

Violet Township Board of Trustees

February 6, 2019

Regular Meeting

Mr. Monhollen called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Butcher called the roll: Mr. Darrin Monhollen, Mrs. Melissa Wilde and Mr. Terry Dunlap, Sr. were present. Other Township Personnel present were: Director of Operations, John Eisel; Director of Development, Holly Mattei; Fire Chief Mike Little; Assistant Chief, Jim Paxton; Engineer, Greg Butcher and Fiscal Officer, Brian Sauer was absent.

Mr. Monhollen asked students from Diley Middle School; Alexia Widener, Ava Ferne, Carolyn Dauterman and RJ Parker to join him in the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence honoring those who have given us all our freedom here at home and abroad. Mr. Monhollen then presented each student with a certificate of appreciation and a Violet Township pin.

Swearing in of Firefighters:

Chief Little presented a Resolution to promote firefighter Justin McDowell to the position of Lieutenant with an effective date of February 18, 2019. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-01 – Promotion to Lieutenant – Justin McDowell. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, proudly yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Resolution carries 3-0.**

Chief Little presented a Resolution to recommend that Evan Martin be appointed to the position of Full-time Firefighter/Paramedic with the Violet Township Fire Department. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-02 – Appoint Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedic – Eric Martin. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Chief Little called up Mr. McDowell and Mr. Monhollen read the Oath of Office and swore him in.

Chief Little called up Evan Martin and Mr. Monhollen read the Oath of Office and swore him in.

Mr. Dunlap added that Justin's dad, Lieutenant McDowell was one of the first (4) fulltime firefighters we had in Violet Township. Mr. Dunlap thanked him for his service.

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2019 Regular meeting without public reading as submitted by the Fiscal Officer. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Motion passes 3-0.

Public Comment:

County Authorities: Chief Deputy Alex Lape was present from the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office. He shared information relative to the 2018 activity in Violet Township. The information reflects their calls for service in 2018 in Violet Township.

Chief Lape said he has reviewed the contract and he said there are always (2) cars that work out of the Violet Township sub-station. There are occasions when there are not (2) cars and those are few and far between. He suggested maybe amending the contract language because it is requiring they provide a deputy for 40 hours per week, which is 2080 hours a year. They do this (2) times so we would have 4160 hours of coverage per the two agreements. There are 8760 hours coverage total. He said the only time there is not (2) cars covering is when there is a staffing issue or hardship type thing.

Mr. Dunlap said that the deputies work 'out of' Violet Township. Half those hours are for them to patrol Liberty Township and he has an issue that we are spending Violet Township tax payer dollars to provide police protection to Liberty Township. Somehow we need to track that to make sure we are not subsidizing law enforcement in Liberty Township. Chief Deputy Lape said with the building of the new facility they are looking at having an excess of about 10 personnel. Mr. Dunlap asked that he work towards correcting this.

Mr. Dunlap's other concern is when there are two cars in Violet Township that they both not spend their half the time in Liberty at the same time one stays in Violet while the other one is in Liberty. So, in Sector 10 and Sector 11 half the time in Violet and half the time in Liberty. If sectpr 10 and 11 both decide to go to Liberty at the same time that would leave no one in Violet Township. Chief Deputy Lape said typically they should not both be going over to Liberty at the same time. Chief Deputy Lape will look into tracking this.

Departmental Reports:

Fire Chief: Mike Little

Chief Little reported the Toy Drive took in about \$12,300.00 (all donations) and they spent about \$10,200.00. Within the school district they assisted about 175 families which were about 450 kids. Overall (the school district, the mission groups and Licking County) total families were 778 and total kids were about 22,254.

Chief Little reported the Regional Council of Governments, at their last meeting added the service of dispatching to the RCOGS. Because of this we have to sign a subscriber agreement. The subscription agreement is the exact same agreement we signed for EMS. The only difference is that the exhibits to the agreements reflect dispatching and it also reflects what our costs are. Our current year cost is \$395,803.00 for the year. It increases 3% each year. The MOU or Memo of Understanding is that we at Violet Township recognize that Mifflin Township no longer has oversight for dispatching; the RCOG does. We also recognize the dispatchers remain to be Mifflin Township employees with oversight from Mifflin Township; however, they are dispatching on behalf of the COGG with that service. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to approve the subscription agreement for Dispatching Services by the MECC Regional Council of Governments. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes. Motion 2019-0206-A passes 3-0.**

The next resolution is to improve the ImageTrend elite software annual fee for our community paramedic. This is a shared EPCR that is shared between us and four other departments. We pay the bill up front and then we receive reimbursement. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-03 – Approve ImageTrend Elite Software Annual Fee. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

The next resolution is to purchase a new washer and dryer for Station 592 at a cost of \$2749.00. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-04 - Purchase Washer and Dryer for Fire Station 592. Seconded by Mr. Dunlap. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0**

