

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on May 2, 2022 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.

The department heads gave their respective reports.

F2022-42 Trustee Fee made a motion to hire part time Fire Fighter EMT Sophia Minor. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

F2022-43 Trustee Fee made a motion to hire part time Firefighter EMT Amerissa Minor. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

F2022-44 Trustee Fee made a motion to hire part time Firefighter EMT Sherry Ray Alexander. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

P2022-45 Trustee Fee made a motion to rehire Dejan Robinson as a part time police officer, pending the preemployment physical, drug screen, psychological evaluation and background check. Emerine seconded. Emerine yes, Fee yes, Templeton no due to wanting to wait until the background checks were complete prior to rehiring.

Officer Mackey has requested that Michael Hite be publicly recognized for his part in rescuing a woman during a domestic violence call. Trustees invited officer Mackey and Mr. Hite to the next Monday regular meeting to be honored.

Z2022-46 Trustee Templeton made a motion to declare high grasss and debris (505.87) on the attached list of properties. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

Z2022-47 Trustee Templeton made a motion to declare 505.86 on 455 Prentice Road. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Fee made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the financial statements for February and March 2022. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Fee made a motion to accept the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for the amount of \$5,506096.01 dated March 22, 2022. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

R2022-48 Trustee Templeton made a motion to create the 2022 OPWC Road Resurfacing Program fund. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Fee made a motion to accept the Retirement of Police Chief Jeff White, effective 6/30/22. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

ARP2022-49 Trustee Emerine made the ARP Revenue Replacement resolution prepared by legal counsel, see full text attached. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously after the Trustees explained to Trustee Templeton that it freed up the use of the money for the township rather than strangling their hands.

R2022-50 Trustee Fee made a motion to declare worthless the Road Grader, Roller, Tar Truck, and Street Sweeper. These have been in storage and not utilized by the Township for several years. Recommended to ask County Fair Board if they are interested in any of it.

R2022-51 Trustee Fee made a motion to sell the grader with a 30 day bid period on GovDeals for \$5,000. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

R2022-52 Trustee Fee made a motion to sell the tar truck with a 30 day bid period on GovDeals for \$5,000. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

R2022-53 Trustee Fee made a motion to sell the street sweeper with a 30 day bid period on GovDeals for \$1,500. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

R2022-54 Trustee Fee made a motion to sell the roller with a 30 day bid period on GovDeals for \$1,500. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

F2022-55 Trustee Fee made a motion to accept State Fire Marshalls Grant in the amount of \$12,354.80 that will be used to purchase extrication air bags. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

F2022-56 Trustee Fee made a motion to purchase the extrication air bags from Atlantic Emergency Solutions, 13051 Redwater Drive, Chester, VA 23836, in the amount of \$12,354.80. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

Announcements

Reminder to vote in the Primary May 3

Please do not pump your pool water in the neighbor's yards as it will cause flooding.

New Business

Trustees appointed Patrolman Dan Wasko, Jr. as Benefits Administrator effective May 1, 2022. Fiscal Officer Hatt and Fire Chief John Hickey had previously held this position.

Trustees appointed Trustee Rex Fee to create the required Records Policy poster, per the KLM repeat recommendation. He will review the OTA guidelines.

Old Business

Trustees will terminate the Gas Aggregation Program so residents can join the county aggregation program and hope to reinstate for when the rates go down.

Audit committee- Dick Berry was interested and he left to call Don Campbell but Don is not available to continue to serve. Additional residents will be contacted by various members of the Board.

Public Comment

Brittany Schwab, 5325 Towson, recommended that Chief White request a PSI on the Beach House from the Ohio State Highway Patrol to keep the problems down. She also urges residents to contact Ohio Investigative Unit.gov 330-898-2311 for the PSI.

John Streitferdt, 5162 Calla, has concerns about possible annexation when the hospital comes. When Hills Department store came in 1957, Warren tried to annex but our Fire department proved to the committee that it could handle calls from the plaza and annexation was denied. Trustee Emerine discussed the hospital issue including issues surrounding Education Highway that were a concern for trustees, including annexation. Fee was disappointed with the County commissioners and their lack of helping move the hospital project forward in Champion. Fee stated that Research drive being a county road could not dead end, therefore, if Education Highway was continued to declared a driveway, the Township would get stuck with Research which was nowhere near the level of specifications it should be

Tom Tracey, Glendola, questioned the road situation around the hospital and could the ARP funds be used to combat it. Trustee response was that the project would cost around \$2 million and Randy Smith says he won't have it in his budget for at least 5 years.

Debbie Christ, 400 Lauder, ARP funding comments.

Jason Schwab, 5225 Towson, questions about election signs.

Silas Dozier, 6158 Shafer, questions about noise and ditching issues.

Trustee Templeton asked about the cutting f the road and the liability for the Township with regard to a job on Folsom. WF Davis stated that he had paperwork as an example from Bazetta but it was not in word format so it could not be edited and he was waiting on them to send it to him as the Fiscal Officer had said it was not her job to type it for them. That was several months ago and no one has gotten back to him.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in a special meeting on May 9, 2022 at 6:00pm in the Champion Township Administration Building for the purpose of discussing township finances. The Chairman called the meeting to order with a full board present.

