

Pierce Township Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2021

The Board of Trustees of Pierce Township, Clermont County, Ohio met for their Regular Meeting at 6:40p.m., Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at Pierce Township Townhall at 950 Locust Corner Rd.

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 Foreman Cody Smith and Fiscal Officer Debbie Schwey were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Trustee Kambelos led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Fiscal Officer Schwey made the motion to approve the June 9, Regular Meeting Minutes, and Special Meeting Minutes of June 28. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve and seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

Attorney Keating stated the resolution authorizing settlement to Mr. Hicks attached with an agreement by both parties.

Chairman Freeman brought before the Board a motion for Resolution 2021-019, a resolution authorizing settlement of litigation case number 2021 CVH 00083 concerning Ohio Open Meeting Act. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Mr. Paul Kamphaus spoke of his running for Municipal Court, lives in Pierce Township and has served with the Sheriff's Dept. for 27 years as a deputy sheriff.

Commissioner Bonnie Batchler stated the commissioners will be voting on the local government funding Wednesday July 21. All 14 townships voted in favor of the funding.

Trustee Kelly gave a back ground on the resolution and how it all came about. It was about filling the position that Bonnie Batchler would be vacating as trustee since was elected as Clermont County Commissioner. Lesson learned. That he is taking full responsibility since he was chairman of the board.

Mr. Chris Hicks of 444 Woodwick Court commented on the settlement of litigations concerning the Ohio Open Meeting Act.

Trustee Kelly responded to Mr. Hicks comments.

Chairman Freeman moved the meeting forward.

DEPARTMENTAL CELEBRATIONS AND UPDATES:

Police Dept.: National Night Out is Tuesday, August 3 at 6p.m. at Pierce Park. Officer Julie Poe completed leadership training. Police Dept. with a search warrant on June 9th at St. Andrews apartments searched an apartment found 500 grams of Meth with a street value of \$15,000.00.

Fire Dept.: Nothing to report.

Service Dept.: Reported on Legendary Run's Children's 4th of July Parade. Received a price for water tap at Pierce Preserve, price from CreativeScapes for cleaning up in front of the township building, approximates \$6,000.00. If the service department was to do the cleanup it would cost approximately \$2,000.00. Bradbury Rd. should be completed in about 3 weeks. The start of repaving roads to begin next month. No updates on Dorado Court.

Parks: Mr. Randy Page reported on the dedication of the Dog Park and History Trail. Master Plan update completed and will be recommended for adoption. Successful 4th of July Parade. A Special Meeting with the Parks/Greenspace Committee to be held at Groh Park on July 22 at 6:30p.m. Masterplan is completed waiting for approval from the Trustees.

Planning & Zoning Update: Discussed the Enterprize Zone Application near Glen Mary. Public Hearing scheduled July 28 at 6:30p.m. for Text and Map Amendments.

Administration: Consider auction of personal property from the former Village of Amelia not needed for public purpose by Pierce or Batavia Townships. Talked and did a walk thru with Auctioneer Craig Lytle to get an agreement to have an internet auction (security reasons). Have agreed to meet with anyone wishing to do a walk thru.

Mr. Tim Rosser asked about putting product in some form of inventory.

Discussed proposal from American Tower to revise current cell tower lease, reducing payments to the Township. Trustee Kelly made the motion to reject the offer from American Cell Tower, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All yea.

Salute to Leaders is July 21st beginning at 5:30p.m. at the Oasis in Loveland.

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 June 2021 for \$433,518.39. 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 bills for the month of June, 2021 for \$162,143.85. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion to approve the 2022 Tax Budget as presented at the Budget Hearing. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion to set up new FEMA Fund for a grant received by the Fire Department in the amount of \$145,227.27. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to authorize the payment of \$2,750.00 for Assistant Chief Gary Auffart to attend the 2021-2022 Lead Clermont Community Leadership Program through the Clermont Chamber of Commerce. Trustee Kambelos requests a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to rescind the conditional employment offer to Corey Barney as a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic. 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 Zachary Dapper 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 requirements 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 approve the emergency replacement of the main firehouse HVAC system by Baker, Bauer and Fish Cooling & Heating in the amount of \$13,980.00, noting that this work has already been completed due to the heat being out in the firehouse. 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 Jacob Toole as a part-time Firefighter/Paramedic at the established rate pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements; obtaining certification as an Ohio Fire Safety Inspector and serving a 1- year probationary period; noting that all associated expensed be that of the township. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Service Department Foreman Smith requests a motion to accept the quote of \$7,990.00 (\$3,995.00 a day/min of 2 days) for cleaning and CCTV internal video of 12" dia. through a 48" storm sewer lines on Holly Ridge Dr. from Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Service Department Foreman Smith requests a motion to approve the buyback of lot 6 grave 1 and 9 in section 2-B (lots) in Pierce Township Cemetery in the amount of \$573.32 from Mr. James Beard giving up all rights to said lot. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Service Department Foreman Smith requests a motion to accept a proposal from Barrett Paving Materials in the amount of \$118,230.00 for curb and gutter on the roadways included in the 2021 paving program. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Administrator Rokey requests a motion to approve the appointment of Kristin Cannon as part-time Planning and Zoning Assistant (not to exceed 29 hours per week) at the rate of \$16.00

per hour pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Administrator Rokey requests a motion to adopt 2021 updates to the 2016 Parks Master Plan as recommended by the Parks/Greenspace Committee at their meeting held July 7, 2021. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve as amended, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Administrator Rokey requests a motion for Resolution 2021-020, a resolution authorizing the sale of Township Real Estate in MacFarland Subdivision of former Village of Amelia (Lori Lane Parcels). Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Trustee Kambelos discussed work/cleanup plan on the old Beckjord Station.

Administrator Rokey discussed with the Board to consider the sale and getting an appraisal of unneeded real property owned by the Township located at 879 Locust Corner Rd. parcel #27-28-12A-001. To have an appraisal done by Canter Realty, LLC would be \$500.00.

Discussion by the Board is to reject the offer made by Mr. Homan. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to reject the offer, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION:

Mariam Blakley, Rivendell Rd. spoke about her concerns regarding the census form, questions and concerns regarding money.

Michelle Balside spoke about having an ice cream truck at the July 22 Parks/Greenspace Meeting at Groh Park. The cost for a 100 people would be \$495.00

Trustee Kelly made the motion to have ice cream at the July 22 Parks/Greenspace Meeting. Seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

On the Green: Administrator Rokey stated there are no more updates concerning St. Andrews. Attorney Keating reported there may be a serious buyer for this property.

The Board would like to thank Planning and Zoning Administrator McCarthy for doing a survey of the Quail Creek apartments. There is a need to keep pressure on them to clean up this property.

Ms Renee Gerber discussed renewal of the Waste Levy. The former Village of Amelia meeting has not been publicized,

Mr. Tim Rosser stated has not received a response from his E Mails he sent to the trustees back in March. The Board requested that he resend them.

Ms Sue Rosser asked about the Covid funds and what those funds have been spent on. Also asked about the Rumpke billing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Freeman read and requested a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of to as authorized by Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(2) to consider the retirement and replacement of the Chief of Police at 8:40p.m. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All yea.

Chairman Freeman read and requested a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of as authorized by Revised Code 121.22(G)(1) to consider the investigation or charges against a Township employee at 8:42p.m. Trustee Kambelos made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Trustee Kelly made the motion to leave executive session at 10:20p.m. which may result in some official action, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Administrator Rokey requests a motion to direct Fire Chief Wright to prepare a report and recommendations to the Trustees in response to a complaint and investigation of the Assistant Fire Chief. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All yea.

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Kelly made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30p.m., seconded by Trustee Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

ATTESTED:

The Pierce Township Board of Trustees approved the foregoing minutes on August 11, 2021.

Chairman Allen Freeman, Pierce Township Board of Trustee

Debbie Schwey, Pierce Township Fiscal Officer

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

August 11, 2021 at 6:30p.m.