Chief Little skipped over Resolution 05 as he said it will be dealt with after Executive Session. It has to do with the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The next resolution is to authorize the pay increases for the non-bargaining unit fulltime employees. This includes the (2) mechanics, our Executive Assistant, the Assistant Fire Chief and the Fire Chief. It is a 3% increase for 2019. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-06 – Authorize Benefits for Fire Department Non-Bargaining Unit Full-Time staff. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

The next resolution is to pay for the Battalion Assessment Center that was conducted back in November of last year for a cost of \$5900.00. They just received the invoice and

it is not typical for it to happen this way. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-07 – Battalion Assessment Center. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen.** Discussion: Mr. Dunlap asked if it normally happened that way. Chief said normally it does as they generally don't send the invoice until they get all of the profiles for all the candidates and they took longer because of all the assessments they had. **Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Township Engineer, Greg Butcher

Mr. Butcher reported January was a very busy month for snow and ice removal with several snow events combined with the extreme cold. Salt supply is sufficient.

Potholes are being filled daily as needed.

Mr. Butcher hopes to have the 2019 paving program finalized and to all Board members prior to the next Board meeting. As typically occurs, some roads clearly show the effects of winter weather and merit attention for insertion into this year's program.

Formal notification of the status of our Issue One project applications was provided on January 25, 2019. Both the Allen Road/Basil Western Road improvements application and another project application for curb replacements were funded.

Staff attended the recent OTA Winter Conference.

Mr. Butcher attended the Ohio Statewide Safety Highway Program quarterly meeting on January 28. Statewide, there were 7% fewer traffic deaths in 2018 (1072) compared to 2017 (1179). Last year, 26% of all traffic deaths were alcohol related.

A meeting was held on February 4 with Violet Township and City of Pickerington personnel. There was discussion on the US 33 to I-70 connector project and maintenance of the new section of Spring Creek. The City has indicated they will assume snow and ice removal for the section of Spring Creek that remains within the unincorporated area. We are discussing how to develop an agreement. John and Holly were also in attendance.

It is the time of year where we can post weight limit reductions up to 50%. Mr. Butcher asked if there were any suggestions for this. Mr. Butcher said we have some roads that are distressed because of age or traffic volume. Mr. Butcher had no roads to propose. Mr. Eisel asked if Saylor and Toll Gate be part of this. Mr. Butcher said it could be. Mr. Dunlap thought we had done Allen and Stemen Roads last year. Mr. Butcher said due to the 310 Interchange being fully opened he has seen a significant decrease in the number of semi tractor trailer traffic. Mr. Butcher will look at those (4) roads.

Waterloo Road between Hill and Winchester is closed due to high water. The Fire Department and law enforcement have been notified.

Mr. Butcher reported he has been in conversations with the Fairfield County Commissioners, specifically County Utilities about property they own on the south end of Huntington Hills, west of the Huntington Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant. The County is interested in divesting themselves in the property. They approached us to see if there was interest in acquiring the green space in Huntington Hills, which is the really green space as well as the woods to the east of the green space and trails that go through the woods. The feedback Mr. Butcher had previously received from the board has been positive and he wants to see if there is any additional discussion required. It is 3.383 acres and they would like to donate the property to us or announce the lot split and donation at the April State of the County meeting at the Wigwam. Mr. Butcher has been in regular contact with the Huntington Hills Homeowners Association and they are supportive of the Township acquiring this for a future park. The options to the property other than a park would be the addition of as many houses as zoning would allow on that green space; which was not the preference of the HOA since it is the only green space. We have been asked to confirm our intent. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to go forward and go with the park area. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen.** Discussion: Mr.

Eisel mentioned that the County had asked to have something in writing. Mrs. Wilde asked if there was a chance the HOA would want to take it on. Mr. Butcher said, logistically in order for a local government agency to consider that sale to someone other than a local government, it would have to be by sealed bid. Mr. Dunlap added that once we get it we could ask them if they want to maintain it. **Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes. Motion 2019-0206-B passes 3-0.** Mr. Butcher added that Mr. Eisel will draft a letter stating it is the Trustee's intention to accept the lot split.

The next item was one of Mr. Butcher's 'proudest achievements' and it would not be possible without the support of the board to pursue these grant opportunities. Since 2002 we have received OPWC assistance in the combination of grants and loans of \$6,862,000.00. This is a big deal and he wanted to showcase this to the board. It demonstrates: a commitment to pursuing funding other than what we would receive from the county; it indicates partnering with other local governments (Fairfield County, Pickerington, Canal Winchester, Fairfield County Engineer's office) and it demonstrates the fact that we execute projects and we get them done. He said there are very few local government agencies in Fairfield County that submit applications. Typically it is the Fairfield County Engineer's office and Violet Township. Mr. Butcher would ask that in their correspondence, networking or meetings with any of the State of Ohio Elected officials that we consider 1) to thank them for the program and 2) Mr. Butcher feels this is the best and easiest way for local governments to sustain their infrastructure.

Mr. Dunlap thanked the guys for all their hard work and extra hours they put in.

Mr. Monhollen thanked Mr. Butcher for what he has done with the grants and said the taxpayers certainly appreciate this.

Director of Operations – John Eisel

Wigwam Update:

- The Lodge lighting conversion is completed with the exception of the dimmers that will be installed soon
- Waiting on entry and interior pass through doors
- Site work for the courtyard – Conduit for future electric to this area and drainage work has resumed with the good weather.
- Fiber has been connected
- Gate repair has been completed
- Theater stage lighting has been installed.
- Theater house light dimming is being installed.
- Trim work in offices is being completed.
- Once office construction is completed, they will move over to the Lodge to finish
- Painting of the Fiscal Office has been completed
- Koorsen toured the complex to service the fire extinguishers and hood systems.
- Proposed Rental Rates for 2019 & 2020 are presented for your consideration this evening.

The OTA Winter Conference was well attended. We also attended the CLOUT Legislative breakfast which was very well attended.

Regarding the Community Center update – the 2 resolutions and certificate were delivered and filed with the Board of Elections and Auditors the very next day. Mrs. Mattei put together the correct ways to calculate the yearly cost for this levy. She provided a handout that gives you two ways to calculate it. The first way is using the appraised value which most people will be able to relate to because it is the market value of the home through the eyes of the auditor. She also provided a table that gives \$50,000 increments to get an estimate. The other way to get to the number is through the assessed value which is 35% of the appraised value and then that number is multiplied by the millage which is 4.6.

Department heads have been working on our annual renewal for OTARMA.

The Food Pantry Gala event is March 30th. Mr. Eisel had a resolution for consideration for 2019 sponsorships.

The Chamber of Commerce 'State of the Community luncheon' is March 21, 2019. Twenty minutes will be allotted to share plans and progress.

The City of Pickerington has again asked for our financial support to the amount of \$20,000 towards the event which will be held July 3.

The Trustees should have received an invite to the Pickerington/Kroger grand re-opening on Hill Road to be held February 13 at 8:30 a.m.

We also received an invite for Friday, February 22 at the theater at the Wigwam. There will be opportunity for photographs to be taken after that presentation.

Mr. Eisel presented Resolution 2019-0206-08 – To Authorize 2019 Food Pantry Sponsorships. **Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-08 - 2019 Pickerington Food Pantry Sponsorships. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

The next resolution was to establish 2019 and 2020 Wigwam rental rates. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-09 – Establish 2019 & 2020 Wigwam Rental Rates. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen.** Discussion: Mr. Dunlap asked if this will affect those that were scheduled for events prior to now that had a different number. Mr. Eisel said no, if we have already committed to them we will abide by that. **Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.** Mr. Dunlap also commented that rental rates form said '*Food NOT permitted in theater*' and asked if that should be 'no food or drink' instead. Mr. Eisel said they could adjust this if needed.

Fiscal Officer – Brian Sauer:

Mr. Monhollen reported Mr. Sauer was not present this evening. .

Upcoming Events:

Trustee Reports:

Mrs. Wilde attended the Ohio Health Leadership breakfast. She also attended the OTA conference and asked if someone would send out an email requesting other townships that may have a social media policy in place that they find effective. Mrs. Wilde also attended the OPRA at the Ohio Parks and Rec Association. She met some people that could possibly partner with us and help bring some grant money.

Mr. Dunlap attended the OTA conference and attended a few seminars that were very informative.

Mr. Monhollen attended Regional Planning and no action was taken on Violet Township. He had communication with Commissioner Levacy as well as Rick Szabrak, the County Economic Development Director. The discussion was better communication with residents on where they might find gainful employment and career directed jobs.

Meetings where there may be more than one (1) Trustee present:

February 13 at 8:30 a.m. at Kroger's on Hill Road is the Ribbon Cutting ceremony.

Old Business: None

Tabled Business: None

New Business: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Violet Township Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Violet Township Administrative offices.

Pay Bills:

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen; yes. Motion carries 3-0.

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to take a 3-4 minute recess at 8:47 p.m. and then go into Executive Session per the Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) – to discuss/consider personnel issues and to include the (3) Trustees, the Fire Chief and the Assistant Fire Chief. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen. Roll call vote: Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mrs. Wilde, yes. Motion carries 3-0.

The Trustees came out of Executive Session at 9:37 p.m.

Chief Little presented Resolution 2019-0206-05 - a resolution to accept the Collective Bargaining Contract with IAFF Local 3558. **Mrs. Wilde made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-0206-05 – Accept Bargaining Contract with IAFF Local 3558. Seconded by Mr. Monhollen.** Discussion: Mr. Dunlap asked if Chief was sure this will comply with the FLFA. Chief Little said he was sure. **Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes. Resolution carries 3-0.**

Mr. Dunlap made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Wilde. Roll call vote: Mrs. Wilde, yes; Mr. Dunlap, yes; Mr. Monhollen, yes. Motion carries 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sauer, Fiscal Officer

Joniann Goldberg,
Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

Terry J. Dunlap, Sr., Trustee

Darrin Monhollen, Trustee

Melissa Wilde., Trustee

Date: _____