G2022-57 Trustee Emerine made a motion to grant the Fiscal Officer permission to change the bank account from all connections with the old TCF numbers for protection of the Township accounts due to counterfeiting of checks with the old account numbers. Trustee Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

G2022-58 Trustee Fee made a motion to enroll in Huntington's Fraud Protection package and Positive Pay and Check Lock to protect all accounts located at Huntington at a rate of \$95 per month. Trustee Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustees had questions about how the STAROhio account was protected and Fiscal Officer Hatt said she would investigate and provide them with data.

Trustee Emerine stated that he had heard from legal counsel and the AFSCME Union was going to file an unfair labor practice grievance if the compensation package was not passed immediately. Fee and Templeton took the paperwork for review.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in a regular meeting on May 17, 2022 at 6:30pm in 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.

R2022-59 Trustee Fee made a motion to accept an MOU from the AFSCME Road Department contract. Emerine seconded. Emerine yes, Fee yes, Templeton no. Debbie Christ, 400 Lauder, interjected that there should be no reason that the Township shouldn't fight the unfair labor practice and win.

R2022-60 Trustee Fee made a motion to accept the whole of the AFSCME union contract spanning May 1, 2021-April 30, 2024. Emerine seconded. Emerine yes, Fee yes, Templeton no.

Trustees accepted the retirement of police Sgt. Richard Goldner, effective 8/31/22 and thanked him for his years of service. Trustee Fee commented on the letter read aloud with regard to the staffing concerns presented. Trustee Emerine mentioned that there had been many upgrades to department equipment in the last four years that have added to officer safety.

P2022-61 Trustee Fee made a motion to place an add for the Police Chiefs position due to the retirement of Chief White and to place an add for full time Police Officers position due to upcoming retirements in the department. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously. Ads should be placed on OhioMeansJobs, Facebook, and Officer Mackey recommended AG.com. Bob Coupland from the Tribune will write an article. Sadie Brown can place it on the website.

Discussion without a motion for a Fire Fighters Retention bonus using ARP Funding was held. Ms. Christ and Union President Jon Bland exchanged comments about the staffing and the pay rates. Templeton said he still does not understand the reason behind a retention bonus. He also said he does not understand that it seems that we are negotiating with the Fire Union when we just got in trouble for negotiating with Shawn Davis by the AFSCME Union.

Trustee Templeton brought up part time staffing issues. Mr. Bland told Templeton that was not on the current topic and can be addressed when the other items are settled.

Trustee Fee again brought up having a pool of part timers who serve all areas of the county. Fire Chief Dempsey said that he has a meeting with some surrounding fire chiefs on May 23 to discuss the topic.

The DOT Clearing House needs registered and rectified immediately so Working Foreman Davis will look into it with the County and see how much work it is before committing to be the designee.

Fire Chief Dempsey will consider a price for appointment for a Workers Comp representative for the township.

Fiscal Officer Hatt informed the trustees that she would be taking a leave of absence from office beginning June 5 and returning August 1, 2022. FO Hatt will be available for questions from the state audit that is currently going on. Trustee Templeton stated that he had contacted Atty. Finamore who advises that the trustees should not wait for June 5 to appoint someone.

Assistant to the Fiscal Officer Vanessa Teuscher sent a letter to the trustees informing them that she had a lot of vacation time planned over the summer and she did not think it fair for a Deputy Fiscal Officer to have to work around her schedule, so she would be taking a leave of absence from May 23-September 30, 2022. Trustee Fee raised a question whether they needed to accept a LOA for simply vacation time from MS. Teuscher.

P2022-62 Trustee Fee made a motion at the request of Fiscal Officer Hatt, a line item reallocation of appropriations in the amount of \$55,000 was approved from 2191-700-750 (Motor Vehicle-Police) to 2191-210-221 (Medical)-Police). Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Fee gave an update that Cherry Poteet has completed paperwork for Weathersfield to terminate their Gas Ag program and he has requested that she prepares Champion's as well so that the residents can transition to the county's program smoothly. He hopes to have them for the next monthly meeting on June 6, 2022.

Trustees discussed a need for allocating the ARP money and having a sit down meeting where they came up with a formal plan. Trustee Fee was disappointed that the firemen balked at signing a retention commitment for the bonus. Fiscal Officer Hatt stated that this was meant as a thank you for staying here at lower wages while many others had left, not a forward looking bonus, particularly for Quiggle who was being paid less than a part timer and the same as a newly hired FT EMT.

Public Comment:

Debbie Christ, 400 Lauder, thanked FO Hatt for providing the fund ledger she had requested via public records request. She then proceeded to ask several questions about transactions dating clear back to January 2022. FO Hatt was unable to answer all of her questions at this time due to COVID brain fog and the recent emotional stress she had been under due to her daughter's recent near death and her husband's two recent suicide attempts. FO Hatt suggested that Ms. Christ ask those questions of the person covering for her LOA.

Tom Tracey and Nancy Shafer commented on their experiences with the union negotiations when they were former trustees.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer