

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on November 1, 2021, at 6:30p.m. for the purpose of conducting the business of the township. Chairman Emerine called the meeting to order, absent Trustee Templeton who arrived a few minutes late.

The Trustees approved the September minutes and amended the August 2021 minutes as submitted.

Announcement: Reminder: Tuesday, November 2, 2021, is election day.

The trustees acknowledged receipt of October financial statements.

The trustees approved the leave of absence of reserve firefighter Thomas Rush, effective 10/1/2021.

(Agenda read Bumgardner, this was an error by the Fiscal Officer, corrected by Interim Fire Chief Donald Maffitt verbally at the meeting.)

R2021-106 Trustee Bugos made a motion to accept the 2021 OPWC Grant in the amount of \$63,047.95, the first disbursement for the Copeland-Gertrude project. These funds were paid directly to Ronyak Paving. Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

G2021-107 Trustee Bugos made a motion to accept and appropriate the Mosquito Spraying Grant increase of \$50.00. These funds will be reallocated to the payments already made for the mosquito spraying done in the summer. Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

The Board said thank you to our Police and Fire departments for helping to keep residents safe during Trick or Treat on Saturday, October 30, 2021, from 6-7:30pm. Thank you to Betty Hoopes and John Hickey for their donations of candy to the fire department. The Police department thanked Nancy Shafer for her donation of candy this year and for the last 15-20 years.

F2021-108 Trustee Bugos made a motion to reinstate a policy to allow the Ohio Attorney General to collect outstanding debts for ambulance services after the billing company has sent three bills and there is still a balance due. Then AG Mike DeWine began this program several years ago, but it had been suspended. Medicount has informed us that the current AG will resume collections. Emerine seconded. Trustee Templeton believed if the AG suspended the motion, another resolution was not needed, but our service provider, Medicount will not forward the account information to the AG without an updated resolution. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Trustee Bugos read the attached ARPA Resolution aloud and the Chairman opened the floor to the public for discussion.

Comments were made by Adam Miller, CYSL President; Tom Tracey, former Trustee; Daniel and Debbie Christ; Vicky Thomas as well as members of the Board. Trustee Templeton was concerned with being able to rescind the motion at a later date if the second batch of money did not come in next year. The Fiscal Officer confirmed that any work not started could be stopped with a new motion to do so.

ARP2021-109 Trustee Bugos made the motion. Trustee Templeton seconded. Passed unanimously, see attached full text.

ARP2021-110 Trustee Bugos made a motion to engage the services of Baker, Bednar, Snyder, Inc to perform engineering and professional services as required to complete Phase I of the ARPA Outdoor Recreation project, at a cost not to exceed \$50,000.00 over the life of the project. This project moves the soccer fields from the Central Property in order to make the property shovel ready for the potential fire station grant currently moving through Congress. Emerine seconded. Templeton argued that the previous resolution should cover this contract and that the engineering services were included in the original addendum to the comprehensive plan purchased earlier this year/last year. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton no.

ARP2021-111 Trustee Bugos made a motion at the request of the Trumbull County Budget Commission to appropriate \$75,000.00 in the ARP Fiscal Recovery Fund. The Federal and State law already considers this amount appropriated but Trumbull County would like a separate motion to appropriate the money for their records. Templeton seconded but was concerned that these last three (3) motions accounted for \$425,000 and there were other things that needed done with the money, such as water lines within the Township. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

A motion on increasing the rate of the Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals members for 2021 due to the change from 1099 to W-2 status **was tabled** until 2022.

The Ricoh copier did not meet the reserve bid of \$750. Its highest bid was \$250. The Board would like to contact Ricoh to see if they would be interested in doing a buy back of the machine.

November 8, 2021, at Champion Township Administration Building at 6:30pm was set as a workshop pertaining to vacant Fire Chief position.

The department heads gave their respective reports. *The meeting was paused because the chair that Trustee Templeton was sitting in broke, and he fell on the floor. Bland, Maffitt and Gebhardt helped him up and checked him.*

R2021-112 Trustee Templeton made a motion to contract with Heritage Fencing and Landscaping to install a fence at the front entrance to the Cemetery at a cost not to exceed \$8,500, partially utilizing the State of Ohio, Office of Professional Development and Real Estate Licensing Cemetery Grant in the amount of \$3,237.50 to fund the project. The Township share should not exceed \$5,400. Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

R2021-113 Trustee Bugos made a motion to supplementally appropriate \$68,272.66 to purchase Adelco 55RX50 excavator and additional items for its operation from Southeastern Equipment, per quote of same, minus a trade in of old machinery in the amount of \$26,500.00, due to issues and concerns of safety of the machine with employees. Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Trustee Templeton commended Working Foreman Davis on leadership skills in setting Ronyak Paving straight on having the 2021 OPWC project on Woodside and Brookside done properly, whereas Warren Township's Road supervisor did not seem to care about what happened on their sides of the roads.

