

Hamilton Township Trustee's Meeting

August 2, 2017

Trustee Board President Wallace called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Gallagher were present.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by all in attendance.

Motion was made by Mr. Wallace with a second by Mr. Walker to adopt the proposed agenda for the August 2, 2017 meeting.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Motion made by Mr. Wallace with a second by Mr. Walker to approve the meeting minutes from the meeting on July 19, 2017.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Motion made by Mr. Wallace with a second by Mr. Walker to approve the billing invoices for payment cycle July 24, 2017 – July 28, 2017 checks numbered 77764 - 77775.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Motion made by Mr. Wallace with a second by Mr. Walker to approve the billing invoices for payment cycle July 31, 2017 – August 4, 2017 checks numbered 77776 - 77814.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Human Resource Manager, Kellie Krieger requested the Board make a motion to approve the hiring of Jordan Elzey as a lateral Police Officer position with a pay rate of \$30.10 per hour. After he completes the FTO training, his pay will move to \$30.21 per hour. He will have a 12 month probationary period and his first day will be August 17, 2017.

Trustee David Wallace made the motion as stated above, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Steve Blow, Boy Scout Troop 838, a young man that is a Star Scout is gathering facts, opinions, and data for his Eagle Project.

Mitch Stacey, would like to make an obstacle course along the Marr Park Trail for his Eagle Project. He stated there would be 5-6 different stations, some health information, and some information about the park. He asked the Board what he would need to get the project started.

Trustee David Wallace stated it would ultimately come before the Board. In the beginning process, Mitch Stacey would need to speak with Ray Warrick and Kenny Hickey.

Mitch Stacey asked if there was any opinions?

Kenny Hickey stated he would get him a business card and they will get together.

Gene Rose from the Riversbend Community came before the Board to present some traffic safety issues in the community. Mr. Rose stated he would like some no parking signs on his street. Mr. Rose presented pictures that were taken over a 2-3 week period. Mr. Rose quoted the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4511 that deals traffic laws and the operation of motor vehicles. Mr. Rose stated Hamilton Township has a duty and must act to protect the safety of citizens and No Parking Anytime signs must be posted in front of 778 Winding Blvd. This is a safety issue.

Trustee Chris Gallagher asked if this was a temporary scenario because of the neighbors construction project?

Mr. Rose responded no it is not, it's like a revolving door around there.

Trustee Joe Walker stated he made three trips to the location and twice, nobody was parked on the street at 10 and 2.

Public Comments

Trustee David Wallace opened the floor to the public at 6:30 pm.

John Resh, 5406 Grand Legacy Drive, there is a blind spot by Mr. Rose's house and it is a safety issue. Mr. Resh stated he is seeing a lot of minors driving golf carts on the streets and it concerns him from a safety stand point.

Fritz Nelson, 6973 Hunters Close, asked the Board to re-consider allowing fishing at the small lake at Mounts Park. Possibly blocking off the large lake and leaving an area for parking for fishing at the small lake.

Dan Phipps, 10429 Cozaddale Murdock, asked if the parking issue would require a resolution to be passed by the Board of Trustees or can you just put up a sign?

Public Works Director, Kenny Hickey, stated when you have to have signs put up like that, you have to take it to the County. There has to be a letter from the Trustees doing traffic studies showing what the problem is and how to fix it. The State has the last word.

Mr. Phipps asked for the Board to explain their decision on the votes they make on any resolutions.

Kevin Ehling, Zoar Road, asked if the health care law suit update still on the agenda? Will it be explained what the benefit will be for the residents? Mr. Ehling asked why Trustee Chris Gallagher abstained from the law suit in the last meeting?

Trustee Chris Gallagher stated he was not willing or able to make a decision because he did not have enough information.

Trustee David Wallace made a motion to close the floor to the public at 6:35 pm, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Administrator, Ray Warrick, requested the Board make a motion to approve Resolution # 17-0802, authorizing special assessments for artificial lighting in certain lighting districts.

Trustee David Wallace made the motion as stated above, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Administrator, Ray Warrick requested the Board make a motion to approve Resolution # 17-0802A, authorizing compensation to Ellen Horman pursuant to O.R.C. 515.12.

Trustee David Wallace made the motion as stated above, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows: David Wallace Yes
Joe Walker Yes
Chris Gallagher Yes

Administrator, Ray Warrick requested the Board make a motion to approve Resolution # 17-0802B, declaring certain personal property as obsolete, surplus, no longer needed for public use, and authorizing its disposition.

Trustee David Wallace made the motion as stated above, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows: David Wallace Yes
Joe Walker Yes
Chris Gallagher Yes

Administrator, Ray Warrick requested the Board make a motion to approve Resolution # 17-0802C, approving the solid waste management plan of the Warren County Solid Waste Management District.

