

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

TRUSTEE
Don Hodson

HENDRICKS COUNTY
311 PRODUCTION DRIVE
AVON, INDIANA 46123
PHONE: (317) 272-1835

TOWNSHIP BOARD
Suzanne X. Conger
Doug Elmore
Michael J. Lynch

Washington Township Board Meeting
Meeting February 12th, 2014 — 7:00 PM
Held at: Washington Township Pavilion Center
435 Whipple Ln, Avon, IN 46123

Call to Order and Pledge

Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM and Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Quorum

Quorum was established Doug Elmore, Michael J. Lynch and Suzanne X. Conger present. Also in attendance: Trustee Don Hodson and staff.

Public Comment

1. None

Consent Agenda

The minutes for the January 29th, 2013 board meeting and the January claims were presented. Don Hodson made a correction for the February 12th agenda. It stated that the minutes for January 29th, 2014 reorganization Mtg. would be approved when it should have said the January 29th, 2014 board meeting and the annual report. Michael Lynch made a motion to approve the consent agenda with amendments as submitted and Suzanne Conger seconded the motion. **Motion carries 3-0.**

Department Reports

1. Chief Dan Smith presented the January fire department report. That report can be found on the township website. Chief Smith noted that the report will now show a capture of the run statistics every month. The new Assistant Chief, George Gerald, and the new Public Educator, Karen Hendershot, started their new positions at the beginning of the month. Oral interviews were completed for the county-wide hiring process. Once they points are tallied up, the choice will be taken to the fire board for approval.
2. Jennifer Thornell presented the public assistance report. That report can be found on the township website. The CAP office is reopening due to having funds. Most places are depleted due to the hard winter. Jennifer is encouraging her clients to file their taxes immediately to help with their finances.
3. Nikki Montembeault presented the parks report. The report can be found on the township website. Will be emailing out a link to test their website. This will hopefully help people who want to reserve spaces in the park. There are also directions on the site since most people have trouble finding the park. Nikki has been working with the public educator, Karen Hendershot, to host some Insanity classes at the Pavilion.

Trustee's Report

1. Don Hodson presented the trustee report. That report can be found on the township website. A department head meeting will be held the next day with a renew on 2014 goals.

Old Business

1. Nikki Montembeault presented the Inter local Agreement between the Washington Twp. Library and the Washington Twp. Park. There was a problem with using concrete for the waysides. This means that there will probably be another stage of planning before the plan is in full motion. Posts need replaced or moved to a different location. Suzanne Conger made a motion to approve the Inter Local Agreement Storybook Walk at Washington Township Park as written. Michael Lynch seconded the motion. **Motion carries 3-0.**

New Business

1. Don Hodson presented the Merit Firefighter Retiree Medical Supplement. The VEBA program originally began in regards to longevity with the fire department back when Greg Hurst was trustee. Josie Conrad discussed the present plan available. There are currently two different portions: VEBA and longevity. VEBA is for full-time employees, minus elected officials, after one year of employment. They would be enrolled the following January after their first year. It was created as an HSA account to be used once retired. It is run by a third party administrative company. After six years of service, they are 100% invested. The second portion of the program is longevity. There were three options for the employees that were already with the fire department when this plan was put into place in 2005. If hired after that date, there were two options the person could choose. Longevity is defined as \$100 a year after the third year of employment. A discussion was held over the options available to eligible employees. For 2014, the budget for VEBA is \$113,245.00 and there are currently 53 participants including park, township and fire. A discussion was held about what a person could do if they separated from the township. Don presented the new plan that would only be for merit firefighters. There are currently six employees that would not qualify for the new plan. What would be done for them is a payroll adjustment to make up for not being eligible for retiree Medical plan. Firefighters would still control their contribution. The plan would call for a 2% increase each year. This would be a board decision, not the Trustee's. The participant's amount contributed would be based on a point system. A trust board would be created consisting of the trustee, one board member, two merit firefighters, and one township member. The plan will be brought to the board in March to be approved. Doug Elmore asked that at the next meeting, those who have been part of the planning committee for the new plan be available for questions. A discussion was held over the new plan that was presented and who would be able to receive the new plan. Doug Elmore suggested a meeting to discuss the new plan. Michael Lynch asked what the new healthcare laws would do to the plans. A discussion followed.
2. Jennifer Thornell presented the 2014 Township Assistance Guidelines. Jennifer stated that the guidelines must be taken to the county commissioner every year. One of the changes made was found on page 9. Everything went up about \$50.00. On page 10, the change was on the averages of the trailer park homes. On page 11, the change was about people utilizing the CAP office until they have run out of funds. On page 13, the change was about funeral expenses for an infant be raised from \$800 to \$2,000. Michael J. Lynch made a motion to approve the Township Assistance Standards and Guidelines as presented and Suzanne X. Conger seconded the motion. **Motion carries 3-0.**
3. Don Hodson presented the topic off township cemeteries. There are five cemeteries that the township takes care of. The township is responsible for the care and maintenance on cemeteries in accordance with Indiana Code 23-14-68. Josie and Susan will be going out to a possible sixth

cemetery later in the year to see if it qualifies as a cemetery that we are required to maintain. Examples of maintenance that the township is responsible for are resetting and straightening all monuments, leveling and seeding the ground, constructing and repairing fences, and destroying and cleaning up detrimental plants. A couple restoration meetings have been held with various individuals so far to set up a plan. Those involved are Susan Truax (Avon-Washington Township Library), Gale Tharp (County Historical Museum), John Parsons (County Historian), and Michael Higgins a member of the community and amateur photographer. All of the cemeteries currently need maintenance. Michael Higgins has volunteered to take pictures in a grid-like fashion of the cemeteries. There will be before and after pictures of all the restorations. If any group wants to complete any work in the cemeteries they will have to provide proof of insurance and follow all guidelines. Several funding possibilities are being looked into such as the Hendricks county Community Foundation and a fundraiser. Goals for the year were presented. Doug Elmore asked about selling plots on the North Lawn that still has space. Josie stated that selling the plots are possible, but she is not comfortable doing that because there are stipulations that have to be met with the plot itself as well as having a plot map with spaces that are available. A discussion followed on the restoration plans.

Public Comment

It was decided to set up a meeting to discuss the Merit Firefighter Retiree Medical Supplement. The date chosen was March 6th, 2014.

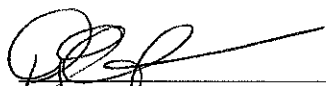
Wishes to be Heard

None

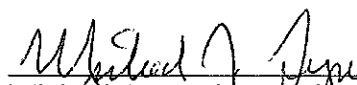
Adjournment

Michael J. Lynch motioned to adjourn the meeting and Suzanne X. Conger seconded the motion. **3-0 motion carries.** Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM. Next workshop meeting scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 6th, 2014 starting at 6:30 PM. Meeting to be held at Washington Township Government Center, 311 Production Drive. Next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, March 12th, 2014 starting at 7:00 PM. Meeting to be held at Washington Township Pavilion, 435 Whipple Lane, in event of flooding meeting will be held at Washington Township Government Center, 311 Production Drive.

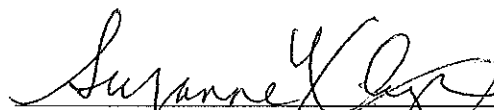
Minutes Approved March 12, 2014:



Doug Elmore, President



Michael J. Lynch, Member



Suzanne X. Conger, Secretary

Attest:



Don Hodson, Trustee