

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD WORK SHOP
MAY 10, 2019
HELD AT: WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT CENTER
311 PRODUCTION DRIVE, AVON, INDIANA

Call To order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Establishment of a Quorum:

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

Public Comment:

There were no members of the public in attendance although the agenda was posted in multiple locations.

Discussion:

The Trustee advised all present that the Board Workshop was being held at the request of the Board Members in response to a request from the Fire Department had for a new engine at Station 141 and additional personnel at the April 9, 2019 Board Meeting.

The Trustee reminded everyone present that the Board can hold workshops that are open to the public. At workshops, the Board does not have to allow questions or comments from the public and the Board cannot vote on any action at workshops. The Trustee said that individual board members had sent a list of questions about the Fire Department's request to address at the workshop. Board members also asked the Township's financial advisor, Jeff Peters, to provide the five to ten year financial impact of the request to the Township finances of each of the three personnel options.

The Trustee laid out the format of the meeting: Jeff Peters would make his presentation and answer questions followed by staff's presentation and Q&A.

Jeff Peters reviewed the financial impact on the cash reserves for the following three personnel options requested (see attached):

1. Adding just the nine (9) firefighters needed to staff the new engine at Station 141 if approved. (3 per shift)
2. Adding 15 new firefighters for both the new engine and to increase staffing of the other apparatuses.
3. Increasing staffing to 21 new firefighters for both the new engine and to increase staffing of the other apparatuses.

Fire Chief Smith and Assistant Chief George reviewed their answers to the formal questions posed to them prior to the work shop (see attached).

After the presentations, the Board had additional questions:

1. What would be their minimum request, and why?

Answer: placing a new engine at Station 141 and staffing it with three (3) per shift for a total of nine (9) new firefighters. This would reduce the total number of runs made by the Ladder (potentially by 35-45%), allow the department to meet the minimum standards set by the NFSPA for safety, and meet the increased run load demand (currently trending 14% above 2018 run levels).

2. If 80-85% of our runs are EMS-related, why can't we meet the demand with another Medic and three (3) Civilian Paramedics?

Answer: The Medic can only be used for one function whereas the engine is multi-functional. As the Township grows, there will be additional demands on both fire and EMS. The national standards dictate best practice scenarios for firefighting (e.g., how many apparatus for different types of scenarios, etc. – see attached).

After the discussion, the Board asked the Trustee to incorporate the additional engine and the nine additional firefighters into the 2020 budget so they could see the total impact. They also requested a revised Five Year Plan from Jeff Peters, incorporating this scenario and other proposed township projects so they could have that as they begin the 2020 Budget process.

Public Comment:

None

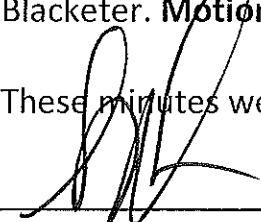
Wishes To Be Heard:

None

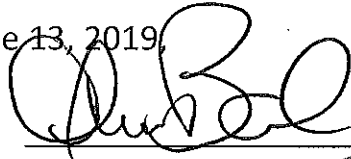
Adjournment:

Amanda Babinec made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Steve Blacketer. **Motion carried 3-0.** The meeting adjourned at 2:45PM.

These minutes were approved on June 13, 2019.



Shane Sommers, Chair

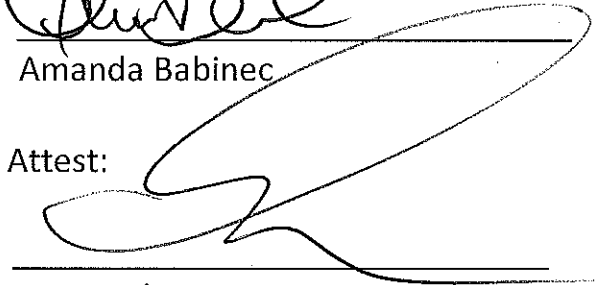


Amanda Babinec

Attest:



Steve Blacketer, Member



Don Hodson, Trustee

Next Meeting will be the Township Board Meeting on May 14, 2019 at 2:00PM.
All meetings are held at the Washington Township Government Center, 311
Production Drive, Avon, Indiana.