

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

*Minutes of Meeting*

Plain Township Board of Trustee Meeting

The Plain Township Board of Trustees met in regular session at 8:00 a.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. Others present: Fiscal Officer Bud Zappitelli, Township Administrator Ben Collins, Chief Connor, Assistant Chief Ecleberry, Maintenance Supervisor Bob Pharris, Finance Officer Courtney Rogers.

### ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Ferguson requested an executive session for the purpose of personnel, compensation, and employment before the Fire Department section. Mr. Collins would like to table Resolution Z1 and add M1. He also noted that resolution A1 changed from \$10,000 to \$10,050. The Fire Department added F3.

### PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

**Ms. Mollard made a motion to pay the pending warrants in the amount of \$431,176.16.**

**Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 24022101)**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Ms. Mollard made a motion to approve the February 7, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting minutes. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 24022102)**

### ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Collins reported that the pool staff is still trying to figure out how to administer a resident pass. This will also give the staff an opportunity to restrict access to the pool if a patron causes any problems. Pool staff is also working on additional "members only" privileges for this swim season. The cost for the 2024 Guest Book and swim lessons will follow the 5% resident and 10% non-resident increases.

Mr. Collins updated the Board on the Clouse Road Stormwater project. There are two residents on Clouse Road who have a stream that crosses their property that will enter the stormwater system. Mr. Collins has been communicating with them to see what is needed and their preference is a rock channel protection. The project is expected to go out for bid March 13, 2024 and the estimate is \$420,000, which does not include pavement repairs and resurfacing.

Mr. Collins has a request to the New Albany City Manager to discuss commercial TIF reimbursements for the fire levy fees. Mr. Collins confirmed with the County Auditor that based on the new property valuation, each new mill of taxation would generate \$1.1 million.

The roundabout at Walnut Street and State Route 605 is expected to be bid in 2025. The roundabout at Bevelhymer Road and Walnut Street is in a very preliminary stage. Mr. Collins would not expect it to be completed until after the fieldhouse is constructed. There is no update on sewer and water access for the fieldhouse.

**Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240221A1. Whereas, the Plain Township Board of Trustees has approved a pool management contract, including opening and closing, with SwimSafe Pool Management, Inc. for the 2024 pool season, in accordance with an addendum, in the amount of \$231,288 out of fund 2171-610-53060 (Pool – Contracts).**

**Be it resolved, to set aside and pay the April pool management payment in the amount of \$32,380.32 from fund 2171-610-53060 (Pool – Contracts) according to the attached schedule. Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.**

**Mr. Ferguson made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240221A2. Be it resolved, to authorize and pay an amount up to \$10,050 for deck furniture at the Plain Township Aquatic Center to ET&T Distributors, Inc. of South Daytona, Florida out of fund 2171-610-54030 (Pool – Tools & Equipment).**

**ET&T Distributors  
947 Beville Rd., Suite 15  
South Daytona, FL 32119**

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

## **ZONING**

Mr. Collins reported that there was one zoning hearing this month on a variance that was approved. The Township also has a pre-application meeting with a developer for a residential subdivision. The project seems to be dependent on access to sewer and water, which is not currently available.

Ms. Mollard asked about a house at 6449 Walnut Street that a religious group purchased. Mr. Collins reported that religious use is permitted within the rural zoning district. The owners have only remodeled the house, there is no new construction. The State of Ohio is responsible for inspections because this is an institutional use.

**Ms. Mollard made a Motion to table Resolution No. 240221Z1. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.**



### **ROAD/MAINTENANCE**

Mr. Pharris reported that the wiring to the pool pump needs to be replaced at the same time as the pool pump is replaced. The last pool pump was purchased in 2013 and was repaired in 2015 and 2019.

**Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240221M1. Be it Resolved, to pay Patterson Pools, LLC an amount up to \$17,354 for a Griswold 850 Series Pump with a 450 HP Motor plus epoxy coating and shipping from account 2171-610-54030 (Pool – Tools and Equipment). Mr. Ferguson seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Ms. Mollard made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:27 a.m. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) for personnel, compensation and employment. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye**

**Mr. Collins, Chief Connor, Chief Ecleberry, Mr. Zappitelli and Ms. Rogers attended the Executive Session.**

**Ms. Mollard made a motion to close out of executive session at 9:02 a.m. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye**

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Assistant Chief Ecleberry explained that the Rescue Technician Training is a week-long class, once a month for 6 months. The firefighters will train in 5 disciplines: water/ice rescue, trench and collapse, confined space, rope rescue and extrication. AC Ecleberry explained that the department has lost 8 trained rescue technicians between retirements and resignations since 2018.

**Ms. Mollard made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240221F1. Be it resolved to approve training for firefighters Joe Petticrew and Nic Yutzy to attend a Fire Rescue Technician Training Program. The amount will not exceed \$12,000 for course registration fees, lodging, meals, and expenses. The program will be held at Washington Township Fire Training Complex, Dublin, Ohio as well as sites in Troy and Dayton in conjunction with Bowling Green University on scheduled days between January and June of 2024. This will be paid out of fund 2111-220-58018 (Fire District-Other Expenses-Training). Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.**

Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240221F2.

**PREAMBLE**

WHEREAS, the Plain Township Board of Trustees desires to employ Kevin Sponaugle as Fire Marshal of the Plain Township Fire Department and establish the terms and conditions of his employment for his retirement and rehire; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Plain Township (the "Township") and its residents to provide certain benefits as a form of compensation.

