

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Meeting

Plain Township Board of Trustee Meeting

Held

Administrative Office

7:15 a.m.

The Plain Township Board of Trustees met in regular session by video/ teleconference.

Roll Call: Members Present: Dave Olmstead and Tom Rybski. Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer was present. Other people present were Ben Collins, Chief Hoovler, Assistant Chief Rupp, Cindy Powell, Bob Pharris, Mary Fee and Courtney Rogers.

Visitors present: Mike Durik.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Olmstead requested an executive session for purposes of employment. Chief Hoovler said that a discussion may be needed for a firefighter that may have to be put on injury leave. Mr. Collins also added a discussion on the 2020 Pool Season to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rybski made a motion to approve the May 6, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting minutes as submitted. Mr. Olmstead seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 20052001)

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Mr. Rybski made a motion to pay the pending warrants in the amount of \$314,294.06. Mr. Olmstead seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye (Resolution 20052002)

CITY LIASON-MIKE DURIK

Mr. Durik reported that New Albany City Council met last night. New Albany City Council had a first reading for annexation of 63.5 acres from Plain Township. The land is owned by Homewood home developers and is north of Central College and Jug Street. The City Council will vote at the next meeting. There were questions about the intent of the property. There was discussion about how the sewer and water would move from Beech Road to this particular parcel. Mr. Olmstead discussed that Homewood knew when they bought the land that the City of New Albany was not going to bring sewer and water to this land. There was discussion about adding a special area for outside dining and drinking in the parking area behind the Market and Main Street restaurant and retail shops. Liquor license approval would be necessary which could take up to two months.

ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Collins reported that the Township continues to be busy responding to information about COVID-19. He has been reviewing the new guidelines for office openings. Late Friday night, the State released guidelines for pool openings.

The Township's HRA has been stable for the last 60 days.

Upper Arlington had a special meeting to discuss opening their pool and appear to be setting the framework for how to operate under the new state guidelines. Upper Arlington is doing reservations only, no memberships, a flat rate, 100 swimmers at a time for 90 minutes with 90 minutes in between to sanitize and disinfect. Mr. Collins reviewed pool operation projections. The pool typically operates at a small loss every year. With reduced visits, the Township is estimating a \$125,000 loss for the 2020 pool season. Mr. Olmstead said that the Township General Fund cannot bear that significant of a loss. Mr. Ferguson asked if the City of New Albany discussed helping to offset the Township loss. Mr. Ferguson also inquired about our current liability to Columbus Pool Management. Mr. Durik said that he will talk to the members of the City Council to see if they are in a position to help with the shortfall. Mr. Collins reported that the pool staff has been working on resolutions to potential issues, i.e. a reservation system. Mr. Collins is concerned with the practicality of enforcing the social distancing, as well as member experience expectations. Mr. Ferguson recommended tabling the decision until the next Board of Trustees meeting to allow time to explore all options. Mr. Zappitelli reported that the Township can't lose \$125,000-\$200,00 from the General Fund. He feels that not opening would be a significant hit to the community as far as an amenity loss and the loss of summer jobs for the community members. He brought up Senate Bill 310 and inquired whether there would be relief for the hiring of additional people for safety measures. Mr. Olmstead asked if it was reasonable to put off a decision for two weeks until the next Board meeting. Mr. Collins reported that it will take Columbus Pool Management two weeks to get the pool operational. Mr. Ferguson recommended that the Township communicate to the community that the pool will not be opening Memorial Day weekend and that a decision will be made by June 3, 2020 about the rest of the season.

ZONING

Mr. Collins reported that the Township received a few phone calls regarding standing water attributable to the amount of rainfall that we have had.

MAINTENANCE

Mr. Pharris reported that they are trying to get the cemetery ready for Memorial Day. They are also finishing limited projects at the pool. The maintenance department also made a sneeze-guard at the front desk of the Township Office.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Hoovler said there were 80 fire and EMS runs since the last Board of Trustees meeting. Chief Hoovler reported that the roof repair was completed. There were no leaks with all the recent heavy rains. The new medic went back to Horton for some minor repairs but is back at

the station now. Engine 122 is at Flores for routine maintenance and brake inspection. The fire department is considering moving the temporary station back to the main Fire House this Sunday because activity at the Bus Garage is increasing. If the Township sees a spike in Covid-19 cases, the Fire Department can reoccupy the Bus Garage space in just a few hours. Mr. Olmstead suggested they discuss the firefighter injury leave in executive session. Mr. Ferguson asked if the Fire Department has had any Covid-19 runs. Chief Rupp reported that the department has had a couple. The equipment is disinfected and the vehicle is sprayed down after these runs.

FISCAL OFFICE

The Fiscal Office presented the April 2020 Bank Reconciliation and the End of Month reports. Mr. Ferguson inquired in what capacity the Township is working with RedTree Investment Group in planning for a decrease in 2nd half property taxes. He asked what information RedTree Investment Group has that the Township does not. Mrs. Powell reported that she is working with RedTree Investments in order to have liquidity in the Township's investments if needed to offset revenue shortfalls. Mr. Ferguson asked if we have any specific information regarding a decrease in funds. Mrs. Powell reported that about two-thirds of people escrow their property taxes, so these funds should be paid in full and on time. Mr. Ferguson inquired if Franklin County is extending the payment of property taxes. Mrs. Powell reported that the current tax bills will be generated on June 8th and the payment date has been extended to August 11th. Advances to payments can be received starting on June 9th. Mr. Collins reported that Franklin County has offered to loan townships up to 90% of their expected payments at .25% interest.

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to pass Resolution No. 200520B1.

TO: Michael Stinziano, Auditor of Franklin County, Ohio

FROM: Plain Township Board of Trustees

DATE: May 20, 2020

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Plain Township met in regular session on May 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 321.34, the Franklin County Auditor's Office has made it possible for Advances on Real Estate Tax Settlements to be distributed via electronic transfer; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Plain Township Fiscal Officer is hereby directed by the Plain Township Board of Trustees to request an advance on all funds, as they become available during fiscal year 2020. Mr. Olmstead seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

TRUSTEES

Mr. Olmstead reported that there was a request from the schools to spend just under \$20,000 from the Capital Fund of the McCoy Center for the Arts to replace the lighting system that

controls the house lighting because the existing system is failing. The request was approved and the lighting system will be replaced.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Mr. Ferguson made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:13 a.m. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) for appointment, employment, promotion or compensation, demotion or dismissal. Mr. Rybski seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote: All Aye**

Mr. Zappitelli and Mr. Collins also attended the Executive Session.

Mr. Ferguson left the meeting during Executive Session.

Mr. Olmstead made a motion to close out of executive session at 8:28 p.m. Mr. Rybski seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Aye

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Olmstead made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 a.m. Mr. Rybski seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

DocuSigned by:
Bud Zappitelli
CBE861AE59A746F
Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer

DocuSigned by:
Dave Ferguson
89280D55B2664E7
David Ferguson, Trustee

DocuSigned by:
David Olmstead
AE95D9991FAD44E
Dave Olmstead, Trustee

DocuSigned by:
Tom Rybski
789B524A8E45455
Thomas Rybski, Trustee