

Pierce Township Trustees  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 19, 2021

The Board of Trustees of Pierce Township, Clermont County, Ohio met for their Regular Meeting at 6:30p.m., Wednesday, May 19, 2021 as a Zoom-Conference & Live Streaming Meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Allen Freeman called the meeting to order. Trustee Peter Kambelos, Trustee Nicholas Kelly and Chairman Allen Freeman were present at roll call. Administrator Loretta Rokey, Attorney Tom Keating, Fire Chief Craig Wright, Police Chief Jeff Bachman, Service Department Director John Koehler, Planning and Zoning Administrator Eddie McCarthy and Fiscal Officer Debbie Schwey were also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Fiscal Officer Schwey led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Fiscal Officer Schwey made the motion to approve the April 14, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, April 22 and 28, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve and seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

**DEPARTMENTAL CELEBRATIONS & UPDATES:**

Police Dept.-Chief Bachman reported since the government has lifted the mask mandate the Police Dept. will be doing National Night Out.

Fire/EMS-Fire Chief Wright reported Sam Patel of Super Sam's donated \$5,001.00 to the Police and Fire Depts. to help with the purchase of a trail vehicle.

Service/Streets/Cemetery/Parks-Service Director Koehler stated things are running ahead of schedule for road paving. Footers are poured in the cemetery. Parks and Trustees are doing a joint meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Randy Page stated Daisy Troop 4022 came and helped with planting in the parks, he is also working on the last 2 benches and should be ready by Memorial Day. Have ordered 4 new benches 2 for dog park and 2 for history trails. Will be reviewing and updating the master plan of the parks.

Planning & Zoning Activity-Planning & Zoning Administrator reported the demand for housing is up all across the board. The Enterprise Zone went thru the county and will be sent to the state.

Administration-Administrator Rokey stated work on Bradbury Rd. will begin mid- June. Administrator Rokey also reported working hard on the St. Rt. 125 street lights. Made recommendation for more efficient LED lighting fixtures. Lighting petitions are still around 25% received. The meeting for June 2<sup>nd</sup> will be held in person at the township office observing safety measures as recommended.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

On the Green at Royal Oak-Trustee Kelly reported that the County Prosecutor stated to move on as a nuisance property. He also thanked the staff for working with the prosecutor, appreciated their hard work. Chief Bachman stated that this is a positive change for the

township. Attorney Keating stated with the nature of the complaint against On the Green a receiver will be appointed by the court and that a hearing will be coming up soon.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion for approval of payroll for the month of April 2021 for \$320,669.40. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion for approval of the bills for the month of April, 2021 for \$182,931.87 Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion for approval for the CLGBP Health Insurance renewal at 0%. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion for approval of the payment of \$8,950.00 to Perry & Associates Certified Public Accountants, A.C. for services in connection with the examination of the Pierce Township audit for the period of 01/01/2018 thru 12/31/2019. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion for approval of the payment of the first half 2021 TIF payment of \$53,583.33 to West Clermont Local School District. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to accept the resignation of Full-time Lieutenant Brian Sims effective March 2, 2021 0600. Trustee Kambelos requests a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright with concurrence of Administrator Rokey, Chief Bachman and Service Director Koehler requests a motion to rescind Resolution 2020-012, a Resolution declaring a state of emergency for the Coronavirus Disease Pandemic. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to promote Dillon Raines to the rank of full time Lieutenant to fill a vacancy effective May 30, 2021 at the established rate per the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to approve the appointment of Samuel Snead as a full-time Firefighter/EMT at the established rate per Collective Bargaining Agreement pending successful completion of all associated pre-employment requirements; obtaining certification as an Ohio Fire Safety Inspector and serving a one-year probationary period noting that the cost of all associated pre-employment requirement is that of the township. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to approve the appointment of Loden Smolenski as a part-time Firefighter/EMT at the established rate pending successful completion of all

associated pre-employment requirements and a one- year probationary period noting that the cost of all associated pre-employment requirement is that of the township. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to accept the resignation of part-time Firefighter/Paramedic Mason Mayfield effective April 9, 2021. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to approve the emergency repair to 2009 Sutphen Fire engine from Jake's Truck and Trailer Repair in the amount of \$4,561.07. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to authorize an increase in pay for current part-time Firefighter/EMT's and Firefighter/Paramedics by \$3.00 per hour. Trustee Kambelos made the motion, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to authorize an increase in pay for current part-time Firefighter/EMT's and Firefighter/Paramedics by the same \$3.00 per hour.

