "standard allowance"].

WHEREAS, the Rule further observes that:

The standard allowance provides an estimate of revenue loss that is based on an extensive analysis of average revenue loss across states and localities, and offers a simple, convenient way to determine revenue loss particularly for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund's smallest recipients. This change is intended to promote administrative efficiency and simplify revenue loss calculation for smaller recipients.

WHEREAS, the Rule further clarifies that recipients can use:

SLFRF funds on government services up to the revenue loss amount, whether that be the standard allowance amount or the amount calculated using the [Final Rule four-step process]. Government services generally include any service traditionally provided by a government, unless treasury has stated otherwise.

WHEREAS, some common examples of “government services” expressly recognized by Treasury are as follows:

- Road building and maintenance, and other infrastructure
- Health services
- General government administration, staff, and administrative facilities
- Environmental remediation
- Provision of police, fire, and other public safety services (including purchase of fire trucks and police vehicles)
- Maintenance or pay-go funded building infrastructure
- Modernization of cybersecurity, including hardware, software, and protection of critical infrastructure

WHEREAS, “Government services is [deemed by Treasury] the most flexible eligible use category under the SLFRF program, and funds are subject to streamlined reporting and compliance requirements;” and

WHEREAS, funds utilized pursuant to the standard revenue loss allowance continue to have certain restrictions, including:

- Deposit into pension funds
- Satisfaction of settlements or judgments
- Contributions to financial reserves or “rainy day” funds

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has identified a project which, in the judgment of the Board, qualifies as a permitted use of the ARPA Funds, in direct support of governmental services, which consists of the following: (the “Project”).

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board that:

1. The Township elects to use the standard allowance and its presumption of revenue loss due to the public health emergency and to use the amount authorized herein to fund government services
2. The Project is hereby authorized and shall be paid for from the ARPA Funds in the amount of/an amount not to exceed: _____.
3. The Project described herein serves the objectives of the Act by providing services traditionally provided by a government, namely:
 - Police protection
 - Fire and emergency medical services
 - Road repair, maintenance and other transportation and safety services
 - Public infrastructure support
 - General government administration and administrative facilities
 - Land use regulations and enforcement
 - Parks and recreational facilities and programs
 - Other
4. Accordingly, the Project is in the best interests of the Township and is deemed a priority for the community.
5. No obligations paid under the authority of this Resolution were incurred prior to March 3, 2021.

Trustee ___Fee_____ seconded the Motion, and thereupon, the votes in favor of this Resolution were recorded and reflected by the signatures hereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Township concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Township Trustees, and that all deliberations of the Township Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Amended the third day of April, 2023, to include \$375,000 previously appropriated under the Public Health Allowable Use, now to be placed in the Revenue Loss Standard Allowance Eligible Use, Resolution ARP2021-109, ARP2021-110 and ARP2021-111. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Fee made a motion to accept the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources dated March 22, 2023 in the amount of \$6,086,764.73, accepting the appropriation change made on March 21, 2023.

The Board then heard from Department Heads on the funding of ARP County projects. Ideas discussed were an ambulance for the Fire Department, which also assists many other communities in the county, a generator for the Police Department and water projects and the Road Garage. Water projects were downed due to the inability to finish a project by the deadline due to the pipeline of projects already on the County Sanitary Engineer’s plate. Chief Skaggs was given a copy of the application to apply for the Police Station Generator project.

Working Foreman Davis questioned how many “No Engine Brake” signs he was to put up within the previously designated zone, as the approval had been given by ODOT, but the Township has to order the signs. Lengthy discussion was had on the complaints about engine brakes and parameters of this resolution.

Trustee Emerine made a motion to accept the retirement of Rhonda Fonce, Zoning Inspector, effective April 30, 2023, and thank her for her years of service. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Fee made a motion to rehire Earl Huff and Seth Shay at the same rates as last year as part-time seasonal Cemetery workers, pending drug screens, effective April 17, 2023. Emerine seconded. **Chairman Templeton asked about a quarter an hour raises, but it was dissented due to them receiving a large increase last year.** Passed unanimously.

The department heads gave their respective reports.

Record of proceedings Book for Champion Township Board of Trustees 2022-2025 **3:**

Trustee Emerine thanked Working Foreman Davis and the road crew for their work in the storm and asked about fixing a catch basin on Old Colony, near the second house from State Rd. by the Molinar property which needs finished up. He also stated that it goes without saying there is to be NO SMOKING in the new truck.

Trustee Templeton stated that the lettering on the new truck looks FANTASTIC!

Chief Skaggs discussed the need for a \$3,000.00 repair on Unit #57 which has 160,000 miles on it. Emerine will discuss with our mechanic and in the meantime, we need to work with what we have already. The Board can discuss further on the workshop meeting April 18.

