

Speaker 1: the link on the website doesn't work.

Trustee McGuire: I had the same issue. I had to use the link on our calendar to get in. Let's go ahead and get started now that we have a quorum present. This is the Jefferson Township Board of Trustees' regular meeting via Zoom. It's Tuesday, March the 2nd 2021. The time is 7:16 PM. We're getting a late start due to technical issues on getting logged in. At this point, I'd like to welcome everybody to our meeting.

We have present, myself, James McGuire, we have the host, which is Steve Woolf tonight, Doug Wright, Andie Flag, Greg Wilcox, Trustee McLaughlin, Trustee Mann, and Tracey Edwards, fiscal officer. This time let's have a pledge of allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

Thank you. Let's go ahead and have a moment of silence to honor our military, firefighters, road workers, and sheriff deputies that they serve our community here in abroad. Roll call, Ms. Edwards.

Ms. Edwards: Trustee McGuire.

Trustee McGuire: Present.

Ms. Edwards: Trustee Mann. Trustee McLaughlin.

Trustee McLaughlin: Present.

Trustee McGuire: Next on the agenda at this point in time, we do not have any prior meeting minutes to approve. Fiscal officer's report. Ms. Edwards, you have the floor.

Ms. Edwards: I didn't send out any report for this month. There's just so much going on. I'm trying to get ready for the auditors that are coming in Thursday. There are checks in the mailbox waiting to be signed. Mr. McLaughlin's already signed, I need another signature, some of them are late already. I need to get [unintelligible 00:02:39] one of you guys in there as soon as possible so I can get those out in the mail. We're still having issues with getting bills on time being--

Trustee McGuire: Once again, fiscal's officer's report. Ms. Edwards, do you have a report this evening?

Ms. Edwards: Okay. I have no report this evening other than I'd like to discuss the bills in the mailbox. They had been signed by Trustee McLaughlin, they need another trustee signature so I get them out in the mail. Some of them are already late because they came to me late. There's still some issues with me getting W9 forms for new vendors. If you don't know if they're new vendors and you don't have any idea, you need to ask me or get a W9 because I cannot pay the bill until I have a W9 form or a tax ID number.

Sometimes the vendors put their tax ID number on their invoices. When you get a new vendor check for that, that should be the first thing you send with the bill. There's still a few bills out, that's been out since January. The budget is a big issue

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right now because there's been some problems with line items being given to me and there's no funds available, so we definitely need to work the issue with the budget, and if we got it scheduled for the next meeting, that's fine. It's due April 1st to the county every year that's the same date, so we must get on that as soon as possible.

Right now, there's nothing else I can think of because my mind is set on the budget. If you need a copy of the financials, I can send out. I can send you guys a copy of it, but it's not going to be any use to you until we get a permanent budget, that's all I have.

Trustee McGuire: Trustees would one of you like to make a motion to pay the bills, invoices, appropriations, and warrants.

Speaker 4: I'll make a motion that we pay all the bills, the warrants and accept the fiscal officer's report.

Trustee McGuire: Okay, I'll second that motion. Roll call, please.

Ms. Edwards: Trustee McLaughlin.

Trustee McLaughlin: Yes.

Ms. Edwards: Trustee McGuire.

Trustee McGuire: Yes.

Ms. Edwards: Trustee Mann.

Trustee Mann: Yes.

Trustee McGuire: Old business. Trustees, a couple of meetings back, we discussed revisions to the handbook as you're aware. There was a scratch in a line item for [inaudible 00:06:18] who was working on our handbook. Our attorneys [unintelligible 00:06:26] have given us a proposal to update the handbook. It's going to give us a new handbook within about 60 days, and the only variable on that's going to be how far we want the new handbook to get into some of the SOG stuff for fire.

If we stick with the version of the handbook, like just basically our basic handbook, for new hires and everybody, that should bring in the cost at the low end. To Mr. McLaughlin's point of having too much legal expenses, having an updated handbook is going to protect us from litigation and also eliminate the need to check with counsel on legal matters.

We are not required by law to put this out for competitive bids. I did however because this has been an issue for Mr. McLaughlin. I reached out to Paycor and they did not get back with me. I also reached out to Nathaniel Peterson and he respectfully declined taking on that task, so in the resolutions tonight, there is a resolution to vote out regarding getting an updated handbook written [unintelligible 00:08:05]

[silence]

Ms. Edwards: Did they give you a call?

Trustee McGuire: Who?

Ms. Edwards: [unintelligible 00:08:30] You said there was a resolution, have they given you a call?

