

Washington Township Board Meeting
April 10, 2018 — 7:00 PM
Held at: Washington Township Government Center
311 Production Drive, Avon, Indiana 46123

Call to Order and Pledge

Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM and the pledge to the American flag was given.

Quorum

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

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

The minutes from the February 13, 2018 Township Board Meeting and the February 27, 2018 Special Township Board meeting and the claims were presented. Doug Elmore moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2018 Board meeting and accept the claims. Seconded by Fred Palmer. **Motion carried 3-0.** Because Fred was not present at the Special Board meeting of February 27, 2018, Doug Elmore moved to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2018 Special meeting and Suzanne seconded the motion. **Motion carried 2-0, with Fred abstaining.**

Department Reports. Complete department reports are located on the Washington Township website.

1. **Fire.** Fire Chief Dan Smith recognized the department's "B" shift personnel for their dedication and commitment on the March 26th trauma runs they responded to that day. Chief Smith also updated the Board concerning potential property for purchase as a future training ground. The property is in the Town of Avon Economic Development area on Kingston Dr. He told the Board he and the trustee had met with Town Council member Greg Zusan about the property to get his input and perspective. Upon his advice, Dan told the Board he was getting information on the lease agreement the present owner had concerning a 6 year lease on a tower that sits on the property. He also was working with a commercial realtor who discussed the potential of the department purchasing the property to develop into a training ground with the surrounding property owners to see if they would have any objection. He told the Board that none of those neighbors objected. The Board told Chief Smith to continue discussions and gathering information, but that they were not to the point of deciding to allow appraisals to be done, etc.
2. **Parks.** There were no questions on the report. Lora Lacey did advise the Board that the Park, EMS and Township had changed software that will improve payment posting, rentals and EMS payments. She wanted to recognize Stephani Massa, Trilbey Berry-Tayman and Josie Simison for their hard work in getting the project done to allow this improvement to happen. Lora and Don reviewed the Avon Trail Project after the last big rain and flooding that resulted. Lora showed pictures of the trail project being compromised by the recent flood. She and Don reviewed a construction meeting that occurred April 10th and outlined choices that those at the meeting were asking the Township, as the land owner, to consider so the Town would know how to proceed. One of the choices was stream bank repairs that the Board was advised could run as high as \$1.5 million to properly do. Another was to fill in part of the pond with dirt so the trail could be moved over. Also the Town is concerned with our pond being compromised by flooding and is that occurred it could wipe out part areas

south of the pond. Don asked the Board, what they wanted to do as the fiscal body. After much discussion the Board directed the Trustee to convey to the Town four points:

1. The Township had told the Town back when the first trail project was conceived that it was very bad idea placing the trail next to the creek due to the flooding and safety. The Township had provided the "Right of Entry" as a gesture of being a good neighbor.
2. The Board did not want to fill in the pond. If the pond got compromised-it was an act of nature that prior administration and others knew the area was a flood zone and the pavilion had flood insurance.
3. The Board did want to continue to try to obtain grants for stream bank reinforcement but did not have or want to expend \$1.5 million to fix a stream bank that wouldn't be fixed if the trail wasn't there.
4. Finally the Trustee was told to tell the Town the Board did not want or would allow the trail to continue to be built in the location it was being built. They strongly urged the town to work with the Township in placing the trail as a first choice west of the pavilion or a as second choice east of the pavilion and west of the pond closer to the pond.

3. **Public Assistance.** There were no questions on that report.

Trustee's Report. The written report may be found on the Washington Township website.

In addition to the report, Trustee Hodson advised the Board that he would be making a request for a Special Board meeting in May or early June for the purpose of amending the VEBA 1 agreement. He also told the Board that the training for the Township Internal Controls required by state statute was held Monday April 09th and he was providing a list of the employees who attended it.

Old Business- None

New Business- (all resolutions and supporting information are attached to the Township Website.)

1. **Family Promise-** Township Public Assistance Director Kelsey Hambleton presented a request from Family Promise for a \$5,000 grant from the Township. She reviewed that Family Promise was located in Avon on property owned by the Township Public Library. They provide daytime assistance to "homeless" families in Hendricks County, while arranging for 25 different churches in the county taking turns in providing overnight accommodations for those families a week at a time. Also the organization provides support services to other families and some individuals who are homeless by helping them in finding jobs and services. Kelsey also told the board that she has referred homeless folks in our Township to them. She stated that had asked and received a report from the program on how much and how many of our Township were getting assistance. Their report showed that 25% of their budget was spent on Washington Township "homeless" residents. She introduced Julie Randall, Executive Director, for the purpose of an overview and answering questions. Trustee Hodson told the Board that he and Kelsey were comfortable with the grant request based on the information provided. He reminded the Board those folks they help; we are not able to help with shelter and utility assistance because they don't have a shelter. He told the Board there is definitely a homeless problem in our county and there were not any homeless shelters located in the county. Suzanne Conger stated she personally volunteered for Family Promise. Doug Elmore stated he supported the program's efforts but wanted the Township to also get a "Grant Policy" developed while we have Legal develop the agreement between the township and Family Promise. He made a motion to approve the grant request for \$5,000 using the Township Assistance Budget for the request. Fred Palmer stated that although

