

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Meeting Plain Township Board of Trustee Meeting

Held Virtual/Teleconference 7:17 a.m.

The Plain Township Board of Trustees met in a special session in a virtual/teleconference meeting.

Roll Call: Members Present: Dave Ferguson, Dave Olmstead and Tom Rybski. Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer was present. Other people present were Ben Collins, Chief Hoover, Assistant Chief Rupp, Battalion Chief Sponaugle, Lieutenant Moore, Firefighter Newton, Firefighter Miller, Bobby Pharris, Cindy Powell, Courtney Rogers, Mary Fee, Bonnie Reife and Debbie Barnett. Visitors present: Jessica Zaper and Ryan Leven.

DISCUSSION OF THE 2020 POOL SEASON

Mr. Collins has been monitoring the situation in Franklin County. Franklin County Public Health provided their recommendations in addition to the State guidelines. There are a number of restrictions, biggest of which is the number of people that are allowed in the facility at one time. The Township has looked at options to reduce the costs to operate the pool this season. When looking at projections for this year, attendance would be much lower. Franklin County is recommending not opening pools until July 1, 2020, which would significantly reduce the season. Plain Township Aquatic Center also has a single point of entry in and out of the pool which could be problematic. A reservation system would be needed and options have been investigated. Although the Township could figure out a way to open the pool, it would be extremely challenging to meet the guidelines and restrictions. There is also a concern that the pool could become a hot spot for transmission and the liability that poses. The last issue of concern is financial. The pool is not operated by a levy or income tax, it is funded by memberships and daily gate visits. There is a significant expected shortfall.

Mr. Rybski inquired about the expenses the Township has already incurred this season. Columbus Pool Management's expenses for the 2020 season would be approximately \$16,000 which would include closing and winterizing it. The Township has already made payments of approximately \$25,000 so the Township has a credit.

Mr. Ferguson inquired about the City of New Albany's possible assistance to help with the shortfall for the 2020 season. Mr. Collin's reported that the city expressed interest in collaborating on Roads projects but that the Township would still be at a net loss.

Mr. Ferguson is concerned that residents will not want to use the pool because of fear of Covid-19. Franklin County Health Commission has strongly advised pools not to operate this season. For all of these reasons, the Trustees are in agreement about not opening the pool this season.

Mr. Ferguson moved to not open the Plain Township Aquatic Center for the 2020 season due to safety concerns and recommendations from the Franklin County Health Department and other economic issues. Mr. Olmstead seconded. Vote: All Aye

Mrs. Reife asked Mr. Collins to post a message on the website.

BOARD MEETING FORMAT-VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Mr. Olmstead inquired about how long the Township plans to utilize the online meetings. Mr. Rybski suggested taking it on a month-to-month basis to evaluate. Mr. Ferguson agreed and said that June 2020 meetings will continue to be virtual and they will wait for direction from the State and Franklin County. Chief Rupp discussed the Fire Station reopening. Mr. Ferguson stated that access by the public should be restricted for the month of June.

OTHER COVID-19 ISSUES

Mr. Collins reported that the Administrative staff has been working remotely but that they are working on a schedule to alternate staff time in the office starting in June 2020. The Township plans to open the office to the public on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The Fiscal office is encouraging staff to work remotely but that some duties must be done in the office. Mr. Ferguson would like a coordinated plan between departments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:01 a.m. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) for appointment and employment.

Mr. Olmstead seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Aye

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

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to close out of executive session at 8:34 a.m. Mr. Olmstead seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Olmstead – Aye. Mr. Rybski did not arrive back to the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 a.m. Mr. Olmstead seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

DocuSigned by:
Bud Zappitelli
CBE001AE59A146F
Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer

DocuSigned by:
Dave Ferguson
4EC672766DA0416
David Ferguson, Trustee

DocuSigned by:
Dave Olmstead
9E02BCF9FE1C40D
Dave Olmstead, Trustee

DocuSigned by:
Tom Rybski
1C873A8D8DA4468
Thomas Rybski, Trustee