Trustee Emerine thanked the Police Department for their help with windstorms and for keeping the town safe during clean up and thank you for helping a joint investigation between the TCSO and CLSD.

Trustee Fee asked Chief Skaggs to explain the new Distracted Driving Law, which has a six month grace period beginning on April 4. Pamphlets will be available at the Ohio BMV locations beginning tomorrow.

Trustee Emerine also thanked the Fire Department for their hard work during the storm, BUT Trustee Emerine was upset because we did not have adequate barricades and lighted barricades available to protect our employees or our residents. This is a major safety issue and needs figured out as more storms are likely.

Working Foreman Davis put in for several quotes for this type of equipment as the ones they have are falling apart and duck taped.

Trustee Fee had concerns that the utility companies must not be reinvesting in to their infrastructure and this could be a norm.

There was much discussion on the March 24 and April 1 windstorms that brought lengthy power outages and a lot of debris hazards to the residents.

After a heated discussion about the benefits renewal, Trustee Templeton stated that he would be the Benefits Administrator since there is not currently a Benefits Administrator, which has caused many issues with the new hire benefits and billing over the past few months.

Public Comments:

Richard Garrin, 14 Abbington, complaint for Zoning on Mahoning Ave. Filed a complaint with Rhonda 6-8 months ago and has not heard anything. Upset that Rhonda did not stay to train Jennifer.

Trustee Emerine went on a rant about the new way that he wanted Zoning administered since Rhonda was retiring.

Silas Dozier, 6158 Shafer, had comments about the Eagle Scout project. Also upset that the house 6148 Shafer has not been torn down yet. He also questioned the Fire Department generator issue.

Jason Kish, 5110 Sabrina Lane, had comments no grants and grant-writing and how he would like to see a staff grant writer.

Richard Durst, 5585 Chapel Hill North, and Thomas Hart, 408 Bristol Champion Townline Rd, had questions about the park update.

Trustees had a lengthy discussion about the park and the blueprint for the park as well as the park committee. Trustee Fee was concerned about moving forward with a park without a par levy to support maintenance and matching grant dollars needed to finish the project. He did not want to leave the residents with a \$250,000 investment and then have little to no money to invest in the balance of the project.

The conversation turned toward storage building cost and funding of architectural drawings. Then to nostalgic community events, like the St Williams festival.

Although an executive session was planned, it was canceled.

Trustee Fee made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Special (Emergency) Meeting on April 13, 2023 at 3:30p.m. at the Champion Administration Building, Police Department, to conduct negotiations with the OPBA and Police Department Union Representative. The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order absent Trustee Templeton.

Trustee Fee made a motion to enter executive session for contract negotiations under ORC 122.22(g). Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Emerine made a motion to exit executive session. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

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

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

Record of proceedings Book for Champion Township Board of Trustees 2022-2025 ^{4:}

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on April 18, 2023 at 6:30p.m. 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.

Announcement: Township Clean Up Day, April 22, 2023 from 8am-2pm at the Township Building. Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District provided a grant in the amount of \$7,800. ID required for scrap tire drop off, maximum eight (8) per resident. Contact GTSWD for disposal of hazardous waste and chemicals.

Announcement: Community Garage Sale Dates May 17-21.

ODOT Announcement: State Route 305 will be closed between Rt 45 East to Shaffer Road for 14 days starting May 1 for a culvert replacement. No thru way.

Announcement: Applications are being accepted for part time police officers, part time fire, Zoning Inspector and Zoning Board Members.

The Board heard proposals from Tony Palandrani from Rankin and Ranking and from Rob Green from Alberini Insurance. The Board will need to make a decision quickly if they will move to a new carrier for a May 1 start date. **A meeting was set for Friday, April 21 at 4:10pm at the Champion Township Administration Building** to give Rob Green additional time to get in his proposal from Medical Mutual and to allow the trustees time to look over the proposals.

The Board further discussed the County ARP funding projects.

The Board discussed allocating a random dollar amount, such as \$50,000 to the Central Property and putting the rest of the previously allocated \$200,00 toward the Road Storage building which has been estimated at \$100/square foot, with just the road section being 4800 square feet. Trustee Fee again reiterated his caution to move forward on the project without having a park levy. Working Foreman Davis discussed that the parking lot over on that property is in bad shape. Trustee Emerine cited concerns with House Bill 1 possibly passing, reducing the resources of the township along with the need for fire and police levies around 3-3.5 mills each. Trustees agreed that this was a possible direction that they would entertain but Trustee Templeton wanted to wait to discuss it further and make any motions in the May 1 meeting. The item was tabled until May 1. Because the Board already has committed funds of \$50,000 in engineering services to Baker, Bednar, Snyder, Trustee Fee was given the go ahead to research the cost of the engineering services that would be needed to make the pickleball courts and other amenities discussed on the Central property. Trustee Templeton wanted to cut the losses and not use Baker Bednar and Snyder.