Trustee McGuire: Behind the resolution, there's a copy of their proposal to do this.

Ms. Edwards: I don't have that in my [unintelligible 00:08:44].

Trustee McGuire: It was pushed out with Adrian's email with the agenda, it's in there.

Ms. Edwards: It says \$3000 to \$5,000. They just got an estimate, right?

Trustee McGuire: Correct.

Ms. Edwards: Okay, it doesn't really give details. That's why I was asking why.

[silence]

Trustee McGuire: Trustees, any question or comments on that issue?

Trustee McLaughlin: Yes, so what go do we like about the existing employee handbook?

Trustee McGuire: It's over 10 years old, and we're too reliant on legal counsel to navigate the various employee issues that we're dealing with.

Trustee McLaughlin: Employee issues we have are due to leadership, not the employee handbook.

Trustee McGuire: That may be your opinion, Mr. McLaughlin, however, almost every HR case we've touched, we've had to spend significant dollars on attorneys.

Trustee McGuire: You can fight it all you want. I know you don't like [unintelligible 00:10:07]. At your request, we did reach out to Mr. Peterson who is the free approach. Again, you have a copy of his email where he respectfully declined the task probably because of the fact that he has to represent us. Let's move on. Any other old business? Trustees, new business. I got something I'd like to bring up regarding the refinancing of our fire equipment. The vendor who did the financing on our attack pumper and tanker has submitted a proposal to us to refinance the note on 348,000 debt that we signed up for when we redid the chassis on the medics. Did all of you get copies of that? I have seen that.

Trustee McLaughlin: I didn't look at detail. I did see it but I have not looked at it in detail.

Trustee McGuire: Well, we don't have. That's something that I wanted to call to your attention. The preliminary numbers look very attractive and there seems to be as significant cost savings probably due to the change in rates with the economic conditions. I believe that's something that we should take a look at and have a more serious discussion in a future meeting because it appears it can take quite a bit off our plate. Mr. Woolf off-hand, do you remember what the annual savings would be from that? Do you recall?

Mr. Woolf: You shouldn't have chosen to go to the seven-year lease. No prepayment penalty saved about \$23,000 a year in cash flow. I don't have the other specifics with us. Any time we can save that kind of money, it's something to at least look at as trustees.

Ms. Edwards: Why didn't I get a copy of it?

Mr. Woolf: I forwarded to the director of the fire committee. Obviously, he must have forwarded that too.

Ms. Edwards: Excuse me.

Mr. Woolf: I sent it to the fire committee and I also shared it with Mr. McGuire who said he was going to bring it up this evening. It's happened just quickly.

Ms. Edwards: Wait a minute. I don't understand your comment. Why didn't I get a copy?

Mr. Woolf: Because I work for the trustees and I share with the trustees.

Ms. Edwards: Oh, so you don't work for Jefferson Township?

Mr. Woolf: I do. Trustees asked me to go [unintelligible 00:13:50] [crosstalk]

Ms. Edwards: Are you an employee of Jefferson Township?

Mr. Woolf: Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Edwards: Then I asked for a copy of it, why didn't I get a copy? Can you trustees answer that? I am the fiscal officer, I should be involved in this. I'm not signing any paperwork if I don't get a heads-up copy on this. You guys keep me out of these things. This is fiscal matter.

Trustee McGuire: Well, first of all, Ms. Edwards--

Ms. Edwards: No, first of all. Answer my question. Why did I not get a copy? I don't need excuse. Why did I not get a copy?

Trustee McGuire: Order.

Ms. Edwards: No order. Give me a copy of the stuff. No excuses. You're always making up some lame excuses.

Trustee McGuire: There's no lame excuse [crosstalk]

Ms. Edwards: That's a lame excuse, Jim. I should have a copy.

Trustee McGuire: Well, number one, Ms. Edwards, [crosstalk]

Ms. Edwards: What is a fire committee?

Trustee McGuire: [crosstalk] tone.

Ms. Edwards: I don't care what you say. Why did I not get a copy?

Trustee McGuire: Host, mute Ms. Edwards.

Ms. Edwards: You can mute me all you want. I can unmute myself. It's a waste of your time.

Trustee McGuire: Trustees, first of all, are either of you interested in looking at refinancing fire equipment to save money. That's a pretty simple question. If you're not, then it doesn't matter whether or not Ms. Edwards has [crosstalk]

Ms. Edwards: It came into the township. I should have a copy. I am the clerk

Trustee McGuire: Well, you're not the decision-maker [crosstalk]

Ms. Edwards: I don't care. I still have a copy, I am the clerk. I should have a copy that came into the township.

