

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Meeting

Plain Township Board of Trustee Meeting

The Plain Township Board of Trustees met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. at the Fire Station, 9500 Johnstown Road, New Albany, OH 43054.

Ms. Mollard called the meeting to order. Ms. Mollard led the Trustees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Members Present: Kerri Mollard, Jill Beckett-Hill, and Dave Ferguson (arrived at 6:32 p.m.). Others present: Fiscal Officer Bud Zappitelli, Township Administrator Ben Collins, Chief Connor, Assistant Chief Ecleberry, Township Zoning Coordinator Mary Fee, Finance Officer Courtney Rogers. Visitors present: Mark Wilson, Mike Durik, Rick Otten, Mark Bockrath, and Firefighter Cantrell.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Beckett-Hill requested an executive session for personnel after the Fire Department. Mr. Collins added Resolution A5. Ms. Mollard has new business.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Ms. Mollard made a motion to pay the pending warrants in the amount of \$392,757.92.

Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 24020701)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Beckett-Hill made a motion to approve the January 24, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting minutes. Ms. Mollard seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 24020702)

CITY LIASON – MIKE DURIK

The New Albany City Council met last night. Council presented a letter of recognition to Aidan Morris of the Columbus Crew for winning the MLS Championship. The Planning Committee received an application to lay turf-like grass around a pool. Mr. Durik also reported that a review of traffic was performed by the Facilities Department and a stop sign with flashing lights will be installed for the Bevelhymer Road and Walnut Street intersection. There was a 1st reading for a 3% annual increase for the mayor and council members. There was a 1st reading for the Capital Improvement Fund. Council also approved a contract with SWACO for solid waste pickup, in which the pricing stayed the same. There was no update on the sewer and water availability for the new Fieldhouse.

NEW ALBANY PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS-MARK WILSON

Mr. Wilson shared that the Early Learning Center passed their Fire Inspection, thanks to the cooperative efforts between the Fire Department and the School District. Mr. Wilson also discussed the demographics presentation from Cooperative Strategies. He admitted that the presentation created quite a stir in the community since it stated that the school district could see an additional 1500 students in the future. Mr. Ferguson asked if the district wants to keep to its "one campus" model and Mr. Wilson agreed that that would be his personal preference. Ms. Mollard recently saw a presentation by Michael Wilkos, from the United Way, regarding census data and projected growth. She would like to do a joint public meeting between the City of New Albany, Plain Township, the New Albany Community Foundation, the New Albany Company, and the school district to hear the presentation.

CEMETERY PLANNING WORKSHOP-MARK BOCKRATH, OHM ADVISORS

Mr. Bockrath attended the meeting in hopes of creating a list of priority items and objectives from the Township to start designing the cemetery improvements. It was decided that the Township would create a smaller committee to work on the design, with the contributors being Mr. Collins, Ms. Fee, Mr. Pharris, and Ms. Mollard. Ms. Mollard shared that she had a conversation with Tom Rubey, at the New Albany Company, regarding the land that NACo owns just north of the cemetery. Ms. Mollard would like to add a pedestrian or "garden" path to connect the cemetery to Rose Run and Market Street. Mr. Ferguson brought up the concern with drainage in certain parts of the cemetery. He feels this needs to be addressed before investing a lot of money in improvements. Mr. Bockrath explained that his company typically uses the county GIS when starting to come up with concepts.

ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Collins reported that Whitewater needs to conduct its own non-destructive testing assessment report on the slide tower. Prime AE has declined to provide its report to Whitewater. This will be an additional \$12,000 to the approved project cost.

2024 Pool membership and daily rates were discussed. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the Trustees would approve a 5% increase on resident membership rates and a 10% increase on non-resident membership rates, where "resident" is defined by Plain Township residents. Daily rates were tabled to a future meeting.

Mr. Collins discussed the Clouse Road improvements. The original estimate from 2022 was \$454,000 for the total project including \$363,000 for the stormwater. Plain Township was awarded a \$153,000 grant from Ohio Public Works Commission for the project. Project costs have increased more than projected. Mr. Collins has talked with the engineers about adjusting the project boundaries to get closer to the initial cost estimate. Today, the cost estimate is over \$400,000 for the stormwater and over \$500,000 total. The county engineer expects to put the project out for bid in early March and expects to award it in April. Construction would begin later this year. Resident, Rick Otten, was in attendance and shared that he was hoping the project would create a dedicated turn-around at the end of the street for trucks and buses. His mother-in-

law's driveway continually gets torn up by cars, trucks, and buses turning around at the end of the street. It requires constant maintenance to fix the driveway area.

