

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2020
HELD AT: WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT CENTER
311 PRODUCTION DRIVE, AVON, INDIANA

Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM and the pledge to the flag was given.

Establishment Of A Quorum:

Shane Sommers, Amanda Babinec and Steve Blacketer were all present. Also present was Trustee Don Hodson, Township Financial Advisor Jeff Peters, Township Legal Counsel Jeff Bellamy, Township Staff, Cory Whitesell with HWC and public.

Consent Agenda:

Steve Blacketer made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2020 Board Meeting and the September 22, 2020 Special Board Meeting and the copies of the four Township Credit Card statements as submitted. Amanda Babinec seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment:

None

Department Reports: (See attached)

- Township Assistance: Don Hodson presented the report and provided a trending report since January 2020.
- Human Resources- HR Specialist Tracy Justice presented the report.
- Parks- Assistant Director Stephani Masa presented the report. She stated the Digital Sign was in place and working.
- Fire- Chief Dan Smith presented the report. He stated the two new Civilian Paramedics were on shift. Also the 9 new recruits were in their third week of training and would be finished the end of February 2021. Chief also recognized Bill Webb in Support Services for all of the hard work he has done.

Trustee Report: (see attached)

Trustee Hodson advised at the next Board meeting the Board would be approving their 2021 Township Board Meeting Calendar. He requested that the members please send him their individual preferences for the meeting dates and times in the next couple weeks.

Old Business:

- Station 141 Remodel Update: Chief Smith advised that the remodel was finished and the crews were back in their living quarters. Trustee Hodson presented the final Financial Report. He stated the project came in \$ 57,424 under budget after the final \$4,551 is paid to CPM. He told the Board that difference would reduce what Chief was planning

to use out of CUM for the difference in the project cost vs the \$ 1.5 million budgeted from Rainy Day.

- Training Ground Update: Chief Smith advised that the buildings at the site had been painted and were being used for the training of the new recruit class. He also advised that the site work should begin in the next couple weeks. The plan was to have a tower and fence done.
- Murphy Park Update: Trustee Hodson advised the Board that the traffic study had been completed. He advised County Engineer John Ayres advised he didn't see any issues or concerns other than what we had already known we would have to do on the project-left hand turn lane etc. Town Manager Ryan Cannon also had told the Trustee he would get his comments to us. He did not see any major concerns. Trustee then turned it over to Financial Advisor Peters to review the Township finances concerning the tax impact of the Fire Levy Increase, the Fire Station Bond and if the new Park Bond was done. The following was the outline he provided:

1. With Fire Levy increase being used at 8 cents increase in 2022, the average \$250,000 mortgaged homestead would see an increase of \$ 100 a year. Due to Tax Caps and the fact that 97% of the Residential Taxpayers already being capped at the 1%, the school corporation would see an impact of \$540,000.
2. With the 15 year \$5.2 million Fire Station bond, the tax increase for the same homeowner would be \$ 20 a year. The impact to the school corporation would be \$ 125,000.
3. If the township did the 15 year Park Bond of \$16 million, the same homeowner would see an additional increase of \$53.00 a year. The school impact would \$ 312,000.

After an hour and half discussion on the concerns of the impact, the pros and cons of starting the project now or waiting, the question was posed by Steve Blacketer on the idea of expending funds to have the Bid Documents and Final Design finished by HWC to place the project out to bid to see if there would be any benefit of possibly receiving lower bids. HWC advised that they and others were seeing bids come in a lot lower now as opposed to pre-COVID. Jeff Peters advised that rates were even lower now too. Legal Jeff Bellamy advised all present you could do this and decide not to award a bid or do the bond. You would still have the documents to use later. He and Jeff Peters advised to proceed with everything needed for the bond, in case we did get a great bid that we wanted to award to. That advise was because we wouldn't want to award a bid without the funding. Steve Blacketer stated that he wanted to proceed in that manner to have the Trustee expend reserves available to do so. Shane Sommers and Amanda Babinec agreed. Trustee Hodson stated he would have the Additional Appropriation available at the November Board meeting for their approval along with supporting information.

New Business:

- 2021 Township Budget- Trustee Hodson first reviewed the updated 5 year Fire CUM

Fund budget that had been revised so that the fund would be in a better state in lieu of what was provided at the September 8th Board meeting. With no questions or concerns by the Board for that information or the actual 2021 budget, he presented the resolution to adopt the budget. He reminded the board that the Fire Budget was the 15 cent increase budget and when the actual 1782 notice was received he would then reduce the fire budget, levy and tax rate to reflect the needed the amount for 2021 not to exceed the 8 cents. Amanda Babinec made a motion to approve Resolution 100820-01 20210 Township Budget Adoption as presented. Steve Blacketer seconded the motion. **Motion passed 3-0.** The Resolution was signed by each indicating that each of them voted yes.

- Township Policies- Township HR Specialist had submitted 4 policies to be included in the Township Employee Handbook:
 1. Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Policy
 2. Paid Parental Leave Policy
 3. Anti-Harassment Policy and Complaint Procedure
 4. Extended FMLA Leave Policy Due to COVIDThere being no questions or concerns, Amanda Babinec made a motion to have HR Include these policies in the Handbook. Steve Blacketer seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Public Comment:

None

Wishes To Be Heard:

None

Adjournment:

Steve Blacketer made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Babinec seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.** The meeting adjourned at 4:46 PM.

These minutes were approved November 17, 2020.

Shane Sommers, Chairman

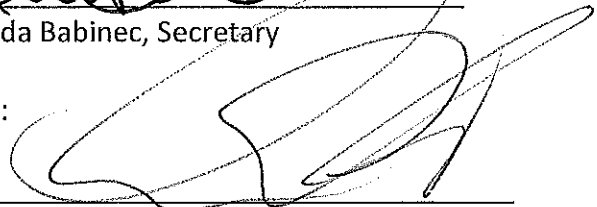


Amanda Babinec, Secretary



Steve Blacketer, Member

Attest:



Donald Hodson, Trustee

Next Meeting: Regular Board Meeting- November 17, 2020 @ 3:00 PM

All meetings are held at Washington Township Government Center, 311 Production Drive, Avon, Indiana