Trustee McGuire: Well, right now I'm just [crosstalk]

Ms. Edwards: Okay, fine. Let's just go to the order. You can stop. I'm done. I don't need an excuse from you. I'm done.

Trustee McLaughlin: Why do we want our minutes posted?

Trustee McGuire: What's your question, Mr. McLaughlin?

Trustee McLaughlin: As to the way we run this township, why don't we want our minutes from 2020 posted?

Trustee McGuire: We do want them posted. I want a set of minutes that's legit, it's correct, and an accurate reflection of what's happened in the meeting. As long as you--

Trustee McLaughlin: You might say that, but that's not the truth of the matter.

Trustee McGuire: Well, we're governed by law to have a record of the meeting. Of course, you like to cut corners and have a watered-down version of everything and do everything half-ass. As long as my butt's on the line in a lawsuit with you, I want a full set of minutes that was not done by one of your friends at Zoom.

Trustee McLaughlin: I have no friends at Zoom and nobody else does it word for word in the State of Ohio?

Trustee McGuire: Well, everybody doesn't have our problems, Mr. McLaughlin.

Trustee McLaughlin: Clay Township does have them. That's right.

Trustee McGuire: This is Jefferson Township. I don't really care what Clay Township's doing.

Ms. Edwards: Oh, you don't.

Trustee McGuire: Back to the issue at hand, trustees, are we interested in saving money on refinancing or should we just blow this off?

Ms. Edwards: Just because I want a copy, you don't want to give it to me, so you're going to ask the trustees, are they interested? Which is a damn question because that's the citizen's money that you're making the decision on and you don't want to save money. That's a very dumb question.

Trustee McGuire: There is no need for your tone on that, Tracey.

Ms. Edwards: There's no need for you to keep on making excuses of why I can't have a copy of that. It came into the township, it should be in the township files. There's no other discussion that needs to be made. Whether you make a decision to keep it or not, it still should be in the files.

Trustee McGuire: There's no need for you to be that upset.

Ms. Edwards: Oh, I am upset because you keep doing this and making these de-- You're using my money as well as the citizens' money and wasting it. You're a bad decision-maker, Jim. You're not a leader.

Trustee McGuire: I'm glad you're entertained by that.

Ms. Edwards: I'm glad you're glad because you need to be glad.

Trustee McGuire: Let's move on. Any other new business, trustees.

Trustee Mann: Let's say that I think if we are saving \$23,000 a year that we should take a look at this.

Trustee McLaughlin: I agree with you, yes.

Trustee Mann: Also we need to get Ms. Edwards a copy here of this proposal so she can look at it also.

Trustee McGuire: Well, basically what I wanted to do opening the discussion on this is see if the two of you are warm to the idea, and then we get it scheduled on the agenda with some folders, go through the numbers, do it right. Everybody would be

involved, but there was no reason to fly off the handle just because you weren't copied on [crosstalk]

Ms. Edwards: I should be copied when you guys are copied. There's nothing to have to do with flying out the handle. I am the fiscal officer.

Trustee McGuire: [crosstalk], Tracey.

Ms. Edwards: I don't care how you feel.

Trustee McGuire: Absolutely not.

Ms. Edwards: I don't care how you feel. You are not the board. There's two other trustees.

Trustee McGuire: At this point in time, this board can't even agree on what time [crosstalk].

Ms. Edwards: No, you can't agree. You're the only one.

Trustee McGuire: Any other new business, trustees?

Trustee McLaughlin: Trustee Mann, I agree with your comment. Yes, we need to proceed with this and see if we can save the township money. I agree with you that Ms. Edwards needs to be included in the email train and copied from the very beginning. I agree with you, let's proceed on with this.

Trustee McGuire: Okay. While we're talking about the email train, I'm fully aware that there is email traffic that Mr. McLaughlin and Ms. Edwards you're sending out and not including me. It's intentional. Care to explain to me why [crosstalk]

Ms. Edwards: Yes. I will explain to you. You complain when we send an email and then you say, "I don't want to be involved in this." We don't send it to you because you said, "I don't want to be involved in it." I don't send it to you. Don't even try to make excuses on why you don't send it to you. I'm not sending you something where you just going to come back and make a comment. End of discussion.

[silence]

Trustee McGuire: Any other new business trustees?

[silence]

Okay. Moving on to resolutions.

[silence]

What resolution are we on?