G2023-34 Trustee Emerine made a motion to allow Working Foreman Davis to purchase \$1,500 in materials to upgrade the soccer field on the Central property (5759 Mahoning Ave, township owned) from the General Fund at the request of Champion Youth Soccer League (CYSL) to fix divots, etc. to prepare for the upcoming season. Fee seconded. **CYSL leases the property June 1-October 1 and there are already several requests to use the property in June.** Passed unanimously.

P2023-35 Trustee Emerine made a motion to supplementally appropriate and purchase from 2191-760-700 upfitting installation services and equipment from Hudson Communications with a donation from Chevy All Stars in the amount of \$6884.11. **The money has already been deposited into the Police fund. Discussion was held on whether it should have been in the ARP fund since the original purchase of the Tahoe had come from the ARP fund. No need to reallocate, just pay from the Police fund.** Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

John Streitferdt, 5172 Calla, had comments on Research Parkway land clearing.

Trustee Templeton made a motion to appoint Cindee Mines as an alternate to the Zoning Commission since she was willing to do Secretary job and this would allow her to train under Sally and the Commission has a meeting tomorrow. Trustee Emerine stated that he had not heard anything about it and did not think we had an application on file. Since we had been advertising and had two other candidates who provided applications or letters of intent, he wanted to do things properly. Fiscal Officer Hatt confirmed that there was no letter of intent or resume on file. Trustee Fee stated that he had also had phone call from her and that he thought it could wait until the proper procedures were followed. Trustee Templeton declared his motion dead for lack of second. Trustee Fee asked Fiscal Officer Hatt to contact her before the next meeting and request a letter of interest.

Working Foreman Davis asked about getting a quote to repair the fence on the Central property. The Board told him to look into it.

Public Comment (continued):

Jack and Mrs. Besse, 381 Durst, Would like to know what Trustee Templeton found out when he called ODOT about getting a left hand turn lane from Mahoning onto Champion St, Route 305, etc. Trustee Templeton does not recall saying that he would look into it. Trustee Fee stated that he would go ahead and look into it. The Besse's also had questions about what the trustees' plan and intentions are with the Baker, Bednar, Snyder update. Trustees stated that things were up in the air as inflation and other factors had delayed and they would discuss further at the next meeting. Mrs. Besse said that she thinks it important to take care of the services and buildings before a park.

Trustee Fee made a motion to enter executive session for consideration of employment and contract negotiations under ORC 122.11(g). Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Fee made a motion to exit executive session. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Special Meeting on April 21, 2023 at 4:10p.m. at the Champion Administration Building for purposes of healthcare and zoning. The Chairman called the meeting to order with a full board present.

Trustee Emerine brought quote packets from Alberini Insurance to discuss. The trustees discussed cost saving measures as well as the risk of a Health Reimbursement plan to the township.

G2023-36 Trustee Templeton, after having been disillusioned by Rankin and Rankin for not coming to the meeting last year although he had a \$40,000 cheaper quote than the other broker, made a motion to appoint Alberini Insurance as broker to continue on the Anthem Blue Cross PPO HAS plan Option E3 79NH program. **Although concerned with Alberini service issues, Trustee Fee seconded the motion. Trustee Emerine stated that he was also disillusioned with Alberini and hoped he stepped up his game. Trustee Templeton noted that the Anthem plan was month to month and if there were issues, the plan could change and the Township would only be out the premiums for the short time when they were with Anthem/Alberini.** Passed unanimously.

Trustees received the Zoning Text Amendments on light manufacturing and set a hearing date for May 5, 2023 at 4:30pm.

Z2023-37 Trustee Emerine made a motion to appoint Jennifer Kusmierek as the Interim Zoning Inspector until May 13, 2023. Templeton seconded. Emerine noted that if applications were not coming in or if the Board needed more time, it could be extended again. Further, he stated that he wanted office hours to be strictly kept and phone calls to be returned as Trustees are receiving a lot of phone calls stating that the Zoning phone calls are not being returned. Passed unanimously.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Special Meeting on April 25, 2023 at 3:00p.m. at the offices of Letson and Swader, 160 East Market St, Warren, to conduct negotiations with the OPBA and Police Department Union Representative. The Chairman called the meeting to order with a full board present.

Trustee Fee made a motion to enter executive session for contract negotiations under ORC 122.11(g). Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Emerine made a motion to exit executive session. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion township Board of Trustees met in Special Session at the Trumbull County highway Engineer's Office on April 27, 2023 at 9:30am to conduct an annual meeting with Engineer Randy Smith on upcoming road projects. Trustee Templeton was absent.

Working Foreman Davis was also present to discuss the road projects.

No action was taken.

Vice Chairman

Trustee