

Pierce Township Trustees
Meeting
Minutes

February 4, 2015

The Board of Trustees of Pierce Township, Clermont County, Ohio met in Regular Session at 6:30 PM, on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at the Pierce Township Administration Building, 950 Locust Corner Road.

INVOCATION

Chairman Robert Pautke asked Trustee Richard Riebel to lead the meeting in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Pautke asked everyone to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robert Pautke and Mr. Riebel and Mrs. Batchler were all present at Roll Call. Also present were Fire Chief Craig Wright, Assistant Fire Chief Scot Light, Police Chief Jeff Bachman, Township Administrator Tim Hershner, Public Works Manager, John Koehler, Legal Counsel, Tom Keating and Assistant to the Fiscal Office, Claudia Carroll.

Applause and Recognition

Michael Phelps – Board of Zoning Appeals

Mr. Hershner conveyed the Board's appreciation for Michael Phelps many years of service to the community while he served on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Mr. Phelps was there to accept the Board's appreciation and recognition for his years of service.

New Richmond Police & Pierce Township Police Joint Efforts

Police Chief Bachman asked that recognition be given to New Richmond Police Officers Frazier and Hyde and his officers, Schultz and Burke be recognized for their joint efforts with a suicidal/homicidal suspect on January 09, 2015 which ended with no injuries to the suspect or to the officers.

Chuck Tilbury – Clermont County Auditor's Office - Presentation

Chuck Tilbury, from the Clermont County Auditor's Office was asked to present to the residents of Pierce Township the amount of losses that Pierce Township will experience from Beckjord's closing which he had recently supplied to the Fiscal Office, the Board and Township Administrator Tim Hershner. Mr. Tilbury explained that the lost revenue will begin in 2015. Mr. Tilbury explained the bulk of the assets were in Personal Property and that the generators at Beckjord were shut down completely in September 2014 and no longer produces electricity which resulted in an immediate loss.

Mr. Tilbury explained that the anticipated annual losses in 2016 will total \$680,823.46 per year due to Beckjord's closure with the following fund losses broken out as follows:

- General Fund = \$34,234.44
- Road & Bridge = \$57,011.25
- Waste/Garbage = \$69,463.52
- Police = \$291,016.31
- Fire/EMS = \$229,097.94

Mr. Tilbury after concluding his overhead presentation, answered questions from the Board and the residents, specifically how the losses will impact the Fire/EMS department. The Board thanked Mr. Tilbury for his presentation and partnering with the Township since 2011 to provide advance warning of the impending closure and the potential loss of revenue to Pierce Township.

The residents continued to question the Board's plans and actions needed to continue to provide needed services to the residents. The Board indicated that the Board was examining the need to place a Fire/EMS levy on the November 2015 ballot. Fire Chief Wright confirmed the dire situation which the department was facing since the November 2014 levy had failed and equipment purchases had been delayed. Chief Wright related that recently one life squad had broken down during a recent patient transport, and the second squad called in for backup had also broken down during the same patient transport.

Regular Meeting Times - Changed for 2015

Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel that beginning in March 2015, the Board will begin their Regular Meetings at 5:30 PM, with an Executive Sessions planned for 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM, if an Executive Session is needed. It was noted that regular business by the Board will begin at 6:30 PM. This time change will give the Board needed flexibility and yet be responsive to the residents that don't want to stay late until after an Executive session to learn what decisions or motions are made by the Board. It is noted that multiple Executive Sessions during a meeting may occur based on need. Roll call on motion: All aye.

January 14, 2015 – Minutes Approved

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler to approve and modify the minutes of January 14, 2015 minutes which contained the motion to approve the minutes of December 29, 2014 Clean Up Meeting as modified, making sure the minutes were modified to include the correct amount for bills of December 18, 2014 as \$198,224.92. Roll call on motion: All aye.

Sullivan Services Bid for Mulching Cemetery - Accepted

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler that based upon the recommendation of Public Works Manager John Koehler, that the Board accept the bid from Sullivan Service for the 2015 mulching of the Pierce Township Cemetery in the amount of \$3,494.50. Roll call on motion: All aye.

Sullivan Services Bid for Mulching Playground - Accepted

Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel that based upon the recommendation of Public Works Manager John Koehler, that the Board accept the bid from Sullivan Service for the 2015 mulching of the Pierce Township Playground in the amount of \$4,020.00. Roll call on motion: All aye.

Vacate Portion of Lewis Road

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler based upon the recommendation of the Public Works Manager, John Koehler that the Board authorize Administrator Hershner to request the Board of County Commissioners to vacate a portion of Lewis Road on Parcel #272812C-03, also known as 3443 Lewis Road, as requested by the property owner, Jeremy Mount (who was in the audience to confirm his request), with the vacation of the road subject to the Clermont County Engineer's Office. Roll call on motion: All Aye.

2014 Township Highway Mileage Certification - Approved

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler based upon the recommendation of the Clermont County Engineer, that the Board approve the 2014 Township Highway System Mileage Certification of 57.348 miles. Roll call on motion: All Aye.

