

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Meeting

Plain Township Board of Trustee Meeting

The Plain Township Board of Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station, 9500 Johnstown Road, New Albany, OH 43054.

Mr. Ferguson called the meeting to order. Mr. Ferguson led the Trustees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Members Present: Dave Ferguson, Dave Olmstead, and Kerri Mollard. Others present: Ben Collins, Bud Zappitelli, Chief Rupp, Mary Fee, Battalion Chief Sponaugle, Captain Chris Pabst, Firefighter Joe Pershing, Acting Captain Todd Moore and his family members, and Courtney Rogers.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Mollard indicated that she has old and new business. Mr. Ferguson indicated that the Board might need an executive session later in the meeting.

Mr. Collins informed the board that there is a revision to Resolution 220504A4 regarding Road maintenance. He also received updated plans from the Franklin County Engineer that will be reviewed during the Administrator's report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Mollard made a motion to approve the April 20, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting minutes. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. Trustee Olmstead abstained. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 22050401)

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Mr. Olmstead made a motion to pay the pending warrants in the amount of \$319,680.80. Ms. Mollard seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 22050402)

CITY LIASION – MIKE DURIK

Mr. Durik was not in attendance. Mr. Collins reported that New Albany City Council considered an annexation of 1700 acres in Licking County. It was approved and moved immediately to a first reading. There are a total of 3600 acres planned to be annexed.

ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Collins reported that pool membership sales have been going very well. The Township was just under \$130,000 as of April 30th. Mr. Collins recognized Bonnie Reife and Mary Fee for doing a great job with marketing.

The Franklin County engineer is working with a consultant on a feasibility study for the intersection of State Route 605 and Walnut Street. They expect to have plans available to proceed with application to Ohio Public Works Funding this September. The roundabout construction at Morse Road and Babbitt Road will be starting next month.

Mr. Collins met with the city Forester to discuss trees at Maplewood Cemetery. The Township is working to make progress on the Scatter Garden in the master plan. Mr. Ferguson inquired about the progress on the planned columbarium. Mr. Collins reported that he has not found a local supplier. Ms. Mollard shared that her nephew works for a company that is local and they build columbariums. Mr. Ferguson would like to address the drainage problems at Maplewood Cemetery as well. He would like a report on the progress of improvements.

Mr. Collins also discussed the challenges that the Maintenance Department will face in the coming weeks with Mr. Pharris being out on sick leave due to an off-duty injury. The Township is trying to hire seasonal staff and Mr. Collins reached out to the City of New Albany to ask for help if necessary. The Fire Department has offered to mow the grass at the Fire Station.

The MECC ribbon cutting is scheduled for June 22 for the new facility on Johnstown Road. The MECC Executive Leadership panel has proposed authorizing additional dispatchers.

Mr. Olmstead inquired about the status of an old HRA reimbursement for a Township employee. Mr. Collins stated that the Board would have to direct Chard Snyder to pay the expense.

Ms. Mollard made a Motion to pass Resolution 220504A1. Be it resolved, that the Plain Township Board of Trustees requests the assistance of the Franklin County Engineer to proceed to finalize design for drainage improvements to benefit Clouse Road.

Mr. Olmstead seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Olmstead inquired as to what this resolution accomplishes. Mr. Collins reported that the County Engineer has provided a cost estimate and wants the Township to commit to the work at this time. Final engineering will provide actual project costs so that the Township can bid out the work. Currently, the County Engineer's recommended improvements have a cost estimate of \$351,000. This is a significant change from the work recommended in 2015. Mr. Collins has reached out to Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission to ask about applying for funding. Mr. Collins would like to apply for an OPWC grant funding which could cover 50% of the cost. Mr. Ferguson asked about the timing of the project. Mr. Collins indicated that it could be a Fall 2022 project depending on how long it takes to complete final engineering and bid out the work.

Mr. Olmstead made a Motion to pass Resolution 220504A2. Be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Plain Township hereby approves a pool rental policy for the Plain Township Aquatic Center. Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Olmstead asked if the new rental policy would put in place that an entity that was not a resident of the Township or City of New Albany would need a sponsor to sign on their behalf. Mr. Collins revised the resolution to add "A non-member, non-resident party may rent the pool with a co-applicant that is a member or resident of Plain Township or New Albany in Franklin County" to paragraph 3.

Mr. Ferguson made a Motion to pass Resolution 220504A3. Whereas, the Plain Township Board of Trustees has approved a pool management contract, including opening and closing, with SwimSafe Pool Management, Inc. for the 2022 pool season, according to the bid submitted in the amount of \$189,885 out of fund 2171-610-53060 (Pool – Contracts).

Be it resolved, to set aside and pay the June 2022 pool management payment in the amount of \$47,471.25 from fund 2171-610-53060 (Pool – Contracts) according to the attached schedule. Mr. Olmstead seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Olmstead asked how SwimSafe is performing. Mr. Collins reported that everything is good so far. The weather has posed challenges to getting the pool ready to fill. The Township needs a stretch of dry weather above 50 degrees in order to caulk and paint. Mr. Olmstead inquired about the status of the refund from the City of Columbus for sewer charges in 2021. Mr. Collins requested the meter history for the Plain Township Aquatic Facility. The city did not want to reference the 2018-2019 meter history because it was unusually low. Mr. Collins requested that the city look at the 3 years prior. Mr. Collins feels that the Township should still receive another 50% back.

Aquaseal is scheduled to perform the caulk replacement and pebble fleck repairs on Monday, May 9th. The painting is scheduled for May 11th and the pool should be filled on Friday, May 13th. Backflow prevention valves are being inspected on May 5th. The Department of Agriculture will do a heater inspection.

Mr. Ferguson made a Motion to pass Resolution 220504A4. Be it Resolved: To pay the Franklin County Engineers Office, an amount not exceed \$9,000 for crack sealing of Bevelhymer Road to be paid out of fund 2021-330-53060 (Gasoline Tax – Contracts). Mr. Olmstead seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Ferguson recognized Mr. Collins for a job well done getting with Franklin County on the Clouse Road improvements.

ZONING

Mr. Collins reported that Mary Fee attended the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting where there were two hearings. One was a variance request for a lot split on Harlem Road. It was approved. The second variance request was for a second residential structure on an existing site. It was denied. Ms. Mollard asked if the applicant could appeal the decision. Mr. Collins indicated that they could appeal but would not have any legal standing.

Mr. Olmstead asked about Warner Road parcels and if they are all developed. Mr. Collins indicated that there are a few parcels that are unincorporated.

ROAD/MAINTENANCE

Mr. Collins reported that the Township is hiring seasonal workers at \$16/hour and raising them to \$17/hour after 4 weeks.

Ms. Mollard made a Motion to pass Resolution 220406M1. Be it resolved pay to pay Jason Piper to pour footers at Maplewood Cemetery up to \$10,000.00 out of fund 2041-410-58099 (Cemetery-Other Expenses). Mr. Olmstead seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Rupp indicated that there has been 30 Fire and 81 EMS runs since the last meeting.

Fire Prevention is going to switch to a bi-weekly report because activity is picking up with new construction. The Fire Department will continue providing a snap-shot of Fire and EMS runs but they are going to provide monthly reports as well.

Mr. Olmstead made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 220504F1. Be it resolved that Acting Captain Todd Moore is hereby promoted to the full rank of Captain. In accordance with the Plain Township Personnel Manual, he will serve a six-month probationary period. Now, therefore be it resolved that this promotion shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption. Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Captain Moore introduced his family members in attendance.

Ms. Mollard made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 220504F2. Be it resolved that Acting Lieutenant Joe Herren is hereby promoted to the full rank of Lieutenant. In accordance with the Plain Township Personnel Manual, he will serve a six-month probationary period. Now, therefore be it resolved that this promotion shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption. Mr. Ferguson seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Chief Rupp is pleased that the Department was able to work through all of the promotions. The plan is to go forward with the new testing process for future new hires and promotions.