[pause 00:21:25]

Ms. Edwards, do you have our next resolution number?

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Ms. Edwards: Thank you for calling my name. When you address me, please call my name. Is resolution 21-008.

[silence]

Trustee McGuire: Trustees, resolution number 21-008. Jefferson Township board of trustees accept the resignation of two part-time firefighter/EMTs from Jefferson Township Fire Department. This involves employees, Samantha Dewey and Nicholas Whitlock.

[background noises]

[silence]

Trustee Mann: Did you make a motion, Jim, or you just read?

Trustee McGuire: No, I was just reading it into the record to see if there's any interest in bringing this to the table.

Trustee Mann: I make a motion that **[unintelligible 00:22:53]** we adopt this resolution 21-008.

Trustee McGuire: Thank you. Do we have a second?

Trustee McLaughlin: I will second that.

Speaker 6: Mr. President, if I can make a comment on that, please.

Trustee McGuire: Go ahead.

Speaker 6: Both of these employees have been with us for some time. They have employment opportunities elsewhere and they're leaving for that purpose. We thank them for their past service to this **[inaudible 00:23:23]**

Trustee McGuire: Thank you. Anything else? Any questions on this resolution 21-008?

[silence]

Roll call please.

[pause 00:23:43]

Ms. Edwards, roll call, please.

Ms. Edwards: Trustee McGuire.

McGuire: Yes.

Ms. Edwards: That's a yes. Trustee Mann.

Trustee Mann: Yes.

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Ms. Edwards: That's a yes. Trustee McLaughlin.

McLaughlin: Yes.

McGuire: That's a yes.

McLaughlin: Thank you.

McGuire: Okay. Motion passes 3-0.

[silence]

Next on the agenda, we've got Resolution number 21-009. Resolution authorizing the purchase of a new employee handbook from [unintelligible 00:24:42] and Turner. LPA not to exceed \$6,000. I move to adopt resolution number 21-009.

[silence]

Trustee Mann: I'll second the motion.

McGuire: Okay. Mr. Mann second the motion. Questions?

[silence]

Ms. Edwards: May I ask a question, please?

McGuire: Go ahead.

Ms. Edwards: This employee handbook is for who? All the employees?

McGuire: This is our basic employee handbook that's going to have attendance, it has holidays, it has a discipline policy, it has computer use policies.

Ms. Edwards: Okay. Why is 70% of it charged to the fire department? Why isn't it charged three ways, divided by three?

McGuire: Because the bulk of our staffing is through fire. That is where most of our human resources issues reside. We have what, 40, 50 employees right now? That's why I set up that distribution accordingly.

Ms. Edwards: Oh. I hope you can explain that to the auditors when they ask about that. That makes sense, logical, because they will ask on that question. They will ask that question. Reasonable. It has to be a reasonable. Until you ask me how many employees, you have to determine all that as well. Oh, come on. Don't do this. Cancel

McGuire: Any other discussion on resolution 21-009? Roll call, please. Ms. Edwards, roll call?

Ms. Edwards: Trustee Mann.

Trustee Mann: Yes.

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Ms. Edwards: That's a yes. Trustee McGuire.

McGuire: Yes.

Ms. Edwards: That's a yes. Trustee McLaughlin.

McLaughlin: Abstained.

Ms. Edwards: That's abstained.

McGuire: Okay. Motion passes. 2-0.

[pause 00:27:21]

Okay. Next on our agenda, we have departmental reports. Looking at the guest list on our meeting-- By the way, Kevin Niles has joined the meeting for the record. Captain Flag, you have the floor. Sheriff's report.

Captain Flag: Thank you, sir. Good evening, everyone.

?Speaker: Good evening.

Captain Flag: I got a few annual stats I'm going to cover here for 2020. Overall, our crime rate went down 24% over 2019. Part I violent crimes went down 29%. Our Part I property crimes were down 24%. Part II violent crimes were up 6%, and that was driven mostly by an increase in simple assaults and intimidation charges. Our Part II, property crimes are down 22%. Crimes against society were down 46%, and all other categories were down 2%. All in all, we were down fairly well over 2019 numbers with the exception of that 6% increase in Part II, violent crimes.

As with the monthly reports, everything trended the same. Our most active areas were along US 35, the West Third Street Corridor, and along State Route Four Corridor between Dayton-Liberty, and **[unintelligible 00:29:03]** We're going to send three deputies from the District Seven Jefferson downtown shift substation to the funeral service tomorrow over the ODNR officer, Jason Lago, who passed away over the weekend. He was responding to a call a referenced juvenile **[unintelligible 00:29:20]** through the ice in Rocky Fork State Park.