Public Works Employee & Material Expenses

Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel based upon the recommendation of the Administrator, Tim Hershner that the Board direct the Fiscal Office to account and pay for employee and material expenses for the Public Works Department from the respective budget line item as encountered/incurred versus paying for employee and material expenses based on a set percentage basis. Roll Call on motion: All Aye.

PGCPlanned Unit Development – Minor Modification Approved

Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel based upon the recommendation of the Administrator Tim Hershner, the Board approve a minor modification to the PGC Planned Unit Development permitting a 3 foot setback along the west property line of Parcel ID #272813E201, Lot 191 in Legendary Run Subdivision, Section 2B as applied for and approved by the Legendary Run Home Owners Association, also providing for a 20 foot easement area to provide access in the spirit of two 10 foot side yard setbacks. Roll call on motion: All Aye.

Resignations from the Fire Department – Accepted

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler based upon the recommendation of the Fire Chief Wright, for the Board accept the resignations of the following part-time employees: Allen J. Coley, William T. Sefton, Kathleen G. Thielmeyer, Ronald S. Whitaker and Hanson K. Workman effective immediately. Roll call on motion: All Aye.

Part-Time Firefighters/EMT's – Hiring Approved

Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel based upon the recommendation of the Fire Chief Wright, that the Board hire Christopher Latham Hines and Kyle Michael Scales as part-time Firefighter/EMT's at the current established starting rate upon successful completion of a physical examination including drug screen, BCI background check and a 1 year probationary period noting that all related expenses of the above requirements be the responsibility of Pierce Township. Roll call on motion: All Aye.

Fiscal Office Reports and Motions

The fiscal office included and provided a cash summary by fund, a bank reconciliation report, receipt account status report and an appropriation status report to the Board of Trustees and requested the following motions.

Payment of Bills – January 29, 2015

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler that based upon the recommendation of the Township Fiscal Officer; the Board approves the bills from January 29, 2015 in the amount of \$318,958.36 as previously provided. Roll call on motion: All aye.

January 14, 2015 Payroll - Approved

Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel that based upon the recommendation of the Township Fiscal Officer; the Board approves the Payroll from January 14, 2015 in the amount of \$120,323.98 as previously provided. Roll call on motion: All aye.

January 28, 2015 Payroll – Approved

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler that based upon the recommendation of the Township Fiscal Officer; the Board approves the Payroll from January 28, 2015 in the amount of \$144,260.39 as previously provided. Roll call on motion: All aye.

Resolution 015-001 – Permanent Appropriations

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler to authorize Fiscal Officer Karen Register to finalize and file the Permanent Appropriations with the Clermont County Auditor's Office. Roll call on motion: All aye.

Eastgate Mobile Home Park – Under New Ownership & Management

Bill Schmarman provided a background of the changes that have occurred and continue to occur within Eastgate Mobile Home Park. He reported that originally Judge Herman had placed the property under receivership and appointed him to manage the property. He reported that he had removed forty three homes due to neglect and poor condition, with sixty five to seventy residents evicted and then Mr. Schmarman introduced Shayne from River Valley Community. Shayne introduced himself and explained why his company, River Valley Community buys distressed mobile home parks. He explained that the company has replaced mobile homes in poor condition

with new mobile homes for renters, a new community center with playground upgrades to be completed in 2015, their policy of reviewing credit and criminal history of all rental applicants. Further, Shayne added that there would be a total of 159 lots, most with new homes per lot. The home sizes range between 16X70 with the largest home size 16 X 80 and monthly rental average is around \$695.00 per month which includes the lot.

Executive Session

At 9:07 PM, Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel to enter into Executive to consider employment and compensation of public employees, pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G) (1). Roll call on motion: All aye.

At 10:30 PM, Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel, to leave executive session, with no action being taken the Board during the Executive Session.

2% Cost of Living Approved for Non-Union Employees

Mr. Riebel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Batchler that based upon the recommendation of the Township Administrator, Tim Hershner, the Board approve a 2% cost of living increase for all non-union employees with the exception of Part-time Fire Fighter/EMT's, Part-time Paramedic/EMT's, Police Officer Bennett, and Police Chief Bachman. Roll call on motion: All aye.

Salary Adjustment for Officer Michael Bennett – Approved

Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel that based upon the request from Police Chief Bachman and the recommendation of Township Administrator Tim Hershner, that the Board approve a salary adjustment of \$3,926.00 for Officer Michael Bennett and a salary adjustment of \$2,106.00 for Police Chief Bachman for 2015 which will take effect upon the next payroll, and further that the Board authorizes both Officer Bennett and Police Chief Bachman to receive the same employee benefits as the Police Union members. Roll call on motion: All aye.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:40 PM, Mrs. Batchler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Riebel to adjourn the meeting. Roll call on motion: All aye.

ATTESTED:

The Pierce Township approved the foregoing minutes of the Board of Trustees on:

Karen Register, Township Fiscal Officer

Mr. Robert Pautke, Chairman
Pierce Township Board of Trustees