Z2021-114 Trustee Templeton made a motion to hire A-1 hauling at a cost of \$100 per vehicle, to remove a junk vehicle, order titles, store vehicles to alleviate the township liability. Bugos seconded. Emerine made it clear that the Zoning Inspector must bring each vehicle to the Board for clearance before having A-1 remove anything from any premises. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

The department heads were dismissed at 10:03pm due to many of them having to be back early and the public comment on the ARPA resolution having taken so long.

Correspondence:

Trustee Bugos made a motion at the request of Fiscal Officer Hatt to approve the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources, dated October 28, 2021, in the amount of \$4,845,888.02. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton was not in the room and did not vote.

Trustee Bugos made a motion, then withdrew, to submit an OPERS resolution that would prevent pickup of OPERS contributions by the township for any new hires after May 1, 2021, per the clause in the union contract. This was in the contract before, but no one ever filed the motion. This year's contract was updated to change the year from 2013 to 2021. Due to concerns over past practice, the motion was withdrawn. Working Foreman Davis said that he would not request that the township enforce that when hiring someone since he was entitled to it.

Fiscal Officer Hatt informed the Board that there had been multiple grants submitted on behalf of the departments, and Trustee Bugos thanked her for doing a respectable job on ensuring grants were completed for moving Champion forward.

F2021-115 Trustee Emerine made a motion to begin paying the IAFF employees their 2% wages and submit the IAFF document to legal counsel for review now that the union has sent it to us. Bugos seconded. Templeton wants to ensure that Legal Counsel reviews before enacting any of the provisions as legal counsel was the lead negotiator and the IAFF revised the contract. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton no.

Trustee Templeton requested that the policy change from bonding of elected officials to the new "Employee Dishonesty and Faithful Performance of Duty" insurance coverage issue be kept on the table until after the election so that incoming elected officials could make that decision.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

D. Christ, 400 Lauder, had misleading comments about the trustees' renewal of the Southington agreement. Ms. Christ passed out a handout to the public at the beginning of the meeting which had incorrect figures on it and stated that the .95 mill levy on the ballot was equivalent to what the township had lost in Southington revenue over the past three years. This data was based on the "contractual write off" amounts, which by law the Township cannot collect. The trustees and fiscal officer heatedly debated the subject with her until 11:30pm, when the Chairman called the subject closed.

Richard Berry, 5171 Calla Ave, also weighed in on the subject of the Southington contract. Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in special session on November 8, 2021, at the administration building at 6:30pm with a full board present.

Interim Fire Chief Donald Maffitt was in attendance. He brought stats and figures about the career as Paramedic and Firefighter. He also brought an advertisement that he wrote up and requested to post for internal candidates until December 3, 2021. The Trustees agreed.

Trustee Templeton had a discussion with Trustee Bugos about running an external advertisement with the Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber. Trustee Emerine expressed his concern that bringing in someone from the outside would have negative impacts on the fire department morale. Trustee Bugos had previously disagreed with that but after having no chief for a month, he felt that an internal candidate was a better fit. Interim Chief Maffitt left to post the notice at the Fire station.

Fiscal Officer Hatt left for a family emergency.

Trustee Emerine made a motion to make Trustee Bugos Fiscal Officer Pro Tempore. Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

G2021-116 Trustee Emerine made a motion to send the personnel policy manual previously made by Emerine, Fee and Bugos organized with assistance from OTARMA and Ohio Township Association to Attorney Cherry Poteet at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.00. Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

The Trustees agreed to have Trustee Bugos promote the formation of a Champion Outdoor Recreation Committee.

G2021-117 Trustee Emerine made a motion to complete the wetlands delineation on the entire 60.4-acre parcel by JM Environmental Consultants at a cost not to exceed \$5,350.00. Templeton seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Templeton yes.

Trustee Bugos made a motion which died for a lack of a second, to grant a 2% raise to Vanessa Teuscher and Rhonda Fonce consistent with other township employees. Motion failed because Trustee Emerine request that this item be placed on the December agenda and handled in executive session for all non-bargaining unit employees.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in special session on November 30, 2021, at the administration building at 6:30pm absent Trustee Templeton due to family illness. Trustee Bugos and Trustee Emerine both expressed concern for Trustee Templeton's family during the illness.

To date, the Township has received two internal applicants for the fire chief vacancy.

A brief discussion was held on heating issues in the administration building, due to the gas well not working properly, rather than the furnace.

The trustees discussed Lexipol in the police department but did not make a motion on it due to the absence of Trustee Templeton and it being a workshop, with a \$19,072.05 price tag. The trustees also discussed applying for the COPS grant from the DOJ when it opens next Spring in order to add more officers to our staffing. Having only one officer on duty most of the time with the Sheriff on back up can leave our officers vulnerable and that is scary for the trustees. The budget can sustain the cost of an officer with the COPS grant and the Board will work towards getting a levy replacement or new levy added before the end of the grant in order to keep the department with additional officers. Trustee Emerine sought (and received) the board's permission to write up a five (5) year plan which will be presented to the Police union to show them how the trustees are working towards increasing staffing.

ARP2021-118 Trustee Bugos made a motion to approve an expenditure of \$6,500.00 for the site survey on the 60-acre parcel owned by the township with Advanced Land Measurement Inc., a part of the \$350,000 budgeted for the ARPA Resolution. Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

Trustee Bugos has received commitments from several community members willing to serve on the Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee. Additional potential members were discussed.

G2021-119 Trustee Emerine made AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE ONE OHIO SUBDIVISION SETTLEMENT PURSUANT TO THE ONE OHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND

CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THE JULY 21, 2021 NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, UPDATED TO INCLUDE THE JOHNSON & JOHNSON JANSSEN AGREEMENT NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 8, 2021

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING the Baker, Dublikkar, et al to execute the Participation Agreement for the OneOhio Subdivision Settlement with JOHNSON & JOHNSON JANSSEN (“Settling Distributors”) pursuant to the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding regarding the pursuit and use of potential opioid litigation settlement funds and consistent with the material terms proposed National Opioid Distributor Settlement Agreement available at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>.

WHEREAS, the Champion Township Board of Trustees, Ohio (herein “Municipality”) is a township formed and organized pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Ohio and its communities have been harmed by misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance committed by certain entities within the Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through its Attorney General, and certain Local Governments, through their elected representatives and counsel, are separately engaged in litigation seeking to hold Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants accountable for the damage caused by their misfeasance, nonfeasance, and malfeasance; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through its Governor and Attorney General, and its Local Governments share a common desire to abate and alleviate the impacts of that misfeasance, nonfeasance, and malfeasance throughout the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the State and its Local Governments, subject to completing formal documents effectuating the Parties Agreements, have drafted and Champion Township Board of Trustees has adopted, and hereby reaffirms its adoption of, a OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) relating to the allocation and the use of the proceeds of any potential settlements described; and

WHEREAS, the MOU has been collaboratively drafted to maintain all individual claims while allowing the State and Local Governments to cooperate in exploring all possible means of resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Champion Township Board of Trustees understands that an additional purpose of the MOU is to create an effective means of distributing any potential settlement funds obtained under the MOU between the State of Ohio and Local Governments in a manner and means that would promote an effective and meaningful use of the funds in abating the opioid epidemic throughout Ohio, as well as to permit collaboration and explore potentially effectuation earlier resolution of the Opioid Litigation against Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants; and

WHEREAS, nothing in the MOU binds any party to a specific outcome, but rather, any resolution under the MOU requires acceptance by the State of Ohio and the Local Governments; and

WHEREAS a settlement proposal is being presented to the State of Ohio and Local Governments by distributors JOHNSON & JOHNSON JANSSEN (collectively the “Settling Distributors”) to resolve governmental entity claims in the State of Ohio using the structure of the OneOhio MOU and consistent with the material terms of the July 21, 2021 proposed National Opioid Distributor Settlement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Champion Township Board of Trustees wishes to REGISTER FOR CONSIDERATION OF the material terms of the proposed National Opioid Distributor Settlement Agreement with the Settling Distributors (the “Proposed Settlement”):

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE Champion Township Board of Trustees OF Trumbull County, OHIO.

Section 1. That the representing firm hereby is authorized to REGISTER AND/OR accept the Proposed Settlement on behalf of Champion Township Board of Trustees, pursuant to the terms of the OneOhio MOU.

Section 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Board relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 3. This Resolution is hereby declared to be a measure, necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, welfare and safety of Champion Township, to ensure prompt pursuit of funds to assist in abating the opioid epidemic throughout Ohio.

Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes.

Trustees discussed the purchase of a new excavator for the road department and how to handle the Old Speedway/Emro Marketing property at the corner of Mahoning and Champion East.

The Faithful Performance of Duty Insurance issue was tabled because Trustee Templeton had previously wanted to wait until after the election and had sent a text asking that it not be discussed without him.

The Omicron variant and the pandemic were discussed along with health and safety concerns within the departments.

Trustee Emerine would like to ask WF Davis to look into the purchase of a leaf vacuum.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman.

Chairman

Fiscal Officer