He has done some support work for us here in the township over the years, most recently last summer. We're going to send three officers down to attend that service. I'm going to prepare a resolution to have submitted by next meeting for the purchase of that third patrol car. We've got some numbers coming back in. We think we can do it for an amount not to exceed 50,000. We're currently budgeted at about 45,000. We'll probably come in under that 50 but just depends on **[unintelligible 00:29:56]** car. With the COVID, the cars are proving to be a little bit of a challenge to latch on to, regardless of the maker model but I'll get that to you all to approve, vote on, and we'll go from there. As you all are aware, community concerns over the last couple of weeks have focused primarily on the appearance of the township and the neighborhoods and such. We have been working with the Family Dollar on their exterior issue, their trash can issues, we were dealing with the local and regional

managers on that. That store has changed hands for both positions, and we're no longer getting the cooperation that we once were.

We reached out to Code Enforcement, they initiated a violation for the conditions of that property and sent it out to them for us. Our environmental crimes has compiled a list of locations of issues that we were dealing with dumping complaints throughout the township. We extracted from that list, approximately 30 locations that were identified that either have accompanying zoning and code enforcement issues or strictly zoning and code enforcement issues.

I attempted to email that to everyone but the file is too large, so I will get that into the hands of the township tomorrow to take a look at. We're just asking for some assistance to review those addresses' pictures. If those departments feel that there are violations, to work with us in getting them remediated. We received the complaint reference to semi-parking on Dayton-Liberty. A couple of crews went out yesterday that that truck was gone at that time. It is back there this evening. Looks like it comes back to a company, so we knocked on some doors in the area, talked to some of the residents, and obtained some information.

It sounds like that individually drives that, he's dropped off by vehicle picked up by a vehicle, so we'll be looking for him tomorrow morning upon his return based on the information we've been provided, and we'll follow through with that. We've continued to address concerns in the Birdland Big Ben Platt areas and we are still encouraging residents to call MCSO if they see issues that they feel need to be addressed.

I've tried to explain in a couple of forums over the last couple of weeks, that those calls are extremely useful to us if we receive them while the issue is happening. When we get into days after the fact, weeks, months, there are statutes of limitations on crimes, there's rules that we have to follow in investigating some of this stuff. I'm trying to coordinate a situation where we can get there and assess situations and make the best possible decision moving from that point forward and some of this stuff, we simply need to have a complainant that has legal authority to work with us.

I attended a meeting last week to discuss how to staff the litter collection crews for the upcoming year. I think we're closing in on a solution for that. We got some things now we've kicked down the line that are being run through probation, being run through the local courts to see if we can get everybody supporting that, and then if that's the case, I hope to get the litter collection program moving in here in the coming weeks and start addressing places in the township and throughout the county.

Cars parked on the streets with expired license plates, I'm getting a lot of complaints about that, and just so everybody's aware, we're going to handle those on a case-by-case basis. If we have something that is well expired, meets the criteria for an abandoned vehicle, we are going to work to get that taken care of if it is on a public roadway. Last year, the governor shut down the requirement for license plates to be renewed that does not expire.

The moratorium does not expire until July and we're also on a moratorium not to enforce those laws. Something that's been expired 2019-2020 there's not going to be

a lot we can do with that until July, and there's not a requirement for that citizen to necessarily renew that tag if they fall within that time frame. We will do what we can, especially with the ones outside that window, but we're not going to be able to address everything that's recently expired at this point in time. We're aware that there are a lot of recently expired cars parked on the roadways.

Just a reminder to everyone. If there's a tip that you would like to provide about crime in your neighborhood, whether it be drugs or what have you, we do receive the tips from Crimestoppers, you can remain anonymous there. That's best served for the type of situation that does not require an immediate response. That's the FYI information that's being passed on. "I think this is happening at this location. We'd appreciate it if you check it out." That number's 225 Help. Anybody that sees something wants to remain anonymous, and it's not something that you feel that requires an immediate police response, that's a good number to call or leave that tip, and you're always welcome to call our dispatch center and request a deputy come out or pass that same information on. That's all I have.

Ms. Edwards: I have a question, Captain Flag. [chuckles] MCSO, you said call at the time of the incident. What is that number? I've gotten a lot of calls. I'm on Big Ben in the Birdland area.

Captain Flag: 225 Help.

