

Washington Township Board Meeting  
January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 — 7:00 PM  
Held at: Washington Township Park Pavilion  
435 Whipple Lane Avon, IN 46123

**Call to Order and Pledge**

Call to Order and Pledge to the American Flag was given at 7:00 PM.

**Quorum**

Quorum was established Doug Elmore, Suzanne X. Conger and Fred Palmer present. Also in attendance: Trustee Don Hodson, staff, and public.

**Public Comment**

None

**Consent Agenda**

The minutes from the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 reorganization meeting and claims were presented for approval. Don Hodson indicated changes that needed to the January 6<sup>th</sup> minutes. Under the "consent agenda", "December 11<sup>th</sup> reorganization meeting" should read "December 11<sup>th</sup> Park Bond meeting". Under "Appointments" it should state "Don Hodson notified Sheriff Clark at the December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Swearing In Ceremony that T. Patrick Laughlin was Deputy Trustee/Designee" instead of "Don Hodson appointed Sheriff Clark as the Designee at the swearing in ceremony and T. Patrick Laughlin as the Deputy Trustee". Under "New Business", it should state "openings within the fire department" instead of "openings within the department" Fred Palmer moved to approve the minutes with the noted amendments and claims. Seconded by Suzanne X. Conger. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Swearing in Ceremony**

1. Don Hodson conducted a Swearing In for the Township Department Heads: Josie Simison (Township Administrator), Jennifer Thornell (Township Assistance Director), Chief Dan Smith (Fire Chief), Nikki Montembeault (Parks Director).
2. Chief Smith conducted a Swearing In and badge pinning for new firefighters and newly promoted firefighters. Don Hodson swore in the following: Stephen Johnson and Alan Ramsey as firefighters; Jerome Bessler, Bryan Anderson, and Mark Miller as Lieutenants; Jason Porter as Battalion Chief.

Doug Elmore called for a 5 minutes recess once the ceremony was completed.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

1. Don Hodson introduced Marcus Turner, Avon Town Council President, and Laurel Sestler, Director of the Washington Township Library. Don Hodson, Public Assistance Director Jennifer Thornell, Park Director Nikki Montembeault, and Fire Chief Dan Smith presented the State of the Township. The related PowerPoint presentation can be found on the Township website.
2. Don Hodson presented the Township Credit Card Policy. Every year a credit card policy must be adopted. There are three credit cards and only two people are authorized to check the card out

to others. Approval is required annually. No changes have been made from the previous year. Suzanne X. Conger made a motion to approve resolution 012715-01, The Resolution of the Township Board of Washington Township, Hendricks County Indiana authorizing the Use of Credit Cards. Fred Palmer seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

3. Jennifer Thornell presented the Township Assistance Guidelines. The guidelines must be approved annually and submitted to the County Commissioners. No changes have been made from the previous year. Suzanne X. Conger asked that the word "Revised" be struck from the document since it is only being approved. Fred Palmer moved to accept the resolution 012715-02 with the suggested amendment. Suzanne X. Conger seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

4. Don Hodson and Jennifer Thornell presented the SSI Reimbursement Plan information for consideration at next month's meeting. Per state statute, the Township is mandated to provide Township assistance for those who qualify for disability benefits from Social Security but they have yet to receive them. The Township may recapture that money once the disability benefits have been received. The Indiana Township Association (ITA) would administer the contract and would require a 16% of the amount of any Washington Township's recovery amount. The SSI program is set up through the State Township Association as a third party administrator to recoup the money given to the person who received Township Assistance. It can take up to two years to receive the recouped money to go back into the Township Assistance Fund. A discussion was held between the board members, Don Hodson, and Jennifer Thornell about the ITA contract and any Township liability. Jennifer Thornell will research both organizations for information. Suzanne X. Conger asked that Jennifer provide at the next board meeting the 2013-2014 statistics for people applying for assistance who are waiting on SSI.

5. Don Hodson presented the Non-Merit Employee Medicare Insurance Premium Supplement Plan. This would apply to non-merit employees having twenty years of service with the Township and have reached the age for which they qualify for Medicare to switch to the Medicare program and are no longer eligible to participate in the Group Health Insurance plan as provided by the Township. A resolution proposing a \$3,200 reimbursement on Medicare claims was presented. The proposal indicated that the employee would continue to be eligible for dental and vision through the Township. Suzanne X. Conger suggested three changes to the resolution: that the documents state that the employee "may" continue with dental and vision through the Township; that it state that when the employee goes on Medicare they would no longer be able to participate in HSA; and that it state that the Township and employee will adhere by Federal and State tax laws. Don Hodson had a document with those amendments if the board should elect to approve the resolution including those amendments. Fred Palmer had reservations with the amount of reimbursement that would be provided by the Township. A discussion was held between the board members and Don Hodson about the proposed switch to Medicare and Township reimbursement. Suzanne X. Conger moved to accept resolution 012715-03 with the following amendments: that the documents state that the employee "may" continue with dental and vision through the Township; that it state that when the employee goes on Medicare they would no longer be able to participate in HSA; that it state that the Township and employee will adhere by Federal and State tax laws; that the \$3,200 reimbursement be changed to \$2,600 reimbursement. The motion failed for lack of a second. Doug Elmore moved that resolution 012715-03 be tabled until the Township has information related to self-insurance to better decide how the Township will have to fiscally spend the benefit dollars. The motion failed for lack of a second. Fred Palmer moved to approve resolution 012715-03 with the following amendments: that the documents state that the employee "may" continue with dental and vision through the Township; that it state that when the employee goes on Medicare they would no longer be able to participate in HSA; that it state that the Township and employee will adhere by Federal and State

tax laws; that the \$3,200 reimbursement be changed to \$2,000 reimbursement. The motion failed for lack of a second.

6. Chief Smith presented the Establishment of the Fire Department Donation Fund. The fund's intended use would be to recognize employees by purchasing food, awards, or other recognition items. This fund would continue from year-to-year and would not be subject to the budgeting process but funded through donations. Doug Elmore suggested an amendment be made that there is a cap put on the fund. A discussion was held between Chief Smith and the board members in regards to the suggested cap. Suzanne X. Conger moved that the resolution be tabled until more information is brought forth by legal counsel. Fred Palmer seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

7. Chief Smith presented a Cumulative (CUM) Fund Update. Three tablets for patient records will be upgraded within the next few weeks. There have been technical issues with all four of the ambulances in the past few weeks. It was decided that a new engine would be placed in one of those ambulances to get it back on the road. The lease for the new engine has been bid on and a decision on selection is iminent and the new medic will be delivered soon. These items have been previously budgeted for in the CUM fund.

#### **Public Comment**

Bob Phipps, firefighter, mentioned that in regard to the Medicare coverage being better than the current insurance coverage, it depended upon the supplemental insurance added on to parts A and B. The extra costs would be going to pay for the supplements.

#### **Wishes to be Heard**

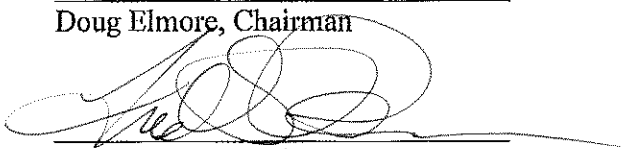
Josie Simison said that as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, the checks that were outstanding in the Ameriana Bank have rolled off the account. This means there is a cash balance in the \$400,000 range that needs to be transferred to TCU so that the Township would only have one bank account.

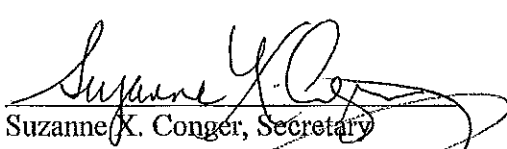
#### **Adjournment**

Fred Palmer motioned to adjourn the meeting and Suzanne X Conger seconded the motion. **3-0 motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be February 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

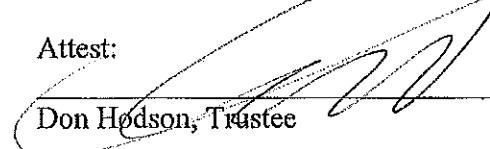
Minutes Approved February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Elmore, Chairman

  
Fred Palmer, Member

  
Suzanne X. Conger, Secretary

Attest:

  
Don Hodson, Trustee