Ms. Mollard made a motion to increase the pool membership rates for residents of Plain Township by 5% and non-residents by 10%. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye (Resolution 24020703)

Ms. Mollard made a motion to authorize Mr. Collins to enter into an agreement with the Franklin County Engineer to put the Clouse Road project out for bid, focusing on the priority areas. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye (Resolution 24020704)

Mr. Ferguson made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240207A1.

WHEREAS, Plain Township is located within the jurisdiction of the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (hereinafter "SWACO" or "Authority").

WHEREAS, the SWACO Board of Trustees prepared and adopted a final draft of the Solid Waste Management Plan (hereinafter "Plan") in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 3734.53, 3734.54, 3734.55 and 3734.56 on December 12, 2023.

WHEREAS, SWACO has provided a copy of the Plan for ratification to each of the legislative authorities located in the Authority's jurisdiction.

WHEREAS, Plain Township must decide whether it approves of said Plan within ninety (90) days of receipt of the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio:

- 1. The Plain Township Board of Trustees approves the SWACO Solid Waste Management Plan.**
- 2. The Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to send SWACO a copy of this resolution to the attention of Andrew Booker, SWACO, 4239 London Groveport Road, Grove City, Ohio 43123, or email Andrew.Booker@swaco.org.**
- 3. That it is 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 this Board of Trustees in compliance with all legal requirements including Sections 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.**

Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240207A2. Be it resolved, that the Plain Township Board of Trustees hereby approves an agreement with Redwood Management Systems, LLC, to operate the concession stand at the Plain Township Aquatic Center, for two years including the 2024 and 2025 pool seasons. Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240207A3. Be it resolved, that the Plain Township Board of Trustees hereby approves an agreement with Good Vending, LLC, to operate the vending machines at the Plain Township Aquatic Center for the 2024 and 2025 pool seasons. Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Ms. Mollard made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240110A4. Be It Resolved, that the Plain Township Board of Trustees hereby approves a mosquito management contract through the Franklin County General Health District with Vector Disease Control, International. for a period beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2026, in the amount of \$5,814.46 annually to be paid from (General – Twp-Other Expenses) and authorizing the township administrator to execute the contract on behalf of Plain Township. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Ms. Mollard made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240110A5. Be it Resolved to approve a change order in the amount of \$12,000 payable to Whitewater West Industries Ltd. in addition to the \$261,531 for the pool slide tower renovation project for the non-destructive testing, evaluation and report on the main support columns, and to pay the cost out of fund 1000-120-58099 (General -- Other Expenses). Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

ZONING

Mr. Collins reported that a Zoning Commission member declined to be reappointed after serving a 5-year term. Mr. Otten contacted Mr. Collins and told him that he would like to serve. Ms. Fee reported that the Board of Zoning Appeals does not have any applications for February, but they will have a hearing. Mr. Collins reported that there may be an annexation application for property in the Township at Oakland Nursery.

Mr. Ferguson made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240207Z1. Be it resolved, that the Plain Township Board of Trustees hereby appoints Rick Otten, a resident of the unincorporated territory of Plain Township, to serve as a member of the Zoning Commission for a term ending on December 31, 2028. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

ROAD/MAINTENANCE

Mr. Pharris reported that the brakes need to be replaced and the steering needs to be fixed on the maintenance truck. Mr. Pharris found a truck that is fully outfitted with a dump bed, salt spreader, and snowplow for \$115,000 at Coughlin Ford. Since this truck is above the statutory threshold for expenditure (\$75,000), it would have to go out for a competitive bid. Mr. Ferguson

suggested Mr. Pharris look at all the maintenance capital equipment and repairs and see what the options are for rotating out the trucks. Mr. Ferguson also recommended talking with the City of New Albany to see if the plowing and salting of Township roads could be contracted out to them. Mr. Pharris also noted that there is a sinkhole on Bevelhymer Road. The City of New Albany is meeting Mr. Pharris there tomorrow to run a camera into the hole to see what is going on. Mr. Pharris is also trying to identify an electrical issue at the pool. He thinks there might be a problem with one of the motors.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Connor reported that Optum, who bought out Change Healthcare, has informed the Township that they are severing their business agreement with the Township effective May 31, 2024. Chief Connor is looking at other vendor options.

The transition to ImageTrend is going well. The Fire Department is currently working on getting everything transitioned to the Fire Reporting, Inspection Reporting, and the Staffing Model. Chief Connor reported that the Township received nine applications for the Fire Marshall vacancy. He would like to discuss the top 4 candidates in Executive Session tonight and get this position filled as quickly as possible.

BC Ecleberry attended the school safety meeting this morning and reported that John Hood is retiring in June.