- he personally supported and commended Family Promise for what they were doing, he could not support using public funds for it. Suzanne Conger seconded Doug's motion. **Motion carried 2-1.**
2. **2019 Five Year Sustainability Plan-** Financial Advisor Jeff Peters presented the 2019 Five year Sustainability Plan. He began by explaining to the Board the township's Assessed Value went up in 2018 which resulted in our tax rate dropping some and as a result less of a "Tax Cap" impact-giving us more income. The Assessed Valuation on the civil side went up 6.2% and on the Fire side an increase of 4%. He also stated the Township received an increase of \$200,000 in income tax revenue. He also went through the cash balances of the operation Funds explaining that the Township should be in apposition to "Defece" both bonds which would allow the township to be debt free in 2020. He also reviewed the Rainy Day Fund.
 3. **2018 Township Cash Reserves- Trustee** Hodson told the Board as a result of their passing Resolutions 12-13-17-01 and 12-13-17-02, he was presenting for Board approval the 2018 Township Cash Reserve in the amount of \$ 4,200,000. Fred Palmer made the motion to approve Resolution 041018-01 for that purpose. Doug Elmore seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**
 4. **2018 Township Insurance Fund Cash Reserve- Trustee** Hodson presented to the Board Resolution 041018-02 that set the 2018 Township Insurance Fund at \$ 550,162.44. Doug Elmore made a motion to approve it and Fred Palmer seconded it. **Motion carried 3-0.**
 5. **2019 Budget Calendar-** The 2019 budget calendar was presented. Fred Palmer made a motion to approve and Doug Elmore seconded it. **Motion carried 3-0.**
 6. **Pecar Park Update-** Park Director Lora Lacey gave the Board an update on the Project so far. That report is on the Township website. Trustee Don Hodson also reviewed the monthly Project Financial spreadsheet which is included with Pecar update.
 7. **Requested Easements.** Trustee Hodson stated he had provided the Board in their packet information on two utility easement requests for the Pecar Park Project. One was from Hendricks Power and the other from the West Central Conservancy District (WCC). He advised the Board that Legal counsel had reviewed both and was ok with both. He also stated Counsel Jost advised that state statues required the Board to be the one approving these and the Board Chairman would sign if these were approved. Fred Palmer made a motion giving Board Chair Suzanne Conger the authority to sign both Easement Documents. Doug Elmore seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.** Suzanne Conger signed both, afterwards Josie Simison notarized.
 8. **Surplus-**Trustee Hodson presented Resolution 041018-03 to the Board for approval allowing him to sell two sets of turn out gear to the fire department that one of the former members went to. Dan Smith advised that the gear was larger and that with the funds received the department would be able to replace the equipment. Doug Elmore made a motion to approve and Fred Palmer seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**
 9. **Cemetery update-** Administrator Josie Simison reviewed information she provided to them in their packet in order to get input and direction for policies, fees, etc. if the Board decided to move forward with the concept of allowing the sale of available burial plots at North Lawn Cemetery. t
 10. **Township Card Resolution-** Trustee presented Resolution 041018-04 that changed the "Controllers" for the Township \$5,000 Limit Card and the Township \$10,000 Limit Card to Kelly Brian and Carolyn Thacker. It was suggested in the future that we just state the job descriptions so we wouldn't have to amend it every time there was a change in personnel, if the SBOA allowed it. Fred Palmer made a motion to approve and Doug Elmore seconded the motion to approve the resolution amendment. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Public comment: None

Wishes to be heard-

1. Don told the Board as soon as he knew when the special board meeting was needed he would advise.

Adjournment

Doug Elmore moved to adjourn the meeting and Fred Palmer seconded the motion. **Motion carries 3-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is August 14, 2018 at 6:00 pm for a budget workshop with the board meeting at 7:00pm. All meetings are held at Washington Township Government Center, 311 Production Drive.

Minutes Approved ^{August 14} ~~April 10~~, 2018:

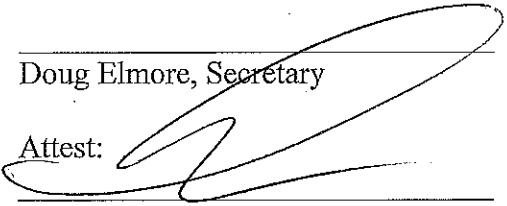


Suzanne X Conger, Chairman



Fred Palmer, Member

Doug Elmore, Secretary

Attest: 

Don Hodson, Trustee