

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting

Held

FEBRUARY 4,

2008

Chairman Spanovich called the Regular Staff Meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. with Mr. Angelou, Mrs. Stewart and the Fiscal Officer, Nancy White, present.

Also present were:

Lee Brown	Franklin County Planning Dept.
Jon White	Franklin County Planning Dept.
Ben Weiner	Franklin County Planning Dept.
Adam Kessler	Fitness Planning Consultants
Jim DeConnick	Fire Chief
Michael Pocock	Police Chief
Calvin McKnight	Service Director
Steve Blake	Code Enforcement Officer

Adam Kessler of Fitness Planning Consultants, Inc. said his company was contracted by the Fire Department to do the fitness testing for the Firefighters last year. He said he was present today to update the Trustees on the testing program. Testing was done in June, September and November and was a little stricter than what was done in the past. There were improvements made from the June testing to the November testing but there were some who did not participate past the June testing. The tests were geared for the job demands of a Firefighter. There were three levels of incentive bonuses that can be received as a result of the testing which are \$1,000, \$750 and \$500. Hopefully, this is an incentive to help Firefighters stay in shape and enhance their job performance. Mrs. Stewart asked if there was a plan for the Firefighters who did not complete the testing and also those who did not participate at all. Chief DeConnick said we hope to encourage these people through better health and fitness classes and eventually it may be mandatory for all personnel to pass the fitness testing. Mr. Angelou said there are a few personnel from other Departments that may be interested in testing also. Mr. Kessler said testing is mainly geared to job demands.

Mr. Angelou said that the people who need it the most are not testing and that is why it may be a good idea to make it mandatory to meet certain physical standards to maintain good health and enhance job performance. Mr. Angelou said that from what was presented here today, this is a testing vehicle only. Before we had a fitness person who made appointments with people to work with them individually but decided to go in a different direction to this testing program only and need to decide if testing is enough. Mr. Spanovich said it is on the agenda to revisit this program in March. Chief DeConnick added that over half of the Fire personnel attend the fitness program and he finds it very beneficial resulting in better job performance and less sick time. Eventually this will be a wider scoped and mandatory program.

Mr. Spanovich turned the meeting over to Ben Weiner, Planner for the Franklin County Development Department. Mr. Weiner introduced Lee Brown and Jon White who are also with the Planning Department. Mr. Weiner said the last time he was here was to talk about the Land Use Plan which the Department was just about to embark upon and now he is here to report on the progress before they have their Public Meeting on February 25, 2008. He gave some background on how the Plan came about. In 2005 Columbus contacted the County about an upcoming land use plan for the Northeast areas and asked the County if they wanted to develop a joint plan. This did not happen at the time but in 2007, the County was able to participate and because Columbus's plan was over half complete, the County and Townships completed an accelerated plan. Mr. Weiner said that for the past several weeks, he has been meeting with representatives of both Mifflin and Clinton to develop a plan. A plan is a blueprint for the development or redevelopment of an area and often includes desired future land uses, development standards and transportation improvements. The plan aims to help townships direct future public improvements where they are most needed by defining focus areas. Each focus area called for its own set of recommendations. The Focus Areas are: (1) West Mifflin Residential (2) Clinton Residential (3) Westerville Road (4) Cleveland Avenue-Northern Lights (5) Agler-Cassady Mixed Use Center (6) Alum Creek-Sunbury Rd (7) Drake Road and (8) Leonard Park. Once the focus areas were defined, recommendations were developed and ground rules agreed upon for each focus area. Mr. Angelou asked who would fund the recommended improvements. Mr. Weiner said that the Community Development Block Grant Funding has some money focused on the townships. Mr. Weiner discussed the recommendations for future improvements for all the focus areas listed above. He said these improvements in the plan would help address township finances because of how important an existing tax base is to the township. (See Referral File for the complete Northeast Area Land Use Plan for Mifflin and Clinton Townships).

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Mr. Weiner said the final steps to the plan are presentations to both Mifflin and Clinton, a Public Meeting which is scheduled for February 25, 2008 at the Mifflin Community Center and then revisions. The final plan will be presented to both Townships for adoption and then adoption by the Board of Commissioners. It was agreed by the Trustees and Department Heads that this was a very good presentation.

Mr. Spanovich said the next item on the agenda is approval of the minutes. Mr. Spanovich said in the January 15th minutes he asked for a breakdown of the overtime used for staffing the TeleSaff system. Chief DeConnick said that most of the overtime was for setting up the system and there is only a small amount used now for adjustments. Mr. Spanovich said he also has a concern over the amount of overtime that was used by the Firefighters in 2007 and would like to know if there is a way to put a cap on it. Chief DeConnick said there were some staffing issues, but the Department still came in under budget for salaries. He said there will always be overtime because of personnel calling in sick, being injured and off for long periods of time. Mrs. Stewart said that this is something that should be discussed at a later date when the Trustees have all the information before them.

Mr. Spanovich pointed out that in the January 2, 2008 minutes under New Business – Health Insurance Renewal for 2008, it was stated the Insurance Committee recommended the HSA/HRA plans. He said that the statement by the Fiscal Officer that elected officials and employees over 65 can only be covered under the HRA plan should be amended to state that other plans were available for those persons. Mrs. Stewart stated that the decision the Trustees made to go with the HRA at the January 26th meeting was based only on the fact that the HRA was the best plan for **all** employees and the most economical for the Township. Even though health costs are increasing at a very high rate, this plan will allow the Township to pay the entire premium as they have in the past and not ask the employees to contribute.

Res. 34-08: Amend Minutes of January 2, 2008

Mr. Angelou moved to amend the January 2, 2008 minutes under New Business – Health Insurance Renewal for 2008 to change the comment made by the Fiscal Officer that elected officials and employees over 65 can only be under the HRA plan to read “The Fiscal Officer presented the various proposals of the Committee and suggested that we study the legalities involved”. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion Carried.

Res. 35-08: Approve Minutes of 12/18/07, 12/20/07, 1/7/08, 1/15/08 and the 1/2/08 Minutes as Amended

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2007, December 20, 2007, January 7, 2008 and January 15, 2008 meetings as presented and the January 2, 2008 minutes as amended above. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Fiscal Officer said the only correspondence received was a letter from the Public Works Integrating Committee regarding the final action for the award of Round 22 OPWC Infrastructure Funds. Calvin McKnight submitted a Road Improvements project. We did not rank very high in the Round 22 project but we are ranked No. 1 for Small Government funding for \$145,862.00 which will be decided in March.

FISCAL OFFICER’S REPORT

The Fiscal Officer said that she sent the information in to the County Auditor to get our First Amended Certificate but she has not received it as yet. She said there may be some slight adjustments that need to be made in some of the budgets that the Board approved just because of the final numbers that they will be sending us because they look at the tax revenues again at that point.

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PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS (NEW BUSINESS)

ADMIN/IT - Mr. Spanovich said the following requests were presented to the Board for approval:

Res. 36-08: Approve Request of AARP TaxAide to Rent the Township Meeting Hall on January 5-8, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for TaxAide Counselor Training

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve the request of AARP TaxAide to use the Township Meeting Hall on January 5 – 8, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for TaxAide Counselor Training as they have done for the past few years under the non-profit guidelines. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 37-08: Approve Remote Helpdesk Software Subscription from LogMein, Inc. for an Annual Fee of \$1069.00

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve Purchase Request No. 0208 for the Remote Helpdesk Software Subscription from LogMein, Inc. allowing IT helpdesk support to end users remotely for an annual fee of \$1069.00 as submitted by Paul Adkins. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 38-08: Approve VLA Office Pro Plus 2007 as Quoted by Dell/ASAP Software for 29 Licenses for a Total of \$8,868.49

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve Purchase Request No. 0308 for VLA Office Pro Plus 2007 to bring our Microsoft Office Suite current as quoted by Dell/ASAP Software for 29 licenses for a total cost of \$8,868.49 as submitted by Paul Adkins. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 39-08: Approve Renewal of Annual Fireproof Offsite Data Storage & Insurance Contract with Fireproof Records Center for a Total of \$1980.40

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve Purchase Request No. 0408 for renewal of Annual Fireproof Offsite Data Storage and Insurance Contract with Fireproof Records Center for a total of \$1980.40 as submitted by the Fiscal Officer. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Request No. 0508 for renewal of a lawn care contract with Jim Klamfoth for the Township Building grounds was placed on hold for the February 19, 2008 regular meeting.

SERVICE – Calvin McKnight said that as Steve Blake reported at a previous meeting, Rumpke has agreed to put a roll-off dumpster at Sta. 132 for the Service Department to dispose of trash from alleys. A pad has been placed on the Police side of the building and eventually, we may want to put a fence around it to keep people from having access to it. He also advised the Trustees that he will be out of town from February 15th through the 19th and D.J. Tharp will be in charge.

Mr. McKnight reported that sometime in January someone broke the lock on the storage building at Riverside Cemetery but nothing was taken. The Police were called and the building has been re-secured.

Mr. McKnight said that he requested a quote from Buckeye Power Sales for new mowers under the same plan as J. D. Equipment but did not receive it in time to be placed on the agenda. The cost would be \$25.00 more a mower but J. D. Equipment is in London, Ohio and it would be easier to deal with and receive service from a local company.

Res. 40-08: Rescind Resolution No. 21-08 to Purchase (3) Mowers from J.D. Equipment and Approve Purchasing (3) Mowers from Buckeye Power Company for \$2,250.00

Mrs. Stewart moved to rescind Res. No. 21-08 to purchase three (3) mowers from J.D. Equipment and approve purchasing three (3) Lazer Z 25KOH 60 mowers from Buckeye Power Sales which is a local company under the same plan as previously approved for

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\$2250.00 as recommended by Calvin McKnight. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Mrs. Stewart said she spoke with Calvin McKnight regarding some cemetery price adjustments. He said he would have a proposal ready for the next meeting.

POLICE – Chief Pocock said he has a request before the Board to approve the hiring of Jason Ary as a Part-time Police Officer. He previously was a Part-time Officer with Clinton Township.

Res. 41-08: Approve Hiring Jason Ary as a Part-time Police Officer at the Current Rate

Mr. Angelou moved to approve hiring Jason Ary as a Part-time Police Officer at the current rate of \$8.06/Hr. as recommended by Chief Pocock. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Chief Pocock said that Steve Blake and Officer Hissong are putting together a Community Watch Program to get residents involved in watching out for their neighbors. A meeting is being scheduled for February 28, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center building.

Chief Pocock said that a meeting was held with Mr. Angelou and the Fiscal Officer regarding the Police budget for 2008. The Fiscal Officer said we should approve what is presented now but we may need to make some adjustments at the next meeting after the Amended Certificate is received from the County.

Res. 42-08: Approve Police Budget for 2008 as Presented with Adjustments Made if Needed

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the Police Budget for 2008 as presented with adjustments made if needed at the next meeting. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Chief Pocock said that working in conjunction with Clinton Township benefits both Township Police Departments.

Mr. Angelou said that regarding the Workers' Comp bill that we receive, a review should be done Department by Department on their usage and discussed at the next meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Steve Blake said that Miracit contacted him that they have about three or four properties in contract and one includes the house on Northglen he has been dealing with which will be torn down. He said he also received a phone call from the Rhema Christian Center that there is some grant money available for use by Mifflin Township to do \$5000 to \$7000 worth of repairs on homes for needy residents.

Steve Blake presented the Board with information on his personal dog that he is training for a K-9 program. There is liability coverage for the dog under his own insurance policy which includes off premise coverage. Mrs. Stewart said that until we talk to our insurance carrier and get an opinion from the Prosecutor, we should not go any further with this. Mr. Spanovich asked that this be held for the next meeting.

FIRE – Chief DeConnick said the additional vacation request from Local 2818 was tabled from the last meeting and asked if the Board was ready to make a decision on this at this time.

Res. 43-08: Approval of 2008 Vacation Package Request of Local 2818 Failed

Mrs. Stewart moved for a decision on approval of the 2008 Vacation Package Request of Local 2828. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted no. Motion for approval failed.

After discussion, the Board agreed to approve Lt. Fuhrmann's request to carry over 10 hours of vacation to be used within 90 days of 2008 as recommended by Chief DeConnick.

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Res. 44-08: Approve Lt. Fuhrmann's Request to Carry Over 10 Hours Vacation Time For Use in 2008 Within 90 Days

Mr. Angelou moved to approve Lt. Fuhrmann's request to carry over 10 hours of vacation time for use in 2008 within 90 days with the condition that this pertains to this time only. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Chief DeConnick said that Purchase Request No. 01.01.08 for microfilming was tabled from the last meeting to check on putting them on a disk. He was advised that it would be cost prohibitive for the EMS Reports and EKG strips to be done digitally at this time.

Res. 45-08: Approve Microfilming 2004 EMS Reports by Assured Micro-Services for a Cost of \$2225.00

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve Purchase Request No. 01.01.08 for microfilming 2004 EMS Reports for a cost of \$2225.00 as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Chief DeConnick said that at a previous meeting he presented a renewal request for Accident & Sickness coverage for part-time personnel and would like to hold up on this to review the proposal of another vendor.

Chief DeConnick presented the Trustees with the following for approval:

Res. 46-08: Approve Service Credit Bonuses for Firefighters Lord, Broskie, Stickler, Weidner, Cordell & Barnett

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve Service Credit Bonuses for Firefighters Mona Lord, Harold Broskie, Sheri Stickler and Jack Weidner for \$1100/each; Michael Cordell and Shawn Barnett for \$500/each at the discretion of the Board and funds permitting as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Mr. Spanovich signed off on a request to send Firefighter Neil Cline to a Developmental Disabilities in Juvenile Firesetters education class for \$80.00.

Res. 47-08: Accept Resignation of Firefighter Bryan Bishop Per His Request Effective February 21, 2008

Mr. Angelou moved to accept the resignation of Firefighter Bryan Bishop per his request to become a Columbus Firefighter effective February 21, 2008 as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 48-08: Table Request of David Brizius to Attend Southeastern Fire & Safety Educators Conference in Myrtle Beach for 2/19/08 Meeting

Mr. Spanovich moved to table request of David Brizius to attend the Southeastern Fire & Safety Educators Conference in Myrtle Beach for the February 19, 2008 meeting to give Trustees a chance to review the classes he will be taking. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried to table request.

Mr. Spanovich signed off on Firefighter Brandon Wogan's request to attend Fire Officer 1 classes for \$275 in March, 2008 and Fire Safety Inspector 1 classes for \$370 in May, 2008 at the Ohio Fire Academy.

Mr. Spanovich signed off on the request of Firefighter Kevin Snyder to be reimbursed in the amount of \$180 for a Paramedic Refresher course he paid for and completed in November, 2007.

Mr. Spanovich signed off on the request of Firefighter Pete Rimoldi to be reimbursed in the amount of \$225.00 for an EMT-Basic Refresher class he paid for and completed on January 24, 2008.

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Chief DeConnick advised the Trustees of the following for their information:

Bryan Roy successfully completed the Introduction to Homeland Security course at OSU with a grade of A and qualifies to receive the remainder tuition due of \$573.50.

Ladder 131 is on the way to Pierce for repairs and should be completed by mid-March.

A letter was received from a homeowner on Woodbay thanking the crew at Sta. 134 for saving their home from a gas dryer fire.

The Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) training will be held next month in the 485 Rocky Fork building.

Physicals for the top five personnel who qualify for full-time will be done as there is money left from the 2006 budget for this and there is a need to hire at least three new full-time firefighters. There will be a recommendation at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Police Replacement Levy – Mr. Angelou said he plans to attend the Community Block Watch Meeting at the Community Center on February 28, 2008. The Police Levy is on the March 4, 2008 ballot.

TeleSaff Status – Mr. Spanovich asked that the Firefighter in charge of this system put in writing why it needs constant monitoring and when it will be 99% effective and when it reaches that point, how much additional time will need to be spent to keep it working correctly and up to date.

All other items have been discussed or are pending at this time.

The Fiscal Officer said she just received notice that at the Solid Waste Consortium Meeting, Rumpke asked for a 2009 extension of their contract for an increase of 3% making the rate per household per month of \$14.40 from \$13.98 in 2008. Each entity is asked to confirm a commitment to accept the 2009 extension from Rumpke.

Res. 49-08: Approve Committing to Accept 2009 Extension from Rumpke at \$14.40 per Household per Month

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve committing to accept the 2009 extension from Rumpke at \$14.40 per household per month as recommended at the Solid Waste Consortium Meeting. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Spanovich said the next meeting is the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at 6:00 P.M.

There being no further business, Mr. Angelou moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Joseph F. Spanovich, Chairman

Nancy M. White, Fiscal Officer

The Trustees approved the February 1, 2008 payroll warrants for the period of January 13, 2008 through January 26, 2008. Copies are on file with the Fiscal Officer.