Discussion moved to prioritizing the Strategic Plan goals and objectives. Ms. Mollard would like to schedule meeting dates, times, and topics to discuss Strategic Plan topics. She will put together a calendar with designated topics.

The Fire department provided an agenda for tonight's discussion.

Capital needs were listed:

- new Engine/Rescue (2024) \$960,000
- land for a satellite substation (2024)
- SCBA replacements (2025) \$250,000
- new Medic (2025) \$400,000
- new Engine (2027) \$850,000
- new generator
- renovated bathrooms
- painting
- furniture
- landscaping

Philanthropy partnerships were also discussed and identified. Ms. Mollard thinks that the Township should look for donors for high ticket items. Ms. Beckett-Hill thinks that the Township could create a couple of different strategies for support by larger companies and small, individual donors. It was decided that this would be a relationship-based process of starting conversations and seeing where those conversations go. Ms. Mollard suggested setting up a fund with the New Albany Community Foundation so that donors can give a tax-deductible gift. There is a \$10,000 minimum to set up a fund with the Community Foundation. Once the

Township develops the communication as to the “why” the Township is doing this, Ms. Beckett-Hill said that she would help to get this started.

A special meeting was scheduled for February 13, 2024 to have a Strategic Plan working session. Mr. Ferguson would like to discuss reviewing satellite locations, run locations, and response times.

Ms. Mollard made a Motion to authorize the creation of a philanthropic fund at the New Albany Community Foundation to be seeded with \$10,000 in philanthropic gifts, not with public dollars that are current assets of the Township. The purpose of this fund will be to support the Plain Township Fire Department’s ongoing needs. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 24020705)

Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240207F1. Be it resolved pay Taylor Tire Company, LTD the amount of \$7,196 for eight tires and installation on Ladder 121 out of fund 2111-220-58024 (Fire – Repairs - Non-Routine)

**Taylor Tire Company, LTD
8070 Corporate Blvd
Plain City, OH. 43064**

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

Mr. Ferguson made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240207F2.

Be it Resolved, that the following township personal property is declared unneeded, obsolete or unfit for township use and is to be disposed of by internet auction:

Item Description	Lising Price
Lot 1 Goodyear G296 MSA Radial Tubeless used tires, 425/65R22.5 165k Lot of 2	\$10.00
Lot 2 Regional used tires, 315/80R 22.5 Lot of 4	\$20.00
Lot 3 Ferno Stair Chair 14N-307-139	\$200.00
Lot 4 Ferno Stair Chair 14N-307-137	\$200.00
Lot 5 Ferno Stair Chair 11N-194-755	\$200.00
Lot 6 Office Furniture: wood credenza, wood file cabinet	\$10.00
Lot 7 Exercise Equipment: Precor Elliptical	\$50.00
Lot 8 Expired Turn Out Gear	\$10.00
Lot 9 Floor Cleaner Machine	\$10.00
Lot 10 Aluminum Extension Ladder 35’ OOS	\$20.00
Lot 11 High Band Radios and parts OOS	\$20.00
Lot 12 Motorola Radios and parts OOS	\$20.00
Lot 13 MSA Thermal Imaging Camera Evolution 6000+	\$250.00
Lot 14 MSA Thermal Imaging Camera Evolution 5200	\$100.00
Lot 15 Cairns Helmets OOS	\$10.00
Lot 16 Backboards, 2 orange, 2 blue	\$20.00
Lot 17 2008 Surrey Fire Safety Trailer	\$15,000
Reserve amount	\$25,000

Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Mollard made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 9:03 p.m. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) for personnel and employment. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

Mr. Collins, Chief Connor, and Chief Ecleberry attended the Executive Session.

Ms. Mollard made a motion to close out of executive session at 10:06 p.m. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

FISCAL OFFICE

The credit card statements, and January 2024 Month End reports were presented.

TRUSTEES

Ms. Mollard will be attending the Joint Parks District meeting next week.

Ms. Beckett-Hill will be attending the McCoy Center for the Arts meeting tomorrow.


Mr. Ferguson referenced the State of Plain Township document that was shared earlier in the day and he noted that the total picture of financials was not shown. He pointed out that revenue increased approximately \$500,000 from 2022 to 2023 but expenses increased almost \$2,000,000. He noted that \$673,000 was capital improvements. Ms. Beckett-Hill would like to discuss at a later meeting.

It was decided to move the July meetings to Wednesday, 7/10/24 in the evening and Wednesday, 7/24 in the morning. The trustees agreed to hold Wednesday, 7/17 open in case it is needed.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mollard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye


BOARD OF TRUSTEES:



David Ferguson, Trustee



Kerri Mollard, Trustee



Jill Beckett-Hill, Trustee



Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer