

Minutes of April 23, 2024

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 April 23, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., with Mr. Stu Harris, Chairman, calling the meeting to order, and it opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Oath of Office:

Mr. Harris administered the oath of office to Fiscal Officer Scott Melody for his appointment beginning May 1, 2024.

Franklin County Sheriff's Report:

Deputy Burton Haren submitted a verbal report to the Trustees for the month of April 2024, including an update on the following:

- During this period, there were forty (40) Total Calls for Service / Self-Initiated Activity, five (5) Total Reports Taken and three (3) Total Arrests / Citations;
 - The five (5) reports included several crashes and domestic disputes;
 - The citations were the result of a crash and several traffic stops.
- There has been a steep decline in vehicles passing the “stop” sign of the school bus on Cosgray Road;
- The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) National Prescription Take Back Day is Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Opportunity for Residents to Speak:

Mr. Bostic provided an update on the St. John proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD), which most recently involved a meeting with the Dublin Planning and Zoning Commission last Thursday, April 11. He indicated the next step in the process has been scheduled for the group to submit a Concept Plan.

Special Guest – Scott Warrick, HR Consulting & Employment Law Services

Mr. Richter introduced Mr. Scott Warrick. He noted that Mr. Warrick has provided several well received trainings to WTFD and was invited to attend this evening's meeting to outline his proposal to serve as facilitator for the Diversity committee that the board established during the April 9 meeting. Mr. Richter noted that Mr. Warrick was also invited to attend so that expectations of the facilitator and the charge of the committee may be clearly defined by the board.

Mr. Warrick described his passion and advocacy for the topics of tolerance, diversity and inclusion for the previous twenty-five (25) years, noting that his start was in human resources forty-one (41) years ago. He has authored several books on the topic, including *Tolerance and Diversity for White Guys and Other Human Beings* and *Living the Five Skills of Tolerance*, the former invoking such fury as to prompt death threats to Mr. Warrick. He provided several examples where he explained organizations and individuals thought too narrowly in their considerations of Title VII and did not address their hiring procedures in a way that benefits all people, as required by law. He further explained that while he is a huge supporter of diversity and inclusion, it has to be accomplished legally. He stated that he firmly believes WT can be a flagship to promote diversity and inclusion using the committee initiative to establish practices that are a benefit to everyone.

Mr. Kranstuber outlined that he anticipates the committee meeting for a limited time, once or twice per month for a roughly six (6) month period, then providing an action plan at the conclusion of the committee's service to increase diversity and inclusion in the WTFD applicant pool, ideally including action items to network within the Asian and Islamic community. He noted the composition of the committee would include residents, three (3) firefighters, Chief O'Connell or Chief Donahue and a trustee. Mr. Kranstuber has confirmed three (3) residents to serve, with Mr. Melody and Mr. Harris each to recommend another resident to Mr. Richter prior to the next scheduled meeting on May 14. Mr. Kranstuber provided Mr. Richter a list of the three (3) confirmed residents to initiate an email with the anticipated timeframe for the committee.

Mr. Kranstuber emphasized to Mr. Warrick that the committee members are volunteers and every effort should be made to make them feel valued to hold their interest, as they should be the driving force behind any recommendation from the committee. Mr. Warrick responded to Mr. Kranstuber's inquiries that he will use the EPR (Empathic Listening, Parroting and “Rewards”) System to facilitate the committee. He explained this methodology will allow open dialogue, and with emotional intelligence, will make every member feel valued even if their idea is not used. He further outlined his approximate plan, to include: roughly six (6) meetings at three (3) hours each, three (3) hours to document and finalize information for each meeting, then roughly sixteen (16) hours to formalize an action plan.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Rozanski, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2024, Board of Trustees Meeting. Motion passed. #2024.04.23.001

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and as follows:

- Bills: April 15, 2024 \$ 92,570.88
- Bills: March 29, 2024 \$ 249,078.99
- Bills: March 29, 2024 \$ 5,323.98
- Medical Payments March 2024 \$ 100,334.13
- Payroll: April 12, 2024 \$ 510,367.37
- Monthly Financial Report March

Motion approved.

#2024.03.12.005

Append #006

Round Table Discussions:

Township Administrator Eric Richter provided an update:

- Mr. Richter noted that the Spring/Summer Newsletter has been sent and should be received by residents. The issue highlighted the retirement of Fiscal Officer Joyce Robinson;
- Mr. Richter outlined that with feedback from the External Stakeholder meeting held by the department, an ad was placed in *Dublin Life* magazine. He anticipates running the next ad in the September / October issue, highlighting WTFD Open House. Responding to Mr. Harris' question, the cost to place an ad is \$2,000 per issue. He also commented that there is a recognizable increase in class registrations following the release of the township newsletter, but that increase is not observed when an ad is run in *Dublin Life*;
- In response to Councilwoman Kramb's comments at the April 9 meeting regarding recreational marijuana, Mr. Richter explained that it now appears that the General Assembly will not be able to reach an agreement on legislation addressing the passage of the recreational marijuana issue last year. He summarized to the board that he will likely simply add "recreational marijuana" to the resolution that WT has passed for medical marijuana. He will make this change and ask Rebecca Princehorn to review the language prior to presenting it to the board;
- Mr. Richter remarked that activity and tree removal on the 7.7 acres at 5150 Brand Road has prompted calls to WT and Dublin. The family has requested Mr. Richter to outline the steps in order to add additional homes to the property. He noted the family has also been in contact with the city to consider annexation. Mr. Richter will create a memorandum with details requested by the family, and will update the board as events transpire;
- Mr. Richter stated that the board should consider dates for the strategic planning session to review the 2023 end of year, financial projections and the levy now that Mr. Melody has been appointed WT Fiscal Officer.

Chief Alec O'Connell provided an update:

- Chief O'Connell outlined an incident that occurred last Saturday, April 20 when Delaware Area Career Center (DACC) was using the WTFD training tower and a student fell from the second story window. He note that a WTFD instructor was on site when the incident occurred and that DACC is leading the investigation;
- Chief O'Connell noted that the department participated in training with Ohio University (OU) Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine over the weekend, including a simulation lab exercise. He noted OU offers the best simulation lab around;
- Chief O'Connell updated the board that the retired Quint has been placed on GovDeals.

Deputy Fiscal Officer Joyce Robinson provided an update:

- Mrs. Robinson noted that the Auditor sent a draft of the audit this morning, and that it will be official by April 30;
- Mrs. Robinson stated that she has provided some training to Mr. Melody.

Trustee Stu Harris provided an update:

- Mr. Harris followed up on conversation from the February 13 meeting where he announced that the Franklin County Coroner had invited the group attending the Franklin County Township Association dinner to tour the morgue. He noted that the coroner provided several available dates in the month of May and invited anyone to join him.

Executive Session – Personnel:

Motion by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Kranstuber, to go into Executive Session for Personnel and to discuss the appointment of a public official per the request of Township Trustees and the Ohio Revised Code #121.22(G)(1) at approximately 6:54 p.m. Motion passed. #2024.04.23.002

Adjourn Meeting:

Meeting of April 23, 2024, adjourned at approximately 7:04 P.M.

Mr. Stu Harris, Chair

Ms. Joyce E. Robinson, Fiscal Officer