

Middleton Township Trustees

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Vetter called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken. In attendance were Trustees Cromley, Moulton, and Vetter as well as Fiscal Officer Limes. The sign-in sheet for employees and visitors is attached with the approved minutes. *Noted on the sign in sheet is a statement indicating the meeting may be recorded or streamed live to the internet by a visitor - not at the authority of the township trustees.*

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

- **Mr. Cromley moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve the October 16, 2024 meeting minutes as provided. Motion approved with abstention from Mr. Moulton.**
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Cromley seconded approval of accounts and payroll as submitted. Motion approved.** A payment register is attached to the approved minutes.
- Mrs. Limes provided the October bank reconciliation for review.
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Cromley seconded a motion to approve moving the time of the December 18 meeting to 9:00 a.m. Motion approved.**

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Steve Asmus provided the run reports, noting the department is ahead 63 runs from 2023 year-to-date.
- It was noted the Plain Township fire levy passed. The Board submitted its one-year contract to the Plain Township Trustees.
- **Mr. Cromley moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve fire hose from Atlantic at a cost of \$6,030, which replaces hose that did not pass inspection. Motion approved.**
- Fleet vehicles are being serviced at W.W. Williams. Engine 682 is out of service due to an air leak. Truck 663 will be the next vehicle to go in for service.
- The new grass rig (Vehicle 683) should be ready to be placed in service mid-November. Old 663 will be moved to the Haskins fire station.
- The department will participate in the Honor Flight reception on the St. Rt. 582 overpass.
- Chief Asmus noted the Fire Fighter Dependency Board will meet December 4, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
- The Webster Township Fire Contract is still under review.
- A release form has been submitted to Liames for use of a vacated house for fire training.

EMS DEPARTMENT

- Chief Jerry Saunders reviewed the run volume report with the Board.
- A quote for body armor was provided.
Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Cromley seconded a motion to approve six (6) sets of body armor for the EMS department at a cost of \$12,346.00. Motion approved.
- Captain Tyler Ellis stated his thanks to the Board for the purchase of the body armor.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

- The township did not qualify for Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) funding for Pargillis Road improvements.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

- USF Holland has vacated its site on St. Rt. 582. The tall outdoor lights have been turned off.

VISITOR COMMENTS

- Kathryn Clark representing Convention of States questioned the Trustees input on the Non-Binding Resolution. She noted 11 townships in Wood County have signed. She reinforced that the Resolution is about governmental control, not political control.
Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve Non-Binding Resolution 24-1106, Article V Convention of States: Roll was called: Mr. Cromley – YES; Mr. Moulton – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES.
- Nick Thompson, Mayor of Haskins addressed the Trustees with concerns about the decision to build an emergency vehicle storage building. He stated his frustration with not being consulted as a representative of the Village of Haskins. He also noted the 2017 levy failure and questioned how the board could build after being told 'no' by the taxpayers. He also went on record stating he was opposed to this project. The Board stated they have no intention of closing the fire station in Haskins and also provided background information on the project as well as noting the need for a building to house the current fleet and any future emergency vehicles.

- Mr. and Mrs. Rob Palicki, Five Point Road residents, and Ben Palicki, son of the residents and prior township resident, shared their concerns over the accidents at Five Point and Hull Prairie Roads. Mr. Vetter noted that the township is currently working with Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) on crash data and the potential of a four-way stop.
- Colby Carroll, Haskins Village Administrator, stated his understanding of how meeting times can change. He also noted that emergency response time is always a concern for residents.

OLD BUSINESS

- The boring for the sewer under I-75 is in process.

The Board went into recess until 6:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS (cont'd)

- The roundabout on St. Rt. 582 is scheduled to open mid-November.
- Tom Dauer has accepted the Board's invitation to become a full-time road maintenance employee. He told Mrs. Limes he would be available November 18.

Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Cromley seconded a motion to approve Thomas Dauer as a full-time road maintenance employee on a 90-day probation beginning November 18, 2024. Motion approved. It was noted by Mr. Vetter that Mr. Dauer has served as a part-time road maintenance employee/snow plow driver for many years and was promoted internally.

VISITOR COMMENTS (cont'd)

- Suburban Natural Gas President Joe Pemberton and Field Operations Manager Matt Ziegler were in attendance and provided the annual update to the Board. They noted they were up to 20,117 customers to date. Also Mr. Pemberton noted they had a leak survey resolved with residents and a relocation of a tap in the Village of Haskins. Mr. Vetter spoke to the need for a tap at the township complex to accommodate the new emergency vehicle storage building.
- Ross Fought stated his concerns over the noise levels being produced by the construction at the date center site. He also noted frustration over the work being handled on Sundays.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Trustees noted Jason Sisco has resigned his position with the Wood County Engineers' Office effective mid-December.

FIRE DEPARTMENT (cont'd)

- Questions were raised to the Board about the new emergency vehicle storage building by fire fighters in attendance. The Board shared their latest information and also reinforced their decision to build at the township site noting a major change in safety is the turn lane at the complex entrance.
- Discussion revolved around fire fighters and the current paging system which includes all fire personnel being paged on EMS runs. Chief Saunders provided input on his concerns with not paging the fire department at the time of a run due to safety of the resident/community members and response time waiting for additional help.

Mr. Cromley moved, Mr. Vetter seconded adjournment of the meeting at 6:55 pm. Motion approved.

Michael Moulton, Trustee

Donald E. Cromley, Vice Chairman

Fred E. Vetter, Chairman

Laurie L. Limes, Fiscal Officer