

Minutes of August 13, 2024

Record of Proceedings

The Washington Township Board of Trustees regularly scheduled meeting held at Washington Township Administration Building, 6200 Eiterman Road, Dublin, Ohio, on August 13, 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

Franklin County Deputy Sheriff's Report:

Deputy Burton Haren with Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) submitted a written and verbal report to the Trustees for July 10 through August 13, 2024, including an update on the following:

- During this period, there were forty (40) Total Calls for Service / Self-Initiated Activity, six (6) Total Reports Taken, and seven (7) Total Arrests / Citations:
 - Following a speed complaint from residents, FCSO placed patrol cars in the areas of Dublin Road, and Cosgray Road near Rings Road resulting in eleven (11) traffic stops. Deputy Haren noted that one of the stops on Cosgray Road was a driver traveling at 78 mph. He noted officers will continue to monitor the area of Cosgray Road near Rings Road;
 - Another report was for a stolen vehicle that turned out to be a miscommunication causing the driver to think they had permission to use the vehicle;
 - Deputy Haren commended Deputy Sorrell and Deputy Palmer, along with officers from the Columbus Division of Police and Hilliard Police Department who located a driver following a hit skip crash near the intersection of Hayden Run Road and Cosgray Road . The at fault driver was charged with multiple violations and was transported to the hospital for her injuries and a mental health evaluation;
 - Deputy Haren used the above example to inform the board about the FCSO Community Intervention and Diversion Unit (CID) which was created to assist with mental health crises. Deputies in the CID are certified in Crisis Intervention Training, a police-based jail diversion program. The CID deputies that respond to these type of calls complete an assessment on individuals and decide if that individual would benefit from an evaluation at a mental health facility. There were three (3) total such responses in the township during this report period. Append #001

Opportunity for Residents to Speak:

Mr. Richter welcomed several resident guests to the meeting who responded to an inquiry letter with interest in serving on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), or as an alternate on either the BZA or Zoning Commission. Both residents Al Dilorenzo and Stephen Sharpnack introduced themselves and expressed their interest.

Mr. Bostic provided a brief update on the St. John Lutheran Church Proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD). He had conversations with three (3) of the seven (7) City of Dublin Councilmembers regarding section eight (8) of the PUD, adjacent to the City's Kaltenbach Park which he mentioned could be maintained as green space. Mr. Rozanski commented that section eight (8) is landlocked with no access to water or sewer, which may affect the price of the land. Mr. Bostic noted that the engineer is doing another assessment to build an additional bridge from the parking lot to the property. The committee plans to provide an update to members of the congregation this weekend, and then hold an additional

meeting with congregants the following weekend to gauge interest in spending the estimated amount of money.

Ms. Amy Kramb, City of Dublin Councilwoman and liaison to Washington Township, noted that the applicant with the proposal on Monterey Drive intends to return with a revised plan that includes a potential land swap that could allow an extension of the existing Dublin Cemetery. Mr. Rozanski clarified that such an expansion would likely not be intended for casket burials. Ms. Kramb confirmed any potential expansion would likely be for a method that could accommodate a larger number of individuals, such as the addition of more cremation niches.

Diversity Committee – Assistant Chief Donahue will share 2024 Diversity Goals and Initiatives

Assistant Chief Donahue provided a summary of the Diversity Committee that was established by a vote of the board at their regularly scheduled meeting on April 9. He presented a report of six (6) goals, as well as the objectives and tasks to achieve those goals that were identified through the committee's work at their meetings on May 29 and June 24. He stated that the report will look familiar to the board, as it uses the same template for individual and department goals. Chief Donahue noted that some of the objectives did not list associated tasks, and explained the reason is that the document will continuously be updated as new goals, tasks and objectives are identified.

In response to Mr. Rozanski's questions, Chief Donahue explained that most of the marketing materials are still in development. Mr. Kranstuber further explained the process and that the initiatives have not yet been adopted by the board. Mr. Kranstuber noted that the Diversity Committee meetings provided great interaction with and participation by residents of the Township. He expanded on the initiatives and commented that his favorites are partnering with local school guidance counselors and researching the potential to provide scholarships to help with the cost of required certification.

