

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
September 8, 2020 @ 3:00pm  
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

Call to Order:

- A. The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Establishment of a Quorum:

- A. Board members Shane Sommers, Amanda Babinec and Steve Blacketer were present.
- B. Also present were Trustee Don Hodson, Township Attorney Jeff Bellamy, members of the Washington Township staff, and the HWC design team for Murphy Park.

Public Hearing for the 2021 Township Budget

- A. The public hearing began at 3:01pm
- B. There were no comments from the public. There were also no questions or comments entered on the chat function of the Zoom meeting.
- C. The public hearing closed at 3:03pm.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Babinec asked about a recurring past-due amount on the park credit card. Hodson replied that it was a bank error that had yet to be resolved.
- B. Blacketer motioned to approve the consent agenda. Babinec seconded the motion. The consent agenda was approved 3-0.

Public Comment:

- a. There were no public comments.

Department Reports

- A. Township Assistance -- Presented by Deputy Trustee Britt Woodard
  - a. Woodard presented the August report and there were no questions or comments from the board.
- B. Human Resources -- Presented by Trustee Hodson
  - a. Hodson informed the Board that HR Director Tracy Justice was attending a virtual Society for Human Resources conference. He stated that Justice was putting all supervisors through the anti-harassment training as well as working on hiring and recruiting, updating policies, and preparing for open enrollment. There were no comments or questions from the board.
- C. Parks -- Presented by Interim Director Stephani Massa
  - a. Massa presented the August park report to the board and noted that she had sent a list of August sponsors to Babinec per request.

- b. Blacketer noted again that he wanted to see a change in the park revenue report because the columns do not foot. Massa and Blacketer arranged to meet to correct the issue.

D. Fire – Presented by Fire Chief Dan Smith

- a. Smith noted that the design team for Station 144 had toured several fire stations to interview architects and view ideas for a new building.
- b. Smith also noted that Assistant Chief Gerald George had been deployed with Task Force One to assist with hurricane response in Louisiana.
- c. Babinec recognized George for his informative 9/11 interview.
- d. Blacketer noted that the new paint on the house at the training ground made the building look much better.
- e. Blacketer also requested a more detailed accounts receivable report of EMS billing.

Trustee Report

- A. Hodson reminded the board that he hosted a joint meeting of the Avon Town Council, The Avon-Washington Township Library Board, the Avon Community School Corporation Board of Trustees, and the Washington Township Board to present the rationale and impact of the fire levy increase.
- B. Hodson also noted that he had given an interview about the levy increase and the new station to Gus Percy from the Hendricks County ICON. The interview had already been printed as part of the Business Leader and should arrive in residents' homes within a week or two.

Old Business

Station 141 remodel – Presented by Fire Chief Smith

- A. Smith noted that work crews had a few items left on their punch lists, but otherwise the station was being fully occupied.
- B. Hodson reviewed the project's budget and overages with the board.
- C. The board expressed interest in touring the stations and Smith agreed to arrange visits.

Training Ground – Presented by Fire Chief Smith

- A. Smith said he had little to add to the information in the board packet and noted that there would be a preconstruction meeting soon to start moving forward on the site work.

Fire Levy Update – Presented by Trustee Hodson

- A. Hodson informed the board that the DLGF sent official approval for the 15-cent budget on August 4, 2020.

Fire Bond Update – Presented by Trustee Hodson

- A. Hodson informed the board that Bond Counsel Brian Bosma had filed the incorporation papers for the building corporation and that their first meeting would be that evening (September 8) at

6:30pm. The members of the building corporation are Doug Elmore, Suzanne Conger, and Maggie Hoernemann.

- B. Hodson noted that the Township obtained the required 50+ signatures for the bond petition and had them certified by the Hendricks County Auditor. In fact, the Township had 77 signatures certified.
- C. Lastly, Hodson told the board that the fire bond would be 17 years payable over 15 years. The bond covers the building period, but payments do not start until the building is occupied.

#### Station 144 Update – Presented by Chief Smith

- A. Smith told the board that the Township had interviewed and selected a new owner's representative: Veridus Group.
- B. Smith said that the Township received 6 responses to their RFP for an architect for Station 144. The design committee interviewed three companies and selected Delv.
- C. The architects and the owner's representative think the station can be in operation by late 2021, but there are a lot of timing factors at play that may cause delays.

#### Murphy Park Update – Presented by Trustee Hodson and HWC Engineering

- A. Hodson informed the board that financial advisor Jeff Peters had reviewed the figures and estimated that the township could continue to operate at a surplus even with Murphy Park bond and even given current economic conditions.
- B. Jonathan Smith from HWC said that the design was on-track in the schematic design phase and would soon be submitted for review to the board.
- C. Smith noted that the initial findings of the traffic study show acceptable levels of service for all existing intersections in the Murphy Park area. The final report would be presented to the board at the October meeting. In the meantime, HWC planned to meet with the Town and the County to share and discuss the results.
- D. Blacketer noted that there was still a lot of debris from the demolished house on site. Mass replied that demolition was interrupted by the need to obtain soil borings. The demolition company moved to their next project during the soil boring stage and would return to Murphy when it was complete.
- E. Smith noted that the initial findings from the soil borings were positive. The final report would be presented at the October meeting, but he saw no ref flags.
- F. Lastly, Smith informed the board that the budget for Murphy Park was still on track and mentioned that he recently received seven bids on a project that was only expecting two bids and that three of them were well under bid. He said the market seemed very competitive.

#### New Business

#### Fire Cumulative Budget Update – Presented by Chief Smith

- A. Smith informed the board that he needed to rework the 2021 cumulative budget due to Station 141 remodel overages, the need to pave the west lot at Station 141, and the need to paint 141 and 143. He also mentioned that the training ground up-front costs were much more than

anticipated and he planned to add a fence at the location, adding an extra \$50,000-60,000 to the project.

- B. Smith noted he was concerned that the cumulative budget would be unable to keep pace with needs by 2025 without changes. Hodson and Smith agreed to look at the budget.

Surplus Property Resolution 081120-01 – Presented by Deputy Trustee Woodard

- A. Babinec asked what would be happening to the items. Woodard responded that the Township would destroy any hard drives and dispose of the property responsibly through a third party.
- B. Blacketer motioned to approve the resolution. Babinec seconded the motion. The resolution was approved 3-0.

Public Comment:

- A. There were no public comments.

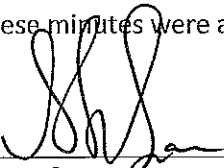
Wishes to be heard:

- A. Hodson reminded the Board that there would be a special meeting on September 22, 2020 at 2:00pm to work on the fire bond and a regular meeting on October 8, 2020 to adopt the 2021 budget.

Adjournment:

- A. Babinec motioned to adjourn at 4:17 pm. Blacketer seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn carried 3-0.

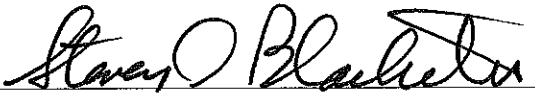
These minutes were approved October 8, 2020.



Shane Sommers,

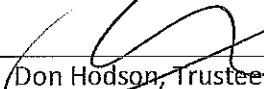


Amanda Babinec,



Steve Blacketer,

ATTEST:



Don Hodson, Trustee

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 2:00pm in person at 311 Production Drive, Avon, IN 46123.