Ms. Edwards: Okay, it's 225 Help. This is for immediate-- Does this send you guys out or somebody else?

Captain Flag: That takes you to the dispatch center. Now, obviously, if you're in an emergent situation, you should call 911.

Ms. Edwards: Right. I'm saying reporting incidents like when I was told because, I guess I don't hear him, but this pit bull down the street, there's-- **[unintelligible 00:36:46]** I know I hear the bikes being ridden up and down with cars speeding up and down the street. The street's not that long for them to be doing that and there's kids on the street.

Captain Flag: 225 Help will get you to the non-emergency number.

Ms. Edwards: That's the non-emergency, okay. Then otherwise is 911?

Captain Flag: Yes. If you have an emergency situation, you should dial 911. If you have kids playing in a field that you feel need checked out, or kids standing alongside the street or refusing to move for cars, just dial that non-emergency number. When they say not moving for cars, I'm picturing some children loitering in the street intentionally not getting out of the way of a motorist. Send that to 225 Help and just ask for a car to respond.

Ms. Edwards: I didn't know that there's more of sheriffs coming down in this neighborhood, and I was surprised. I was wondering what was going on? They hadn't been coming as much recently.

Captain Flag: Yes, we've just been trying to address some of those speeding concerns, trying to keep an eye out for the pit bulls and things like that, and then we've had some normal routine calls for service over there. I ran the numbers for a resident over there last week, and we had been out there over 106 times. Mostly initiated by the sheriff's deputies just doing proactive patrols since December, so they are in the plaid trying to be visible and curtail some of that activity.

Ms. Edwards: Okay, thank you.

Captain Flag: You're welcome.

Trustee McGuire: Flag if the vehicle is clearly inoperable, is that something we can deal with even though it might also have expired tags like that **[unintelligible 00:38:33]** called any other day?

Captain Flag: Yes, we made contact with him and I went by that today, and I noticed that it's been dragged up in the driveway. My understanding was that it was involved in a recent crash. Definitely, I think we need to do something with it if it's left there long term. If it's just something where he's juggling hands to get it into the hands of the insurance company or a bike shop, I would probably extend him a little courtesy there, but if it becomes a long term thing, tires are flat, that sort of thing, yes, we definitely need to deal with those as an abandoned.

Ms. Edwards: Captain Flag, I do have one more thing, and this has been going on for years ever since. Because we live far away in Dayton, some of us in Dayton some of us are in Jefferson Township, there's been trucks, they park on the Dayton side of the sides. Actually, at the end of Big Ben where it goes down the **[unintelligible 00:39:41]** there's two semis that are parked there. My concern is not even at the crux of them, but they have to ride up on our streets and destroy the streets with that coming in here. What can be done about that?

Captain Flag: My understanding is the township doesn't really have a authority to stop truck traffic through this area. The city may have a little bit more authority and I'll reach out to their traffic guys tomorrow, and see if they can shed any light on that or if they have any parking prohibitions for semis in their neighborhood for the city roadways and see what they say. I'm not familiar with all of Hayden's ordinances, but I would venture to guess they have something somewhere, but I'll have to call and ask them.

Ms. Edwards: Okay. Thank you.

Trustee McGuire: Okay. Fire report?

Speaker 2: Thank you, Mr. President. Before I had a council meeting up in **[unintelligible 00:40:47]** absolutely passed the time for everyone. The Old White Chief Expedition has over 200,000 miles on it. I looked at the gauge, I believe yesterday. Looks like an oil pump that the chief was recommending **[inaudible 00:41:02]** It's been around **[inaudible 00:41:06]** for a little while, he said. The Quick Attack Pumper went up to **[unintelligible 00:41:11]** 30, we're working on photographs to **[inaudible 00:41:14]**. They're going to make a mock-up

[unintelligible 00:41:17] send it down for approval. Hopefully, we'll get that taken care of and **[inaudible 00:41:23]**.

Hosing and equipment needs just a **[unintelligible 00:41:26]** Just in the last few days, I was hoping getting closure. The department had a tour of clean water facility, and about a dozen firefighters come in, some on their day off, to take a tour of the facility. A lot of new people on the department have never been over there to see how the property is laid out. We had a good time and a good tour out of it, that was Sunday a week ago.

Chief said we've got PNR coming out to give a quote on radio headsets for the fire engine, so a little bit **[unintelligible 00:41:55]**, going down the road with the sirens going and air horns. These headsets will allow the crew members to talk to each other. Getting ready for the scene as to what the officer in charge wants and the officer will be able to hear him to equip the dispatcher.