Responding to Mr. Kranstuber's questions, Chiefs O'Connell and Donahue confirmed that the required Physical Agility Test for new hires will be revalidated to ensure it is appropriate and to make any necessary adjustments according to industry standards. Chief Donahue indicated the test was last validated in 2005. Chiefs O'Connell and Donahue also explained the overtime procedures for firefighter / paramedics compared to paramedic only staff, and the effects on staffing if the current model of requiring both firefighter and paramedic certification were changed.

Motion to Approve the 2024 Diversity Initiatives:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Rozanski, to approve the 2024 Diversity Initiatives. Motion approved.

#2024.08.13.001

Append #002

Resolution to Conclude Braden P. Mulick's Employment as a Part-Time Firefighter / EMT-B:

Motion:

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

A RESOLUTION CONCLUDING BRADEN P. MULICK'S EMPLOYMENT AS A PART-TIME FIREFIGHTER / EMT-B

WHEREAS, the Board of Township Trustees of Washington Township hired Braden P. Mulick on June 1, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees for Washington Township recognizes Braden P. Mulick has voluntarily resigned from his position to further his education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Washington Township, Franklin, Delaware, and Union Counties, State of Ohio:

Section 1: The Board of Trustees hereby approves the resignation of:

Name: Braden P. Mulick

Position / Department: Firefighter-EMT-B / Fire

Classification: Part-Time
Effective date: August 6, 2024

Section 2: Braden P. Mulick is eligible for rehire;

Section 3: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Board and that all deliberations of the Board and any of the decision making bodies of the Board of Trustees which resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of the State of Ohio.

Section 4: All prior legislation, or any parts thereof, which is/are inconsistent with this Resolution is/are hereby repealed as to the inconsistent parts thereof.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees that were present voting Aye. Resolution adopted August 13, 2024. #2024.08.13.002

Append #003

Resolution for Removal of Wild Vegetation and Trash Debris:

Discussion:

Mr. Richter summarized that the owner of the property was sent the appropriate notices beginning in early June, and this is the final step in removing the nuisance vegetation. Responding to Mr. Kranstuber's questions, Mr. Richter indicated that the resident had left a voicemail in mid-July outlining their situation and that the lawn would be mowed, but failed to do so and the phone number left is inoperable.

Motion:

Mr. Kranstuber introduced the following resolution and moved its passage:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR EXPENSES INCURRED FOR REMOVAL OF WILD VEGETATION AND TRASH DEBRIS Ohio Revised Code §505.87

WHEREAS, the occupants at 6927 Rings Road, Dublin, Ohio, 43016, Washington Township, Franklin, Delaware and Union Counties, Ohio (the "Property"), have been determined to have established and perpetuated an actionable nuisance violation at the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the nuisance being maintained by the occupants at the Property threatens the public health, safety and environment; and

WHEREAS, in the interests of the public health, safety and environment, the Board desires to provide for the immediate abatement, control and/or removal of the nuisance being maintained by the occupants of the Property.

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

Section 1: The Board hereby authorizes payment, if necessary, from the Township General Fund, currently estimated at \$1,000, for removal of wild vegetation and trash debris at the Property.

Section 2: The Administrator and Fiscal Officer are authorized, on behalf of the Board, to arrange and effectuate the removal of the wild vegetation and trash debris at the Property and to arrange a lien on the Property relating to the cost of such removal.

Section 3: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of the Board concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of the Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

Mr. Rozanski seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees that were present voting Aye. Resolution adopted August 13, 2024. #2024.08.13.003

Resolution to Update and Adopt the Washington Township Investment and Depository Policy:

Discussion:

Mr. Melody indicated he referenced the policy update to the board in July, and that it has been reviewed by the Township legal representative.

Motion:

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

RESOLUTION UPDATING AND ADOPTING THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP (FRANKLIN, DELAWARE AND UNION COUNTIES) INVESTMENT AND DEPOSITORY POLICY (R.C. Sections 135, 135.14, 135.144, 1707.14)

WHEREAS, R.C. Chapter 135 Uniform Depository Act outlines responsibility for the deposit and investment of public moneys;

WHEREAS, the Washington Township Fiscal Officer recommends an update to the Washington Township Investment and Depository Policy as of August 13, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Township Board of Trustees has reviewed the updated Investment and Depository Policy and concurs with the Fiscal Officer's recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Township Trustees of the Township of Washington, Franklin, Delaware and Union Counties, Ohio, a majority of the members elected thereto concurring, that:
Section 1. The Board hereby adopts the updated Washington Township Investment and Depository Policy effective August 13, 2024.

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 this Board and of 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.

Mr. Kranstuber seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees that were present voting Aye. Resolution adopted August 13, 2024. #2024.08.13.004

Append #005

Motion to Authorize the Fiscal Officer to Enter into an Investment Management Agreement with Meeder Public Funds:

Discussion:

Mr. Melody indicated he referenced the agreement to the board in July, and reiterated that Meeder acquired the previous company in 2017 and this is simply to update the name on the existing contract.

Motion:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Rozanski, to authorize the Fiscal Officer to enter into an agreement with Meeder Public Funds. Motion approved.

#2024.08.13.005

Append #006

Motion to Authorize the Township Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with Rockmill Financial Consulting, LLC:

Discussion:

Mr. Richter indicated he referenced the agreement to the board at the July 13 Strategic Planning session during the discussion on financial analysis, forecasting and modeling for the next levy cycle. He outlined that Rockmill Financial Consulting, LLC is the same company that was used in previous levy cycles and indicated the one-year contract is to allow Rockmill representatives time to review budgetary projections and actuals.

Motion:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Harris, to authorize the Township Administrator to enter into an agreement with Rockmill Financial Consulting, LLC, with the cost not to exceed \$40,000. Motion approved.

#2024.08.13.006

Append #007

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:

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

#2024.08.13.007

Append #008

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2024, Board of Trustees Special Meeting for Strategic Planning. Motion passed.

#2024.08.13.008

Append #009

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda – Scott Melody, Fiscal Officer:

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

- o Bills: July 15, 2024 \$ 636,892.05
- o Bills: July 31, 2024 \$ 277,756.83
- o Electronic Payments July 2024 \$1,309,237.00
- o Medical Payments July 2024 \$ 226,803.36
- o Payroll: July 19, 2024 \$ 466,799.16
- o Payroll: August 2, 2024 \$ 532,773.55
- o Payroll: Monthly August 2, 2024 \$ 9,413.74
- o Monthly Financial Report June 2024

Motion passed.

#2024.08.13.009

Append #010

Round Table Discussions:

Township Administrator Eric Richter provided an update:

- Mr. Richter reminded the group of executive session to follow the regular agenda, and that he would like to amend the motion to include discussion of the appointment of a member to a board;
- A summary of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) meeting on Monday, August 12 was provided. The BZA approved requested variances for a home on Dublin Road that was damaged by fire and subsequently demolished for new construction. During the BZA meeting, the owners expressed appreciation to WTFD for their response to the fire and WT for coordinating the BZA meeting so they can begin construction of their new home;
- The Fall / Winter edition of the Township newsletter has been sent to the designer with the anticipation of a September mailing;
- Mr. Richter outlined a partnership with news anchor Stacia Naquin who is planning an upcoming feature to promote fire prevention, WTFD Open House and Honor Flight;
- Work by the Franklin County Engineer's office (FCEO) to grade down the existing asphalt, then resurface Fishel Drive has been completed. Mr. Richter noted that the FCEO did a great job;
- Responding to Mr. Rozanski's questions, Mr. Richter indicated there has been no further movement on the sidewalks across the railroad crossing in Amlin, attorney Pete Griggs' office continues work on the agreement;

- Mr. Richter outlined the plan for the shared use path on Shier Rings Road. The City of Dublin is currently working on the right of way acquisition and anticipates beginning construction in the summer of 2025;
- Mr. Richter summarized Eric Zheng's summer internship with WT. Eric is a rising senior at Dublin Jerome and was very pleasant to have in the office over the summer. Ms. Grossman provided him several statistical projects. Mr. Richter will invite Eric to a future trustee meeting;
- There was discussion surrounding the Amlin improvement project and whether a ribbon cutting should be held. Several of the challenges mentioned were the lack of parking in the area for such a ceremony and the amount of time that has passed since completion of the project.

