

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular session on December 4, 2023, at 6:30p.m. at the Champion High School Community room for the purpose of conducting the business of the township. Chairman Templeton called the meeting to order with a full board present.

Announcement: Champion Township held its first annual Christmas tree lighting on December 2. Thank you to all involved in making it a success. Special Thank you to Trustee Douglas Emerine who purchased the tree personally.

Trustee Fee made a motion to accept the November minutes. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

**R2023-113** Trustee Fee made a motion to request that the County Commissioners examine and if found satisfactory, accept the 256' of the dead-end portion of Allison Ave into the County highway system. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously. There was discussion about why the road was never accepted, the OPWC grant monies and the highway engineer's need to examine the road for the Commissioners.

**\*See amendment February 2024**

The trustees set a public hearing date of December 21, 2023, at 6:00pm to hear the EV Charging Station, Wind Turbine, Solar and Feather flag Zoning Text Amendments. The trustees also moved their regular workshop from December 19 to December 21, immediately following the Public Hearing, due to needing ten days to advertise the Public Hearing.

Trustee Fee made a motion to accept the retirement of Sally Berkhouse from the Zoning Commission at the end of her term, 12/31/2023. Trustee Templeton will send a thank you for her 24 years of service. Mrs. Berkhouse was the first woman on the Zoning Commission, also. Passed unanimously.

A motion to appoint Silas Dozier to the Zoning Commission was tabled due to there being a need for a secretary and the Zoning Commission intent to fill the secretary with an alternate. Mr. Dozier nor any other member of the Board wants to be the secretary, but there are three candidates who applied after Mr. Dozier who would be interested. The trustees asked the Zoning Commission members, a quorum of whom were present at the meeting, to review the applications and decide on what to do, then let the Board know in time for their meeting on December 21. The Board would also like the two alternates chosen by that time as well.

**Z2023-114** Trustee Fee made a motion at the request of Trustee Templeton to increase the per meeting pay rate from \$45 to \$50 for members of both Zoning Boards, and from \$55 to \$60 for both Zoning Secretaries effective January 10, 2024. Emerine seconded. Trustee Templeton believes this is well deserved because these Boards do a lot for the township for very little pay. Passed unanimously.

Trustees gave an update on the Road Storage Garage. It is coming along nicely. Trustee Fee is hoping to hear some news on the Appalachian Community Grant this month.

**G2023-115** Trustee Emerine made a motion to renew the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) with Burnham and Flower (Third Party Administrator). Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

The department heads gave their respective reports and the public was allowed to comment. A tiny house has been placed on the old Koren property at 287 Center St and Zoning Inspector Brown would like to have permission to request a legal opinion. The Board approved the request. B. Johnson, 4651 Verona, had comments about the tiny house versus a shed and the EV charging stations. Tom Hart, 408 Bristol-Champion Townline Rd, comments on installing the slide in December.

Cindee Mines, 207 Glendola, questions about EV fires and refrigeration, etc. Trustee Emerine discussed that the training he has attended for his personal business discusses that the things they n=knew about eVs a few months ago is not even accurate due to ever changing understanding of the technology as more and more of it gets out on the road. Trustee Fee interjected that he was recently told that the county fire departments could never handle a fire at the battery plant in Lordstown should there be one.

S. Dozier, 6158 Shafer, had questions on the Bristol-Champion Shafer streetlight that another gentleman had asked at a prior meeting.

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

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in public hearing on December 21, 2023, at the Champion High School Community Room for the purpose of hearing the four Zoning Text Amendments: EV Charging stations, Solar, Wind Turbines, and Feather Flags.

The Chairman requested proof of publication from the Fiscal Officer.  
The Fiscal Officer presented Proof of Publication.

The Chairman asked the Vice Chairman to read the Zoning Amendments aloud. The Vice Chairman did so.

The Chairman called for Opponents to each amendment three times.

The Chairman called for Proponents to each amendment three times.

The public present did not wish to be sworn in or give testimony for or against, but to simply give input on complex matters with the topics or to ask questions about the implications. Three members of the Zoning Commission were also present to answer questions and make comments.

The Board thanked the Zoning Commissioners for their hard work on these complicated matters.

Community Members Breanna Johnson, Silas Dozier, Russell Banks all spoke intermittently regarding the different amendments, making clarifications, asking questions, etc.

