

Middleton Township Trustees

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Mr. Cromley called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 May 7, 2025 meeting minutes as provided. Motion approved.**
- **Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Cromley seconded a motion to approve the May 16, 2025 special meeting minutes as provided. Motion approved.**
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded approval of accounts and payroll as submitted. Motion approved.** A payment register is attached to the approved minutes.
- Mrs. Limes indicated that the Waterford CD was able to be renewed for six (6) months as requested.
- The Board reviewed options on the OTARMA liability policy renewal.
Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to increase the liability on the OTARMA policy to \$6M at a cost of \$1,078 additional premium. Motion approved.
The total premium is \$58,569 for 2025-2026.
- **Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Moulton seconded a motion to approve Resolution 25-0521(A), Resolution of Necessity for RENEWAL of the 2-mill fire levy that will appear on the November 4 ballot. Role was called: Mr. Cromley – YES; Mr. Moulton – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES.**
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Cromley seconded a motion to approve Resolution 25-0521(B), Resolution of Necessity for REPLACEMENT of the 2-mill fire levy that will appear on the November 4 ballot. Role was called: Mr. Cromley – YES; Mr. Moulton – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES.**
Mrs. Limes will submit the Resolutions of Necessity to the County Auditor. Certificates of Estimated Revenue will be requested by the June 4, 2025 meeting.
- Mrs. Limes stated that coordination of Harassment Prevention Training is on-going and dates will be set for the last week of June. The township last held a training session in 2022 and provides the training every three years.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Captain Tyler Ellis provided the Board with a proposal for new LED flood lights, two (2) new lights and two (2) to be retrofitted to engine 681.
Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve the purchase of four (4) 46” brow LED lights and mounting supplies from Guardian Elite at a cost of \$6,313.50. Motion approved. Mr. Ellis and Road Maintenance Employee Tommy Dauer will handle the installation.
- The Trustees are in process of interviewing candidates for Fire Chief. Eight applications were submitted.
- The fire department is in need of overhead door openers for the road maintenance building bay where fleet vehicles are stored.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

- Road Supervisor Chase Greulich indicated that ditch slides are being repaired on Hull Prairie Road by the county.
- A ditch slide has been identified on Five Point Road at Hull Prairie Road.
- Traffic counters have been installed on Pargillis Road.
- Mr. Greulich indicated road mowing on Dunbridge Road is impeded due to construction materials being left in the right of way from the sewer/water installation projects.
- The staff have been installing foundations at the cemetery. Due to weather and time constraints the property will not be mowed before the weekend.
- The Village of Riverbend owner wants to discuss a ditch bank that is in need of repair. Mr. Vetter will contact the representative handling the repair to discuss options. The ditch is not under maintenance.
- The Trustees requested the road department staff mow a property in the Village of Sugar Ridge due to extenuating circumstances for the property owner.
- Mr. Cromley thanked Mr. Greulich for his efforts at the cemetery.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

- Zoning Inspector Kip McDowell reported he sent a certified letter, followed by a confirmed-mailed letter to Juan Davilla, 19767 Dixie Hwy, with regard to a May 15 deadline to correct multiple issues of noncompliance with the township zoning resolution and pending legal action for failure to do so.
- No communication has been received back from correspondence sent to Five Point Road property owner Rhonda Thomas regarding noncompliance with the township zoning resolution at her property located at the corner of Pargillis and Five Point Roads.
- Parking lot lights were addressed with JEDunn at the data center site. Concerns were raised about the angle of lighting and it was remedied.
- A tour of the data center site is scheduled for May 28 at 11 am.

- Permitting of buildings at the data center site was discussed. Mr. McDowell indicated he met with the JEDunn representative. Permits will be issued with the cost passed on to the contractors on the project.
 - Mr. McDowell noted that JEDunn has leased the old Calphalon site for two years, with an option for five years. They will handle the mowing of the property as well.
 - Mr. McDowell provided a zoning permit report for Trustee review.
 - The zoning resolution update was brought back for a review and formal decision.
- Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Moulton seconded a motion to contract with Jacob Barnes to review and update the Middleton Township Zoning Resolution at a cost of \$24,000. Motion approved.** Mr. McDowell noted that Barnes plans to have a draft to the Board by the end of 2025.

OLD BUSINESS

- The Trustees were in receipt of the contract with The Spieker Corp. with regard to the Emergency Vehicle Storage Building (EVSb). It will be reviewed by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Linda Holmes.
- Mr. Vetter indicated that the EVSB does not need an oil separator station per recommendation from Northwestern Water and Sewer District.
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve contracting with BSJ Painting at a cost of \$4,786.00 to paint the foyer, conference room and hallways of the township administration building. Motion approved.**

NEW BUSINESS

- Mrs. Limes provided the Board with a proposal for a new phone system for the township. No action will be taken.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to move to executive session at 7:25 p.m. for the purpose of Fire Chief interview discussion. Role was called: Mr. Cromley – YES; Mr. Moulton – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES.

The Board returned to regular session at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve conducting interviews with three applicants for the Fire Chief position. Role was called: Mr. Cromley – YES; Mr. Moulton – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES.

Mr. Cromley moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to rescind his second on a motion to hire four (4) part time paramedics for the EMS department from the May 7, 2025 meeting. Motion approved.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to rescind his motion to hire four (4) part time paramedics for the EMS department from the May 7, 2025 meeting. Motion approved.

Mr. Cromley moved, Mr. Moulton seconded a motion to approve hiring three (3) part-time paramedics for the EMS department as follows: Brad Lowe, Mager Riley, and Dustin Cunningham pending pre-employment drug screening passage. Motion approved.

The Board acknowledged that township fire fighter and EMT Sarah Frederick waived her right to a hearing based on an investigation into her actions in conjunction with a training event at the Meta site on May 8, 2025, resulting her being charged by the Middleton Township Board of Trustees with non-compliance of rules regarding harassment and adult bullying as outlined within Section I of the Middleton Township Employee Handbook, as well as misconduct in office, as outlined in R.C. 733.35. Mrs. Frederick hand-delivered a signed waiver and additional correspondence to Trustee Moulton at 5:30 p.m. on May 21, 2025. Subsequently, Mrs. Frederick was suspended from duty as a fire fighter and Basic EMT with the township fire and EMS departments, effective the evening of May 8, 2025, through May 31, 2025.

Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Cromley seconded adjournment of the meeting at 8:05 pm. Motion approved.

Donald E. Cromley, Chairman

Michael Moulton, Vice Chairman

Fred E. Vetter, Trustee

Laurie L. Limes, Fiscal Officer