Trustee David Wallace made the motion as stated above, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows: David Wallace Yes
Joe Walker Yes
Chris Gallagher Yes

Administrator, Ray Warrick gave an update on the health insurance law suit. This started when the township was in fiscal emergency and we reviewed all the things we were paying for. The most expensive thing the township was paying money on and still spends money on, is health insurance. At the time of the review, the township was spending \$1 million a year to insure just under 50 people, which looked like an outrageous amount. We didn't know at the time why the cost were so high. When quotes were received from the outside, they were going to save the township 25-30% over what we were spending with the same coverage. The township went back to OPEC, and advised the Law Director at the time, to find out what we needed to do to leave the 3 year contract early. There was a clause that allowed for that, and it said we would have to pay 3 months worth of premiums, about \$65,000.00 a month, and pay the township share of any deficit in the insurance pool. The amount came to about \$289,000.00. When we compared it to the savings we would enjoy, the first year savings would cover the \$289,000.00. We told OPEC we were leaving the plan and before we could give them the \$289,000.00, they said they wanted \$400,000.00. We asked them to show us what changed and show us the calculation. They refused to show us the calculation which was a violation of the member agreement. OPEC then filed a suit against the township. Our claims have to do with the fact they committed fraud. We would have never known the things they did if they would have just taken our payment. They sued us and we sued them back. What we found out was shocking. What they told the people at the township that purchased this 3 year program from them was absolutely false. It is well documented in the Warren County complaint that was just filed. At the end of the first year, there was meeting in a different township in which OPEC attended telling that township their rates were going to go up 25%. Frank Harmon said at this particular meeting that he raised the stop loss insurance from \$75,000.00 a person to \$150,000.00, which is a violation. OPEC was tied to a larger entity called Jefferson Health Plan. At a meeting a month ago, OPEC said they we leaving Jefferson Health Plan which put about 160 communities in jeopardy in the state of Ohio. There are legal actions already started in 3 counties. OPEC never told anyone when their meetings were and made decisions without people knowing. The State Auditor has been called in to audit OPEC. OPEC failed to file a Council of Government with the Auditor's office. Ray Warrick and Kurt Weber, former Hamilton Township Trustee, were to be deposed as a part of the opposition work, they cancelled those depositions. If anybody thinks for a moment that it was Hamilton Township doing something for somebody's benefit or some reason, they are sorely mistaken. Unfortunately, you are limited to what you can say while it is under litigation. The risk of our plan and pool now and that is under sealed document as a trade secret that is not

suppose to be revealed. It is not just Hamilton Township messing around. We were happy to pay to leave the program. We are being told by many communities they are glad we led the way to the law suit. If we were still in this at this point, we ended up paying a deficit of about \$158,000.00. If we were in there today, we would pay about twice that.

Administrator, Ray Warrick presented the process of building a new Firehouse. You hire a criteria architect which goes over all the needs of the township. They put that together in a thorough document. Then you have a design build company bid on specifics. We received 5 firms reply. Ray Warrick and Fire Chief Brian Reese ranked the firms and the top 3 were: 1) CR 2)KZF and 3)WDZ. The criteria architect piece would be about \$100,000.00 or possibly less.

Trustee David Wallace made a motion to continue the process with the top 3 criteria architects, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Trustee Chris Gallagher stated folks have reached out to him about video recording the meetings and he would like to re-consider videoing the meetings.

Trustee David Wallace stated he believes what we have right now seems to be working fine.

Trustee Chris Gallagher made a motion to video tape the meetings, and seconded by Trustee David Wallace.

Roll call as follows:	Chris Gallagher	Yes
	David Wallace	No
	Joe Walker	No

Trustee's Business

Mr. Wallace made a motion, and seconded by Mr. Walker to enter into Executive Session to discuss a pending lawsuit and consider compensation of public employees at 7:20pm. In Executive Session were all Trustees, Administrator, and Law Director.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Mr. Wallace made a motion, and seconded by Mr. Walker to come out of Executive Session at 7:51pm.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Administrator, Ray Warrick requested the Board make a motion to approve a 2.5% raise for Public Works Director, Kenny Hickey. His pay will go from \$35.00 per hour to \$35.88 per hour.

Trustee David Wallace made the motion as stated above, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows:	David Wallace	Yes
	Joe Walker	Yes
	Chris Gallagher	Yes

Administrator, Ray Warrick requested the Board make a motion to a approve a 2.5% raise for Human Resource Manager, Kellie Krieger. Her pay will go from \$20.00 per hour to \$20.50 per hour.

Trustee David Wallace made the motion as stated above, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows: David Wallace Yes
Joe Walker Yes
Chris Gallagher Yes

Administrator, Ray Warrick requested the Board make a motion to return money to employees who overpaid health care premiums, by not collecting the premiums for the next 10 pay periods and also pay back 3 employees that left the township this year.

Trustee David Wallace made the motion as stated above, and seconded by Trustee Joe Walker.

Roll call as follows: David Wallace Yes
Joe Walker Yes
Chris Gallagher Yes

With no other business at hand a motion made by Mr. Wallace with a second by Mr. Walker to adjourn at 7:55pm.

Roll call as follows: David Wallace Yes
Joe Walker Yes
Chris Gallagher Yes