**RESOLUTION**

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the "Board") that the following Resolution is hereby adopted:

RESOLVED, that, as Kevin Sponaugle's retirement from the Plain Township Fire Department is effective on April 12, 2024 at 11:59 p.m., as of April 13, 2024 at 12:00 a.m. and subject to his timely acceptance hereof, the Township hereby employs Kevin Sponaugle as the Fire Marshal of the Plain Township Fire Department at the base rate of \$53.68 per hour, plus \$1.75 medic pay per hour, on a full-time 40-hour basis, paid in bi-weekly installments. This position is overtime exempt. The Fire Marshal will be eligible for the same full-time benefits as other township employees with the following benefits specifically defined herein:

**Longevity Pay.** The Fire Marshal being rehired by the Township is hereby eligible, based on his years of service, to receive a longevity bonus in the amount of \$0.72 per hour worked as detailed in the Plain Township Personnel Policy for a 40-hour employee.

**Work Hours.** The regularly scheduled work hours for the Fire Marshal shall total at least forty (40) hours per week. In addition, the Fire Marshal shall work such other or additional hours as may be necessary to fulfill his duties as the Plain Township Fire Marshal and/or as may, from time to time, be directed by the Fire Chief. The Fire Marshal shall also be on call and remain available and, if necessary or directed, respond to fire and other emergency situations.

**Use of Vehicle.** The Fire Marshal is hereby authorized to use a Township owned or leased vehicle as designated by the Fire Chief, provided that such vehicle shall not be used for personal business; except that such vehicle must be used by the Fire Marshal for commuting to and from his Township employment and to respond directly from home to an emergency and/or other work-related situation.

**Vacation Time.** Effective April 13, 2024, the Fire Marshal shall maintain the same balance of hours of vacation time for immediate use that he possessed as of the date of his retirement and such balance shall transfer to his employment under this Resolution, except that the 2024 vacation hours shall be adjusted on a pro-rata basis for the number of weeks he is employed in a 40-hour position in calendar year 2024. Commencing on January 1,



2025 and continuing on each January 1 thereafter, the Fire Marshal shall be credited with the hours of vacation for a 40-hour employee corresponding to his total years of service as detailed in the Plain Township Personnel Policy. Notwithstanding the foregoing, upon a break in service, no vacation time shall accrue or be credited unless and until the Fire Marshal is in active service with the Township.

**Sick Leave.** Effective April 13, 2024, the Fire Marshal shall accrue sick leave at the 40-hour rate as detailed in the Plain Township Personnel Policy. In addition, the Fire Marshal shall maintain any hours of sick leave he was credited with at the date of his retirement and such balance shall transfer to his employment under this Resolution. Upon separation from service with the Township for any reason, the Fire Marshal shall be entitled to receive payment for up to 240 hours of unused sick leave accrued and credited during his employment with the Department according to the Plain Township Personnel Policy and subject to the same exceptions therein, or such hours as amended in the Plain Township Personnel Policy.

**Compensatory Time.** Effective April 13, 2024, the Fire Marshal shall maintain the same balance of hours of compensatory time for immediate use that he possessed as of the date of his retirement and such balance shall transfer to his employment under this Resolution.

Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

Mr. Ferguson made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 240221F3. Be it resolved to pay the Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium Regional Council of Governments \$186,908.30 for the Plain Township Fire Department's share of dispatching services for 2024, out of fund 2111-220-53019 (Fire District – Dispatching).

Jason Nicodemus  
MECC Regional Council of Governments  
P.O. Box 647  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

### **TRUSTEES**

Ms. Mollard reported that the design of the fieldhouse continues to evolve. The Parks department will be meeting with the City of Columbus next week to discuss access to water and sewer.

Ms. Beckett-Hill reported that the Plain-Local School Board will be meeting next week. She is planning to present a Plain Township update to the Board. Ms. Mollard stated that she had a conversation with a New Albany City Council member and inquired as to why the school wants the land that the pool is currently on. It was explained that the school is forecasting massive growth in the Early Learning Center and the school wants another building close to the campus.

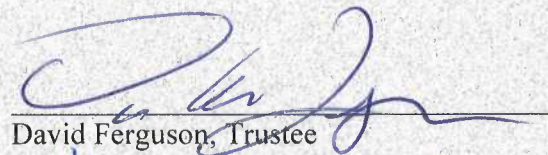


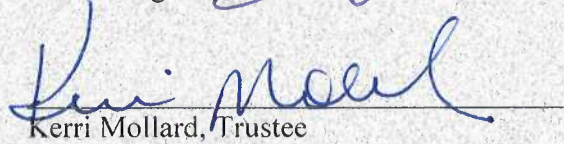
Ms. Beckett-Hill would like to make sure that all Trustees are receiving a summary of the financials so that informed decisions can be made. Mr. Ferguson would like a financial summary on an annual basis that can be shared with the community. Mr. Collins reported that the Fiscal Office has been posting the year-end financial statements to the website.


**ADJOURNMENT**

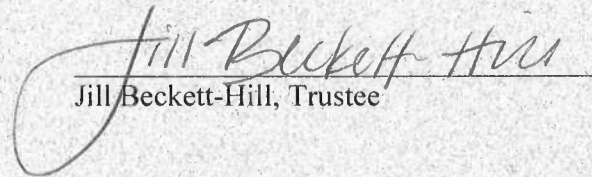
**Ms. Mollard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 A.m. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

  
David Ferguson, Trustee

  
Kerri Mollard, Trustee

  
Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer

  
Jill Beckett-Hill, Trustee