MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE IRA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES JANUARY 4, 2024

The Ira Township Board of Trustees met in the board room of the Ira Township Hall on January 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Board members present: James Endres Jr., Thomas Eder, Thomas Lauer, Stella Ruhlman and Jean Corbat. Board members absent: None

MINUTES:

S. Ruhlman moved to approve the minutes of the 12/4/23 special, 12/4/23 regular and 12/14/23 special meetings, supported by T. Eder. All voting yes. Opposing: None MOTION CARRIED

GUEST SPEAKER:

Suzanne Cybulla, Superintendent of the East China School District, addressed the Board regarding an Operating Millage Renewal which will be on the ballot for the February 27, 2024 election. The renewal is to continue to levy 18 mills on non-homestead properties. Superintendent Cybulla provided an overview of current projects in the district and the millage renewal. The Superintendent also provided specific information on Palms School, which is located in the Township.

CORRESPONDENCE :

EGLE Permit RE: 9879 Dixie Highway

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Rezoning Request - Vacant Dixie Highway PC#23-442 (Parcels 74-23-520-0011-000 and 74-23-520-0032-000)

T. Lauer moved to deny the request of Paul Thomas / Team Thomas, to rezone Parcels 74-23-520-0011-000 and 74-23-520-0032-000 (vacant Dixie Highway) from RS (Residential Suburban to B-2 (General Business), as the rezoning is incompatible with development in the area and incompatible with the Master Plan, supported by T. Eder. All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Clay Police - December Additional Charges T. Eder moved to approve the additional monthly charge of \$935.00 from the Clay Township Police Department, for additional services rendered during the month of December 2023, supported by S. Ruhlman. All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Application RE: Temporary Uses - Special Events for Immaculate Conception Festival

S. Ruhlman moved to approve the Temporary Uses - Special Events Permit for Immaculate Conception Annual Festival 2024 to be held July 12th and 13th, 2024, and to refund the \$50 application fee, supported by T. Eder. All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Firefighter Probationary Status

J. Endres Jr. moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and approve moving Firefighter Logan Dupage from probationary to active status, supported by S. Ruhlman. All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED** Firefighter Resignation

T. Lauer moved to accept the resignation letter from Michael Matyniak, who was a dedicated firefighter in the Township for twelve years, supported by S. Ruhlman. All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Fire Department Landscape

S. Ruhlman moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and approve the quote from Precision Landscaping, in the amount of \$4,417.00, to professionally landscape the front of the Fire Hall to match landscape enhancements at the Township Hall, supported by T. Eder. All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Fire Department 2024 Officers

T. Lauer moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and appoint the following as Fire Department officers for 2024: Ken Littlejohn as Assistant Chief, (Captain position vacant), Chad Kelly as Lieutenant, Mike Sommers as Sergeant, Dan Stringer as Sergeant 2, Shelby Paul as Secretary and Sean Frontiera as Liaison, supported by S. Ruhlman. All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

DECEMBER 2023 REPORTS:

Police Run Report Building Department Permits Code Enforcement DPS Supervisor Parks & Rec Director Reports - Working on grants;

Fire Chief and November and December Run Reports

- 811 total calls for 2023 down 23 calls from 2022;
- Awarded \$10,000 DNR grant with a 50% match which will be used for boots for the firefighters;
- Update of installation of outdoor warning signals awaiting DTE to approve two of the sites;

Supervisor:

- Update on meeting for the Southwater Municipal Utility Authority (SMUA); next meeting January 15, 2024;
- Currently in union negotiations with three SMUA employees;
- Township union contracts extended to February 29, 2024, to allow for negotiations; awaiting dates from union representative;

Clerk:

- Working on February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary election;
- Absent Voter applications and Permanent Ballot Selection forms have been mailed to applicable Township voters;

Treasurer:

- Bank Balances;
- Water / Sewer Adjustments;
- Interest rates holding on T-Bills;

Trustee Eder:

- Very Happy New Year to everyone;
- Township received a great audit report last month;
 Township is in very good shape;

DISBURSEMENTS:

S. Ruhlman moved to pay the following disbursements totaling \$190,424.08 and supported by T. Lauer. All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Reg	
Fund 101 General Government	\$83,474.54
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$78,200.64
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$28,154.76
ACH	
Fund 101 General Government	\$243.88
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$8.75
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$341.51
Total for All Funds	\$190,424,08

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Paul Sattler (5971 Hessen) commented on how pleasant Ira Township community is and thanked Fire Chief Keller for the great job by the Fire Department staff at a fire call at his shop. Mr. Sattler made a donation to the Fire Department and also inquired on whether the Fire Department offers CPR training.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss T. Lauer moved, with the support of J. Endres Jr., to close the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Corbat, Clerk