**Z2023-116** Trustee Emerine made a motion to adopt as read the Section 29: WIND TURBINE AND WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS into the Zoning Resolution. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Z2023-117** Trustee Emerine made a motion to adopt as read the Section: 31 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations into the Zoning Resolution. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Z2023-118** Trustee Emerine made a motion to adopt as read Section 32: SOLAR PANELS AND SOLAR COLLECTION SYSTEMS into the Zoning Resolution. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Z2023-119** Trustee Fee made a motion to adopt the updated language in Section 18: Feather Flags, amending the Zoning Commission recommended language in Section 18(b) to remove "3 flags per parcel." Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the public hearing.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular session on December 21, 2023, at the Champion High School Community room for the purpose of conducting the business of the township. Chairman Templeton called the meeting to order with a full board present. At 8:03pm, because the Zoning Public Hearing ran long.

Trustee Fee made a motion to accept the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources dated November 27, 2023, in the amount of \$6,466,356.29 for the 2023 Fiscal year. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Fee made a motion to accept the 2024 Official Certificate of Estimated Resources in the amount of \$5,534,558.27 dated August 10, 2023, for the 2024 Fiscal year. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

**G2023-120** Trustee Fee made a motion to update the 2023 Revenue Budget to the amount of \$3,941,822.43. This update more closely matches actual receipts for the calendar fiscal year. It is an overall increase from the originally adopted Revenue Budget effective January 1, 2023, in the amount of \$3,570,442.47. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

**G2023-121** Trustee Fee made a motion to set the 2024 Appropriation Budget in the amount of \$4,701,645.47 and authorize the Fiscal Officer to submit the 2024 permanent appropriations budget to the Budget Commission. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

**G2023-123** Trustee Fee made a motion to authorize the Fiscal Officer to make any supplemental appropriation changes to meet the balance of the year's transactions and obligations. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Z2023-124** Trustee Fee made a motion upon the unanimous vote of the Zoning Commission to appoint Silas Dozier to the Zoning Commission for a five-year term, commencing 1/1/2024. Templeton seconded. **Trustee Fee cautioned Mr. Dozier that now that he will be on the Commission, he needs to be careful that everything he puts on Facebook is accurate because he has posted several items about our meetings and taxes that have not been accurate. It is important that the information employees put out is accurate. Emerine NO, Fee yes, Templeton yes.**

Zoning Commissioner Streitferdt notified the Board that former trustee candidate Rick York requested notification of Zoning Commission meetings by handing Chairman Streitferdt a business card with contact information on it and Chairman Streitferdt did not notify him because he did not feel the need to since he had lost the election.

The Board informed Chairman Streitferdt that it is required per the Open Meetings Act that if anyone requests notification and provide contact information, the Commission is required to notify him. Chairman Streitferdt pooh-poohed the Board, saying that York did not really ask for the information. The Board stated that giving Chairman Streitferdt his contact information and stating he wanted to come to a meeting was absolutely a request that needed to be honored.

**Z2023-125** Trustee Fee made a motion to appoint George Barcikoski as alternate to the Zoning Commission, effective 1/1/24-12/31/2025. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Z2023-126** Trustee Fee made a motion to appoint Trish Kover as alternate to the Zoning Commission, effective 1/1/24-12/31/2025. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Z2023-127** Trustee Fee made a motion to reappoint Robert Haas to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate, effective 1/1/2024 for a one-year term, per his request. Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously.

**G2023-128** Trustee Emerine made a motion to switch telecommunications providers from LightSpeed to Verizon for VoIP services at a cost of \$25 per month per line, up to ten lines. Approve the purchase

of thirteen handsets up to \$150 for four and \$100 for the remaining nine handsets. This is a savings of \$150 per month. Our contract with LightSpeed will be up in January and this will give us a savings as well as a local office. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

A discussion on the OPBA Contract effective May 1, 2023-April 30, 2026, was tabled.

**G2023-129** Trustee Templeton made a motion to amend minute to correct typographical errors that changed the original meaning and intent of the content: May 2, 2023, ORC 121.22(g)4, as opposed to ORC 122.22.; May 23, 2023 ORC121.22(G)1 rather than ORC 121.22(G); June 9, 2023 ORC 121.22(G)4 instead of ORC 121.22(g)6; June 13, 2023 ORC 121.22(G)4 rather than ORC 121.22(G)6; Motion R2023-87 2193-760-790, not 2193-760-740; R2023-98 2193-760-790 rather than 2193-760-700; and P2023-35 2191-760-750 instead of 2191-760-700. Fee seconded. Passed unanimously.

**G2023-130** Trustee Fee made a motion to adopt the salary method of compensation for the Trustees and Fiscal Officer for fiscal year 2024 to be equal payments on a monthly basis. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

Allison Ave update- Commissioners just received TCE Smith's paperwork in a clean copy. I have it in hand and it is set for January 4 agenda.

The Board held a discussion on trash removal providers for the fire department. The Board would like to see more quotes than the ones provided.

Set the date for the Reorganizational meeting in January, 1/8/2024 at 6pm.

Hearing no further comment, the Vice Chairman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Emerine seconded. Passed unanimously.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer