

Minutes of October 10, 2023

Record of Proceedings

The Washington Township Board of Trustees regularly scheduled meeting held at the Washington Township Administration Building, 6200 Eiterman Road, Dublin, Ohio, on October 10, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., with Mr. Charles Kranstuber, Chairman, calling the meeting to order, and it opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call – Mr. Charles Kranstuber, Chair – Present
 Mr. Stu Harris, Vice Chair – Present
 Mr. Jan Rozanski, Trustee – Present

Others In Attendance:

Mr. Dave Reutter, Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District; Mr. Nathan Ralph, Franklin County Health Department; Mr. Gene Bostic, resident; Mr. Brant Rhoad, Sybert, Rhoad, Lackey & Swisher, LLC.; Mr. Scott Melody, Dublin City Schools Board of Education

Sheriff's Report:

Deputy Burton Haren was present and submitted a written and verbal report to the Trustees, including an update on the following:

- A recent hit/skip accident on I-270 North in which Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) and Washington Township Fire Department (WTFD) responded;
- There is a scam circulating involving the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, the caller will indicate the individual has missed jury duty or has a warrant out for their arrest and they must purchase and provide the numbers on gift cards to resolve the issue.
- The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) National Prescription Take Back Day is Saturday, October 28. FCSO is hosting collection sites at Kroger from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with the collection site closest to Washington Township at 4656 Cemetery Road, Hilliard, Ohio. Deputy Haren indicated the City of Dublin and Dublin Police would also participate in the National Take Back Day. Per the City of Dublin website, the National Take Back event will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dublin Justice Center, 6565 Commerce Parkway, Dublin, Ohio.
- FCSO completed a "warrant roundup" the week of October 2, which resulted in 145 arrests, 35 of those were felony status.

Append #001

Opportunity for Residents to Speak:

No comments.

BWC Settlement Discussion:

Attorney Brant Rhoad addressed the Board with a proposed settlement for the BWC claim of Firefighter Eugene Miller who suffered a left knee sprain in 2019. The cost to the Township is \$100. Attorney Rhoad emphasized that the settlement would only impact Washington Township's BWC premiums for one year.

Mr. Kranstuber inquired whether there are Medicare/Medicaid concerns with this settlement and FF Miller. Attorney Rhoad confirmed that FF Miller is currently ineligible for Medicare/Medicaid. Additionally, Mr. Kranstuber and Mr. Harris expressed that Attorney Rhoad is very well respected by his peers, and that Washington Township is fortunate to have his services.

Motion:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Rozanski, to authorize the Township Administrator to approve the settlement as advised by Attorney Rhoad. Motion approved.

#2023.10.10.001

Append #002

Franklin County Soil and Water / Franklin County Public Health Presentation:

Mr. Dave Reutter with Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District and Mr. Nathan Ralph with Franklin County Public Health provided an annual update, and provided the information appended to these meeting minutes. Mr. Reutter highlighted the annual Stormwater Awareness Week, which was held the week of October 1, 2023. Mr. Ralph emphasized the importance of notifying the Franklin County Public Health Department if a citizen has concerns with substances they witness being discarded into a storm drain. Additional discussion surrounded the use of rain barrels, Mr. Reutter confirmed the information was used as an educational tool, not as a Stormwater abatement tool.

Resolution to Promote:

Mr. Kranstuber introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE CARTER J. McCORMICK AS A FULL-TIME PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER / EMT-B

WHEREAS, Washington Township provides fire suppression and prevention and emergency medical services to its constituents, and;

WHEREAS, a need to fill a vacancy, occurring on June 26, 2023, in the position of firefighter, and;

WHEREAS, to adequately provide services, it is necessary to fill the vacancy in the position, and;

WHEREAS, the appointment is being recommended by the human resource manager, fire chief and township administrator;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN, DELAWARE, AND UNION COUNTIES, OHIO THAT:

Section 1. The Board approves the promotion of:

- Name: Carter J. McCormick
- Position: Probationary Firefighter / EMT-B
- Classification: Uniformed Full-Time Non-Exempt
- Base Salary: \$64,300.58
- Effective date: October 14, 2023

Section 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of This resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees voting Aye. Resolution adopted.

#2023.10.10.002
Append #003

Resolution to Hire:

Mr. Rozanski introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO HIRE NATHAN M. BURGHART AS A PART-TIME PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER / EMT-B

WHEREAS, Washington Township provides fire suppression and prevention, emergency medical services and other Township administrative duties to its constituents, and

WHEREAS, a need to fill a vacancy in the position of part-time firefighter, and

WHEREAS, to adequately provide services, it is necessary to fill the vacancy in the position, and

WHEREAS, the appointment is being recommended by the township administrator, human resource manager, and fire chief;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN, DELAWARE, AND UNION COUNTIES, OHIO THAT:

Section 1. The Board approves the hiring of:

- Name: Nathan M. Burghart
- Position: Probationary Firefighter / EMT-B
- Classification: Uniformed / Part-Time Non-Exempt / Fire
- Hourly Rate: \$17.48
- Effective date: October 12, 2023

Section 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of This resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees voting Aye. Resolution adopted.

#2023.10.10.002
Append #003

Resolution to Hire:

Mr. Kranstuber introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO HIRE ALICE CAI AS A PART-TIME PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER/EMT-B

WHEREAS, Washington Township provides fire suppression and prevention, emergency medical services and other Township administrative duties to its constituents, and

WHEREAS, a need to fill a vacancy in the position of part-time firefighter, and

WHEREAS, to adequately provide services, it is necessary to fill the vacancy in the position, and

WHEREAS, the appointment is being recommended by the township administrator, human resource manager, and fire chief;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN, DELAWARE, AND UNION COUNTIES, OHIO THAT:

Section 1. The Board approves the hiring of:

- Name: Alice Cai
- Position: Probationary Firefighter / EMT-B
- Classification: Uniformed / Part-Time Non-Exempt / Fire
- Hourly Rate: \$17.48
- Effective date: October 12, 2023

Section 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of This resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees voting Aye. Resolution adopted.

#2023.10.10.003
Append #004

Resolution to Hire:

Mr. Rozanski introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO HIRE CHRISTOPHER E. REAVES AS A PART-TIME PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER/EMT-B

WHEREAS, Washington Township provides fire suppression and prevention, emergency medical services and other Township administrative duties to its constituents, and

WHEREAS, a need to fill a vacancy in the position of part-time firefighter, and

WHEREAS, to adequately provide services, it is necessary to fill the vacancy in the position, and

WHEREAS, the appointment is being recommended by the township administrator, human resource manager, and fire chief;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN, DELAWARE, AND UNION COUNTIES, OHIO THAT:

Section 1. The Board approves the hiring of:

- Name: Christopher E. Reaves
- Position: Probationary Firefighter/EMT-B
- Classification: Uniformed/Part-Time Non-Exempt/Fire
- Hourly Rate: \$17.48
- Effective date: October 12, 2023

Section 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of This resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees voting Aye. Resolution adopted.

#2023.10.10.004
Append #005

Resolution to Hire:

Mr. Harris introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO HIRE SETH A. WIRT AS A PART-TIME PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER / EMT-B
 WHEREAS, Washington Township provides fire suppression and prevention, emergency medical services and other Township administrative duties to its constituents, and
 WHEREAS, a need to fill a vacancy in the position of part-time firefighter, and
 WHEREAS, to adequately provide services, it is necessary to fill the vacancy in the position, and
 WHEREAS, the appointment is being recommended by the township administrator, human resource manager, and fire chief;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN, DELAWARE, AND UNION COUNTIES, OHIO THAT:

Section 1. The Board approves the hiring of:

Name: Seth A. Wirt
 Position: Probationary Firefighter / EMT-B
 Classification: Uniformed / Part-Time Non-Exempt / Fire
 Hourly Rate: \$17.48
 Effective date: October 12, 2023

Section 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of This resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.

Mr. Rozanski seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees voting Aye. Resolution adopted.

#2023.10.10.005

Append #006

Motion to Enter into an Agreement – Stryker PowerLoad Routine Preventative Care and Maintenance:

Mr. Rozanski requested clarification for the quantity of units listed on the invoice, and inquired on the life expectancy. Assistant Fire Chief John Donahue confirmed there are a total of four (4) load systems; one (1) older unit, three (3) newer units, and four (4) cots. He also confirmed a seven (7) year life expectancy.

Motion:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Harris, authorizing the Township Administrator to enter into an agreement with Stryker Medical for preventive care and maintenance of the Stryker PowerLoad System for three years, cost not to exceed \$39,494..40. Motion approved.

#2023.10.10.006

Append #007

Motion to Adopt Policy – Facility Use Agreement & Packet:**Discussion:**

Chief Donahue commented there has been a specific request to use Washington Township's fire training tower, and an agreement is needed to protect Washington Township's interests. Delaware Area Career Center is interested in utilizing the training tower fall of 2023.

Motion:

Motion by Mr. Rozanski, seconded by Mr. Harris, to adopt the Washington Township Fire Department Facility use packet as presented and recommended. Motion approved.

#2023.10.10.007

Append #008

Motion to Temporarily Exceed Authorized Staffing by Two (2) Full Time Firefighters:**Discussion:**

Fire Chief Alec O'Connell stated that FF Tom Vagnier and FF Bruce Bowman will be re-evaluated in January. This request is presented to reduce additional overtime costs with these extended absences.

Motion/Resolution:

Motion by Mr. Rozanski, seconded by Mr. Harris, to allow the Fire Department to temporarily exceed authorized staffing by two full-time firefighter and to aid in the reduction of overtime due to several long-term medical absences. Motion approved.

#2023.10.10.008

Append #009

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the Township Consent Agenda as presented.

- Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2023
- Bills: September 29, 2023 \$ 150,265.68
- Bills: September 29, 2023 \$ 2,616.35
- Electronic Payments September 2023 \$1,594,811.10
- Medical Payments September 2023 \$ 173,274.02
- Payroll: September 29, 2023 \$ 413,527.48

Motion passed.

#2023.10.10.009

Append #010

Round Table:

- Recognition of Board of Trustees
Township Administrator Eric Richter expressed his appreciation to the Board of Trustees for their support of the impromptu addition of the Bureau of Workers' Compensation agenda item above.
- Proclamation of Hindu Heritage Month
Mr. Kranstuber read a Proclamation recognizing Hindu Heritage Month during the month of October.
- Fall 2023 Newsletter
Mr. Richter announced that The Township Scribe Fall/Winter 2023 edition has been distributed, headlining the Amlin Road Project.
- Review of Zoo Outing
Mr. Richter expressed appreciation to the Board of Trustees for supporting the zoo outing, and to the Trustees and Staff who were able to attend.
- Recognition of Washington Township Fire Department and Staff
Mr. Richter reported a successful Open House held at each Station from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, 2023. He noted a positive response from those in attendance, and commended the firefighters, staff and volunteers for their participation despite having a large number of runs during the event. Chief Donahue also expressed his appreciation to the firefighters, staff and volunteers for the work and preparation at the stations.
- Dublin Food Pantry Ribbon Cutting
Mr. Richter reported that he and Mr. Kranstuber attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Dublin Food Pantry, 6608 Dublin Center Drive, Dublin just prior to the Board of Trustee Meeting on October 11, 2023.
- Washington Township, City of Dublin Manager, and St. John Lutheran Church Meeting
Mr. Richter provided a summary of a meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 for purpose of discussing plans for property owned by St. John Lutheran Church. Notes and materials provided for the October 4 meeting are appended to these meeting minutes. Additional actions are required before proceeding, including, but not limited to, zoning changes, dividing the parcels, and City of Dublin discussion since the property lies within city limits.
Mr. Rozanski inquired as to what studies have been completed; acreage required by the state for a cemetery, water tables, etc. He recommended seeking legal advice prior to expending more effort into the proposal. Mr. Bostic addressed the Trustees indicating the church will conduct more research following these discussions, and will take the lead on determining any legal concerns with the proposal.
- Stakeholder Meeting October 12, 2023
Chief O'Connell reminded those in attendance that the Stakeholder Meeting is Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at the Washington Township Administration Building, 6200 Eiterman Road, Dublin, Ohio from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Results of the meeting will be compiled and shared with the Board of Trustees. Chief O'Connell stated that he and Chief Donahue will welcome the attendees and then excuse themselves from the meeting so that the citizens feel comfortable providing candid commentary during the meeting.
Mr. Kranstuber expressed interest in attending. Chief O'Connell welcomes the Trustees to attend.

- Update from Human Resources

Human Resources Manager Catherine Grossman reported on the following:

- Four (4) part-time firefighters will begin orientation on Thursday;
- Ms. Grossman is compiling the annual benefit renewal data, and anticipates providing this data to the Board of Trustees at the next scheduled meeting;
- While preparing the 2024 compensation plan, Ms. Grossman noted the unique year with COLA up 8.7% and inflation up 3.7%. She also mentioned the additional expectations required of Washington Township Fire Department firefighters in order to maintain the department's ISO-1 rating and national accreditation. She inquired whether the Board is interested in preserving the philosophy to be within the top 3 for compensation among similarly sized and operated departments, as comparable departments have increased their compensation to be competitive with Washington Township's.

Mr. Kranstuber requested the comparisons at the next scheduled meeting so that the Board could review and form an educated stance. Mr. Richter indicated that firefighters have expressed interest in a two (2) year agreement and inquired whether the Board would give consideration to a multi-year agreement. Mr. Rozanski confirmed that a multi-year agreement could be considered after reviewing the pay and comparisons.

Mr. Richter asked the Board if there is interest to hold a more formal ribbon cutting ceremony for completion of the Amlin project. Mr. Rozanski expressed regret that a ceremony was not in time for the newsletter, but would like to see one to commemorate the project. Mr. Kranstuber inquired how a ceremony would be communicated and Mr. Richter replied that they could request a proposed guest list from each of the Trustees.

Executive Session Personnel:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Rozanski, to adjourn into executive session for the discussion of Personnel Compensation and Benefits of a Public Employee, and the appointment of a Public Official per the Request of the Trustees, Staff and the Ohio Revised Code Section #121.22(G)(1) at 6:40 p.m., and the roll was called upon with all members of the Board of Trustees present, voting aye. Motion passed.

#2023.10.10.010

Adjourn Meeting:

Meeting of October 10, 2023, adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Mr. Charles Kranstuber, Chair

Ms. Joyce E. Robinson, Fiscal Officer