Chief Rupp gave an update on trying to find a dealer that can deliver an EMS vehicle. He has identified two central Ohio dealers; they are reporting an 18 month lead time. Chief Rupp is exploring the possibility of using a medium-duty chassis. Mr. Olmstead would like for the Department to report back on the pros and cons of using a medium-duty chassis.

Chief Rupp also reported that Mifflin and Jefferson Township passed two fire levies yesterday and he gave an update on Mark Powell's progress. Chief Rupp stated that the Columbus Fire Videographer will be at the Fire Station on Friday to start interviews on the Mayday training video.

Six firefighters are signed up for an online Maxwell Leadership program training.

Mr. Olmstead asked about the graphics for the Fire Safety trailer. Chief Rupp stated that they are waiting on a proof from a graphic designer. Everyone would like the trailer to be ready for Founders Day.

Ms. Mollard recognized and thanked the Fire Department for handling the increase in runs over previous years.

FISCAL OFFICE

The Credit Card Statements were presented. Mr. Olmstead asked about the Pool Bond payment schedule. The interest only payment was approved at this meeting and the Principal/Interest payment will be made in October 2022.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Mollard presented a letter that she had drafted to the New Albany City Council to address the planned Pickleball courts. Mr. Olmstead shares the concerns but was not amenable to signing the drafted letter without having final plans from the city. Ms. Mollard explained that in her conversations with City Council members, the city is not looking at alternative locations. Mr. Ferguson also shares the concerns of the proposed location by the Aquatic Center and does not understand why the Parks and Recreation department says that they do not have capacity at Bevelhymer or Thompson Parks. Mr. Olmstead would like the letter to address more the traffic and parking concerns rather than recommending alternate locations. It was decided that Mr. Collins would handle editing the letter between Trustees.

Ms. Mollard also presented the article she drafted for Healthy New Albany Magazine.

Mr. Olmstead reported that there is a McCoy Center for the Arts stakeholders meeting tomorrow night. He explained that Plain Township, City of New Albany, and the Plain Local School District are all stakeholders in the physical building. The McCoy Board is the operator of the facility. The McCoy Board contracts separately with CAPA to run the facility. CAPA provides or shares their employees to work at the McCoy Center but they are employed by the McCoy Board. Mr. Olmstead pointed out this detail because those employees are union workers at CAPA and would like the McCoy Board to recognize their union as well. The employees have met with a lawyer and sent a request to the McCoy Board. The school district provides the maintenance and janitorial services.

Mr. Ferguson reported that the fundraising and the events for the New Albany Community Foundation has been very successful. The Foundation is planning family movies nights in the Amphitheater this summer. Craig Mohre's assistant is retiring.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Mollard reported that the New Albany Plain Local schools will be on the November ballot. It will be a permanent improvement levy to replace an existing levy. The millage is undecided.

Ms. Mollard also reported that the New Albany Food Pantry requested a donation of pool memberships for the food pantry families. The Board approved 20 free visits to the Aquatic Center to distribute as they see fit.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:33 p.m. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) for appointment, employment, promotion or compensation, demotion or dismissal. Mr. Olmstead seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

Mr. Collins, Mr. Zappitelli, and Chief Rupp attended the Executive Session.

Mr. Olmstead made a motion to close out of executive session at 8:39 p.m. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

ACTION TAKEN: Mr. Olmstead made a motion to authorize the Township Administrator to negotiate and pay, if necessary, the claim of \$750 for Firefighter Cantrell for emergency room services via the HRA. Ms. Mollard seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

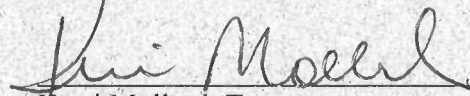
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Olmstead made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:


David Ferguson, Trustee


Dave Olmstead, Trustee


Kerri Mollard, Trustee


Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer