

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MARCH 12, 2019
HELD AT WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT CENTER
311 PRODUCTION DRIVE, AVON, INDIANA

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM and the pledge to the flag was given.

Establish a Quorum:

Amanda Babinec, Steve Blacketer and Shane Sommers were present. Also present were: Trustee Don Hodson, Township Financial Advisor Jeff Peters, and staff.

Consent Agenda:

Steve Blacketer made a motion to approve the February 12, 2019 minutes and consent to the claims submitted. Amanda Babinec seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Public Comment:

None

Department Reports: (see attached)

1. Township Assistance- Amanda Babinec asked Sue Allen if we were doing or planning to do anything to let the public know about assistance. Sue advised she planned to attend the Avon Farmers Market when it begins this year.
2. Human Resource- Director Vining reviewed some stats, a review of the past month etc.
3. Parks Department- Director Helmick reviewed some parts of her report.
4. Fire Department- Assistant Chief George asked if there were any questions and the only one was on the remodel. He also recognized Administrative Assistant Kelli Brian for her hard work on the ISO review.

Trustee Report:

Trustee Hodson told the Board that he had given each of them the Certification of Training for the State Mandated Internal Control Training that was held the previous week. The certification listed who attended, the date of the training and what was covered. He also told the Board that Badge Pinning and Swearing In of the new Civilian Paramedics would be the next evening-March 13th at 5:30pm at the Township offices and invited them to attend.

Old Business:

1. Pecar Park Update (see attached)- Director Helmick and Trustee Hodson updated on the construction progress and told the Board they anticipated all but the asphalt to be completed by March 21. The Open House is scheduled for Saturday April 27th with the Ribbon Cutting being 3-4pm and the public tours 4-6pm. Trustee also told the board the only addition to the Financial Report expenses since the last report of February 5, 2019 was two invoices paid to LINK management.
2. Station 141- Assistant Chief George and Trustee Hodson advised that a meeting was scheduled with the architect on March 21st.
3. Training Ground Update- Trustee advised that he was still awaiting some information from the school before he ordered the appraisals to be done.

New Business:

1. 2019 Township Salary Resolution- HR Director Aaron Vining advised the Board that in checking position pay to the salary resolution pay ranges, he found some errors from the original resolution that had been approved in October, 2018 for 2019. He found that pay ranges for the Fire Department Chief, Assistant Chief, one of the Division Chiefs and Assistant Parks Director were a little lower than what was actually being paid as approved by the previous Board for the 2019 Budget. He also advised that two positions for the Parks Department had been left off. He requested that the Board approve an amendment to the 2019 Salary Resolution. Amanda Babinec made a motion to approve Resolution 031919-01 Amending the 2019 Township Salary Resolution. Steve Blacketer seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
2. Proposal to change the Township Board Terms to Staggered Terms- Trustee Hodson advised the Board that Townships were the only legislative body who did not have the capability to have staggered terms. State Senator John Crane had sponsored a bill -SB 165 to allow Townships who wanted to do so. The law became effective July 1, 2018. The law stated that a township MAY adopt this by passing a resolution. The law allowed those who did so to change the terms beginning at the earliest with the 2022 Election. During an election, the individual getting the highest number of votes in the General Election would serve a four year term. The individuals receiving the second and third highest number of votes would serve a two year term. Then at the next General Election those two positions would be on the ballot for a four year term and continue as such after that. The end result would then be the Trustee and one Board Member serving a concurrent four year term and the other two Board Members would serve a different concurrent four year term. This would allow consistency in leadership and keep from having the possibility of having a new Trustee and three members Board at one time. He also explained the law also stated any Township who adopted the Staggered Terms could not repeal the resolution they passed until twelve (12) years had

passed since the date of adoption. He then presented Resolution 031219-02 Establishing Staggered Terms for the Washington Township Board beginning with the 2022 Election. Steve Blacketer made a motion to approve the Resolution and Amanda Babinec seconded the motion. **Motion Carried 3-0.** Trustee advised the board that to his knowledge our Township is the first in the state to do this!!

3. Fire Department Presentation on additional equipment and personnel (see attached) Assistant Chief George presented to the Board and those present information on the Fire National Standards, information on the population and housing growth in Washington Township and the impact all of this had on the department's ability to meet those demands. He presented a scenario of additional personnel to meet those standards that required 4 firefighters on each ladder and each engine and two civilian paramedics on a medic. He also reviewed the need for an engine to also be placed at STATION 141 along with the existing ladder and medic. If that scenario was done it would require an additional 21 firefighters. If we left the numbers of 3 on each engine and ladder and only added an engine at STATION 141 we would need 9 additional firefighters (three shifts). He also mentioned the availability of a grant the Township could apply for that would fund 75% the first year pay and benefits, 75% the second year and 35% the third year. The funding would be based on the current pay for a first year firefighter and that base would stay constant in years two and three. So any pay raises and moving up to second year and third year firefighter pay would have to be absorbed by the Township too. After a lot of questions and discussion, Board Chair Shane Sommers requested Township Financial Advisor provide to the Board at the April 11th meeting some scenarios in addition to the regular 5 Year Sustainability Report he would be doing. Those scenarios were:

Option 1- Leaving everything as is

Option 2- just adding an Engine at St.141 and 9 personnel

Option 3- Add 1 per shift per existing engines and the ladder- 9 FF

Option 4- Do Option 2 and 3 and additional for PTO for a total of 21FF

Options 5- Not do anything but plan another Station with an Engine and

Medic And 3 FF for each of those for a total of 15 FF in 2025

Option 6- Do Option 5 but in 2022.

Public Comment:

None

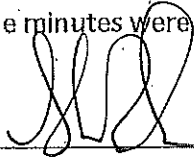
Wishes to Be Heard:

Trustee Hodson reminded the Board that Jeff Peters would present the 5 Year Sustainability Plan at the April 11th Board meeting. He also told the Board a question had been raised about the feasibility of broadcasting Board meetings to the stations. He told them to do so he would need their permission since it was their meeting. Consensus was given for him to see about doing this.

Adjournment:

Steve Blacketer made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Amanda Babinec seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.** The meeting adjourned at 3:56PM.

The minutes were approved April 11, 2109:



Shane Sommers, Chair

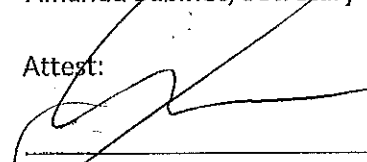


Amanda Babinec, Secretary



Steve Blacketer, Member

Attest:



Don Hodson, Trustee

The next Township Board meeting will be April 11, 2019 at 2:00 PM. All meetings are held at the Washington Township Government Center, 311 Production Drive, Avon, Indiana.