We released three people this past week from orientation onto the **[inaudible 00:42:15]** to the EMS firefighters, ready to go. Have stopped three on the orientation because they hadn't given any quotes. Also, we have three to six new people coming on that we voted for **[inaudible 00:42:29]** the third week of February we approved them. They're ready to start orientation once I get the blessing from HR. Time change is coming up on March 14th, so we ask everybody to change your batteries in your smoke detectors. Do the trustees have any questions?

[silence]

All right. Thank you.

Trustee McGuire: Okay. In our packets, we have written reports from Code Enforcement and Zoning. Mr. Woolf, do you want to add anything on your reports for Road and Admin?

Mr. Woolf: Except the fact that there are hard copies as well in the mailboxes for the trustees to go along with what's been sent out via email, the only thing I have for you from the administrative report is the last State Auditors had sent out an engagement letter request to the township. That engagement letter must be approved whether as is or if we have a chance to rebuttal **[unintelligible 00:43:45]**, and then you have to sign that as trustees to engage the State Auditor. That email was sent to you from the auditor, direct, and then I sent a second email just to back that email up to you three trustees. You had a week to prepare to do that. Have we reviewed the letter yet to be able to engage the State Auditor?

[silence]

Tracey: Can I also ask that they make a decision on who's going to sign it as well.

Mr. Woolf: Correct Tracey. Exactly.

[silence]

Trustee McGuire: Okay. Anything else, Mr. Woolf?

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Mr. Woolf: That's it.

Trustee McGuire: Thank you.

Tracey: Can I say something? We need to make a decision on that, to get it signed so I can put it in the mailbox. Who's going to sign the letter or are you guys going to look at it and wait until the next meeting to do so, because they need that letter back as soon as possible?

[silence]

Trustee McGuire: I can take a look at it and sign it if needed.

Tracey: You want me to put it in your box then?

Trustee McGuire: If you want, yes, I can take a look at it.

Tracey: Okay.

[silence]

Trustee McGuire: Depending on what the letter states, I will determine whether or not I sign it yet. You may have to bring it back to the next meeting.

Tracey: You let me know?

Trustee McGuire: Sure.

Tracey: Okay.

[silence]

Trustee McGuire: Okay. Comments by citizens. At this time, any citizens who would like to address the board of trustees via Zoom, you have three minutes. You need to begin by identifying your name and address for the record, and then administrator and host at three minutes, please cut off the audio. Would guest, Kevin Niles, like to address the board?

Kevin Niles: Yes. This is Kevin Niles. I live at 8183 Mile Road. I just have a question and maybe it's a clarification/question. The fire station that's in Liberty, is that operational? If not, can we know when it might be? I know that there was a recent fire there and being the closest fire station to my house, I drive by it a couple times a day. It's a little unnerving to see it just sitting there and not knowing if it's operational. So, is it operational and if not, when can we expect it to be?

[silence]

Tracey: [unintelligible 00:47:06]

Mr. Woolf: Chief Wilcox, can you answer that question?

Chief Wilcox: Yes sir. This is Assistant Chief Wilcox with the Fire Department. We do not have a crew in that station at this time. The shower facility is poorly, it stinks. The bathroom has been gutted. We have plans to remodel and make it a livable station. Our crews were down there, attempting to sleep, having to come up here for the restroom and for showers. That bathroom facility is gutted down to the bare walls and floors. The trustees recently indicated their intention to remodel the bathroom. We're looking at getting updates.

I'm not sure where it stands right now. Mr. Woolf, possibly, you could fill in where it's at. Once we get that bathroom rebuilt, and get crews in there, that is the centrally located station in the township. I know it will improve our ISL rate operating out of that station, so we will be needing crews back down there. We're splitting crews depending on how many we have a day between this station, up here at West 3rd Street and the central located Station 59. Mr. Woolf?

Mr. Woolf: The project, Mr. Niles, to do the bathroom, started five years ago and [unintelligible 00:48:41] didn't do the job. The [unintelligible 00:48:43] did not do the job. The trustees took action, under the CARES Act and authorized the bathrooms to be done. Now, this created a disagreement amongst the elected officials about how it should be paid for, and so we were waiting on answer from the legal counsel of how it is to be paid for. At the present time, the contractor can't start not knowing if they're going to get paid or it can't get permits, it can't hire an architect because they don't know if they're going to be paid.