Chief Alec O'Connell provided an update:

- Chief O'Connell outlined a recent trend in public safety is partnering with a social worker. Dublin Police Department (DPD) used CARES Act funding to pilot a program and has been in partnership with Syntero for the last several years. WTFD has been in discussions with DPD on the progress of the program and whether it may be beneficial to WTFD. With the program, DPD has employed a social worker who is available during standard business hours, Monday through Friday. Officers can refer information to the social worker to follow up directly with an individual with resources specific to the individual's situation. DPD budgets \$98,000 annually for the position.
Chief O'Connell noted one of the options the department may present to the board is to split the cost of that position with DPD. Responding to Mr. Kranstuber's questions, Chief O'Connell confirmed detailed reports would be provided accounting the use pattern between the two departments for the purpose of cost analysis;
- Chief O'Connell informed the board of a recurring issue with the owner and occupants of the business at 7663 Fishel Drive who are resistant to allow building inspections by the WTFD fire marshal and inspectors. Chief O'Connell wanted the board to be aware that the department is doing their best to address the situation, but it may require intervention by the state fire marshal;
- Discussion regarding the Fallen First Responders Memorial continues. The memorial will be intended for police, fire and dispatch from the City of Dublin. DPD has not submitted a proposal to city council yet, but anticipates requesting a budget of \$75,000 and may request funding from WTFD.

Assistant Chief John Donahue provided an update:

- Chief Donahue presented the monthly report for July noting the average was twenty-one (21) calls per day and that if the current rate of calls is maintained, the department will end the year four to five hundreds calls above the annual average;
- Chief Donahue provided an update on expected apparatus:
 - The Engine is expected to arrive late August or early September;
 - The two (2) Medics are set to begin production in November, with delivery anticipated prior to the end of the year;
 - The final Medic on the replacement schedule is anticipated in June of 2025.
- Chief Donahue informed the board that the dive truck has been relocated to the parking lot of the Administration building following a catastrophic failure of the motor. The quote to replace the motor is \$26,000. He noted this is not a good use of funds, and the department intends to use one of the replaced Medic units as the new dive unit. The old dive truck will be auctioned as is;

- Nine (9) individuals began the Citizens Fire Academy on Thursday, August 8. The class meets weekly and is scheduled to graduate on September 12;
- Chief Donahue described another house fire caused by a lightning strike, where the strike caused pinholes in the corrugated stainless tubing of the gas line, catching the gas on fire when the electricity arced. The estimated damage was \$60,000.

Human Resources Manager Catherine Grossman provided an update:

- Last week there were nineteen (19) firefighters who tested for the Lieutenant Promotion process. Ms. Grossman indicated this may be the first time all who took the exam passed;
- The interview process for sixteen (16) part-time firefighters who passed the Physical Agility Test began this week;
- Ms. Grossman continues work on the Employee Handbook and anticipates providing the final draft to the board by the end of the year.

Fiscal Officer Scott Melody provided an update:

- Mr. Melody noted that the month of July has been successfully closed, and that August has already been busy after receiving around \$70,000 in Opioid Settlement funds.

Trustee Jan Rozanski provided an update:

- Mr. Rozanski noted that he recently volunteered at a First Aid tent and wondered if the department has literature on smoke detectors. Chief O'Connell noted that literature is available, and WTFD firefighters also install / replace smoke detectors.

Trustee Chuck Kranstuber provided an update:

- Mr. Kranstuber outlined a letter received from a resident regarding the use of fire pits. Chief O'Connell requested the letter and will work with prevention to respond, and potentially refer the resident to the City of Dublin if necessary.

Executive Session – Personnel – To Discuss the Discipline and Appointment of a Public Employee Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(1)

Motion by Mr. Rozanski, seconded by Mr. Kranstuber to enter into Executive Session to discuss the discipline of a public employee, and also the appointment of a public official per the request of the Township Administrator, pursuant to ORC#121.22(G)(1) at approximately 7:33 p.m.

Reconvene and Adjourn Meeting:

The Board reconvened the meeting from Executive Session with no action taken. The August 13, 2024 meeting adjourned at approximately 7:57 p.m.

Mr. Stu Harris, Chair

Mr. Scott Melody, Fiscal Officer