Planning and Zoning Administrator McCarthy requests a motion clarifying that the fee for an application to the Board of Zoning Appeals is \$400.00 regardless of the nature of the application (i.e., appraisals, variances, conditional uses, etc.) The zoning fee schedule was adopted per Resolution 2021-015. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve as amended, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Planning & Zoning Administrator McCarthy requests a motion for approval of a job description for Part Time and Zoning Assistant. (attached). This position is not to exceed 30 hours per week and \$20.00 per hour without further approval. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Service Department Director Koehler requests a motion rescinding Resolution 2021-013 and adopting new Resolution 2021-016, a resolution requesting a speed study for W. Concord Road in Pierce Township. (Prior resolution had a discrepancy in existing speed limit-unposted speed is 55MPH, prior resolution said 40MPH). Discussion followed to have a speed study done on Pond Run Rd. It was decided to have a resolution prepared for the June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Special Meeting. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Service Department Director Koehler requests a motion to authorize a change order from Barrett Paving in the amount of \$19,593.20 for Dorado Court. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Service Department Director Koehler requests a motion to authorize the purchase of 4 benches for the Pierce Township Park from GameTime in the amount of \$4,020.08. (2 benches to be placed at the new dog park and 2 to be placed along the history trail.) Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Administrator Rokey requests a motion for Resolution 2021-017, a resolution authorizing acceptance of Amelia CIC property. Discussion followed stating the lease agreement on this property (marijuana facility) has been terminated and the property will be going into both townships name. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Administrator Rokey requests a motion for the nomination of Allen Freeman to continue to serve on the OPWC District 10 Integrating Committee. (all current terms expire the end of May.) Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Zoning Commission Member Jeff Stitt's term will expire May 31<sup>st</sup>. New 5-year term begins June 1<sup>st</sup>. Planning & Zoning Administrator McCarthy reported 2 letters of interest were received.

Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve Jeff Stitt to the Zoning Commission to the new 5- year term. Seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

The Board decided to hold off and repost for the zoning alternate position.

Administrator Rokey was asked by Bob Pautke to request approval to resume the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Children's Parade. This will be the 17<sup>th</sup> year for the event. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Also discussed by the Board a ribbon cutting event for the dog park and history trails. Maybe doing all at the same time as the parade.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION:**

Michelle Balside asked of Trustee Kambelos comment on aluminium siding. Trustee Kambelos replied it is a matter of taste.

Also asked how many more meetings will the former Village of Amelia be having. Attorney Keating stated probably 2 more.

Renee Gerber thanked Administrator Rokey and Administrator Evans for continuing the village wide yard sale this year. (June 4<sup>th</sup> thru June 6<sup>th</sup>)

Renee Gerber also asked about RITA tax collections, when will the collection of the tax be done, also asked about the tax review board. No answers from RITA have been given. Attorney Keating will be contacting RITA regarding these matters.

Also asked about the CIC, Chairman Freeman stated when the village goes away so does the CIC. The CIC then has no purpose.

Ed McCoy stated to Fire Chief Wright about being a moral person, says a lot about his character and who he is. Also thanked Trustee Kelly for working hard with the problems at On the Green at Royal Oak. He also suggested about Pierce Township holding a job fair with all the help wanted signs that are out there.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Chairman Freeman requested a motion for the purpose of executive session discussing the sale of township land with or without competitive bidding.

Trustee Kambelos made the motion to go into executive session at 8:18p.m., seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Trustee Kambelos made the motion to leave executive session at 8:54p.m. with no action being taken by the board. Seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Trustee Kelly made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55p.m., seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

**ATTESTED:**

The Pierce Township Board of Trustees approved the foregoing minutes on April 14, 2021.

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Chairman Allen Freeman, Pierce Township Board of Trustees

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Debbie Schwey, Pierce Township Fiscal Officer

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

June 9, 2021 at 6:30p.m.