The project sits in limbo until the trustees get a legal advice back about how they will fund the project. Now, the trustees passed a resolution which is a valid resolution to any project that is to move forward according to a high rise quote. It's just a matter of how it's going to be paid for and our assistant county prosecutor is working on that today. That's all I have.

Kevin Niles: I appreciate the information, it's just nice to know. It's a little concerning that it sounds like it's just sitting there. Again, my concern is just I'm just seeing a house burn, it's a mile from my property and it's just a little concerning to see it just sit there. Hopefully, we can get that taken care of soon and get it moving. That's all I've got. Thank you for your time.

Mr. Woolf: Next we have guest Bruce Sinamonda. Would you like to address the board?

Bruce: I have nothing at this time.

Mr. Woolf: Okay. We had another person in the meeting. It looks like that concludes citizens' comments. Looks like the last person dropped out. All right, trustee reports. Mr. McLaughlin, you're up.

Trustee McLaughlin: Thank you. First thing I worry about is the legality of this meeting. The posting that was posted on the website didn't work. I'm not sure what happened there, but let's make a little better effort to make sure that we have a correct post so people get on. Not doing so would make the meeting illegal, number one. The second comment will be on-- [unintelligible 00:51:35] of time I've had

several conversations with the auditors and getting involved in our audit, and get that taken care of and then the legal issues we've had. I can't speak too much about either one, but I've [unintelligible 00:51:49] of time involved in those situations. That's all I got.

Mr. Woolf: Mr. Mann.

Trustee Mann: Okay. My comments today is the fire department has-- We had a few firemen that change a while back. We have quite a few that came on board that we are getting things together. Now, hopefully, when we get to that number that we have, a good number of people that we would have the Station 59 completed so that we can move personnel into that station. Also, we are working on equipment to go in there also. Medics, we are in fairly good shape. We have another medic coming in that we are going to be putting in our fleet.

We just had two engines repaired and we're looking at another engine here on our tanker to use until the new tanker that we are expecting out, it comes in. Eventually, we're going to be up to par as far as personnel. We're also trying to get some more medics in that we can put a medic on all these runs that we go in too. Looking at things, I think we had about [unintelligible 00:53:40] about five or six medic calls per shift. If the system chief can say yes or no or give me a thumbs up.

Speaker 7: Well you know how they've, Trustee Mann-- One day you have nine calls, the next day you won't have any. It does fluctuate a lot.

Trustee Mann: Okay. All right, Mr. Niles, you just hang in there. We'll have that station opened up before long. That's all I have.

Mr. Woolf: Thank you for that.

Trustee McGuire: For my report, I'm a little disappointed on how the work session went. Trustees, if you've got something to talk about, put it on the agenda. I have no problem talking about something if I know what I need to have information on to answer the questions. The situation, especially you Mr. McLaughlin, you like to bring stuff up out of the blue. Put it on the agenda and we can talk it out. The productivity that we're getting out of the work sessions doesn't justify continuing that. Here we are again in the same situation. We're to get up ride against the April 1st deadline on this budget which everybody knows if we don't have a budget, it shuts down the township.

We continue to have too much of a situation where we have this nasty tone amongst elected officials. Our meetings are pretty much a backstabbing contest to see who can cut the other out. Mr. McLaughlin, you're right. Just like I said at the beginning of the first meeting of the year, we're going to be consumed with nothing but litigation this year and get nothing done meaningful for our residents. It's really a disservice to our taxpayers that this is going on.

All of you can blame my leadership for it but there is no cooperation and everybody is pulling in different directions. Ms. Niles, part of the answer on Station 59, there is disagreement from fire administration and the trustees on opening that station, but I

can assure you the taxpayers gave us dollars to have that station open. I'm going to fight my best to make sure that happens but the project was interrupted because the work wasn't being done properly. There was not correct permits.

Now we've got the right type of people in there to handle this project and my understanding is it's in the hands of the architect to scope out what needs to be done and then things can start going again on the construction. That's the last that I heard on and that's been a while. That's all I have for this evening. Move to adjourn.

Trustee Mann: I'll second the motion.

Trustee McGuire: We're adjourned at 8:12 PM.

[pause 00:57:03]

Ms. Edwards: Hey.

Trustee McLaughlin: Did I hear correctly there is a disagreement with the fire administration and the trustees of our reopening that station?

Ms. Edwards: I thought I heard that too, and then it got pushed to the side.

Trustee McLaughlin: I mean this wasn't his comment. It's almost the last thing he said before adjourning.

Ms. Edwards: Oh, wait, hold on.

[00:58:04] [END OF AUDIO]