

Perry Township Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

March 21, 2017 7:00 pm

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

Trustee Chessler welcomed everyone here this evening and added that we have several items on our Agenda that will enable us to recognize people or good deeds that have been done; we are also going to recognize our new full time and part time firefighters which we are proud to have joining our ranks.

Excused absence:

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

Public Hearings/Invited Guests:

Good Samaritan Recognition of Lepear Smith I

Trustee Chessler stated that on behalf of the Board he would like to recognize Mr. Lepear "Pete" Smith I. Trustee Chessler relayed a description of circumstances wherein Mr. Smith reported a young lady who appeared to be asleep inside her vehicle alongside the roadway in the 500 block of Canford NW; it was apparent that the female needed immediate medical attention. Mr. Smith attended to the situation until the fire department arrived on the scene wherein the young lady was transported to the local hospital. Trustee Chessler stated that without Mr. Smith's observation, commitment to health and genuine care for others, it is likely that the outcome of this situation would have been drastically different. Trustee Chessler stated that we need to recognize people that step forward intuitively in situations like this and thanked Mr. Smith for all that he did.

Trustee Chessler stated: as a small token of our appreciation, we present a Good Samaritan Award to Lepear Smith I in recognition of your selfless act of kindness toward our fellow mankind, presented to you by your Perry Township Board of Trustees. Thank you again. (Applause)

Trustee Chessler presented a book to Mr. Smith's granddaughter, Amber, present this evening with Mr. Smith's wife and children; "Paw Patrol Jungle Search and Rescue". Trustee Chessler described that the characters in "Paw Patrol" were heroes in their community just as Amber's Big Poppa was in Perry Township. Mr. Smith thanked the Board and added that he really didn't do anything except what he hoped anyone else would have done, saw someone who needed help and gave them help. Mr. Smith added that he was glad Chief Pomesky called him to let him know that the young lady was doing well and added that was a blessing.

Swearing In Ceremony of Nine (9) Part-Time Fire Department Personnel

Trustee Chessler stated that as he stated earlier, we are going to do several noted things this evening and would like to recognize a few more people, but before we do, we are going to have the Oath of Office for the nine (9) part time firefighters. Trustee Chessler inquired if the following ladies and gentlemen would please join him:

1. **Jacob Butcher**
2. **Beau Boswell**
3. **Joseph Clark II**
4. **Kevin DeCosta**
5. **Adam Haas**
6. **Hunter Johnston**
7. **Kayla Kalgreen**
8. **Brent Bauman**
9. **Joshua Frank**

Trustee Chessler read aloud the Oath of Office and asked if each of the part time firefighters would raise their right hand, repeat after him and state their name:

I, _____, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the Resolutions of Perry Township, the rules, regulations, standard operating guidelines, standard operating procedures and policies of the Perry Township Fire Department and I will faithfully, honestly and impartially discharge the duties of Firefighter of Perry Township Fire Department and I do this as I shall answer unto God~

Consider Hiring Nick Wilson and Andrew Kendrick as Full-Time Firefighter Paramedics

Trustee Chessler stated that he would like Nick Wilson and Andrew Kendrick to please step forward adding that the Oath of Office would be administered again at this time. Trustee Chessler stated that fellow Trustees Ralph DeChiara and Doug Haines were going to present them with their hardware and helmet and a copy of the Perry Township Firefighter Creed.

Trustee Haines asked Nick and Andrew to please raise their right hand and state their name:

I, _____, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the Resolutions of Perry Township, the rules, regulations, standard operating guidelines, standard operating procedures and policies of the Perry Township Fire Department and I will faithfully, honestly and impartially discharge the duties of Firefighter of Perry Township Fire Department and I do this as I shall answer unto God~

Trustee DeChiara made a presentation of fire helmets to Nick Wilson and Andrew Kendrick and gave some brief remarks as to the history and longevity of the fire helmet (protection from heat and falling debris) and congratulated them on behalf of the Board.

Trustee Haines read aloud "I am a firefighter" poem:

*I am a firefighter.
I have seen burning death and devastation.
I have seen walls crumble, roofs fall, peoples possessions perish.
I have watched forests burn for days and nights.
I know that fire is a living thing that eats and breathes , runs and rages.
I have walked in infernos, felt searing heat wound my flesh, smoke score my lungs.
I have had my life rest on my back, on the burden of an air tank and suit.
I have carried men, women and children living from the flames.
I have born the dead from smoking ruin.
I have risked my life to save property, people's way of life.
I have seen the blazes, I have endured the suffocating dark. I have been blind and alone.
I am a husband. I am a wife. I am a parent. No matter what happens, how hard it gets, life goes on.
I am a firefighter.
I have made my life a service to my community. When the call comes, I must answer, no matter
how tired, how sick; when I am needed lives are at stake. I can never give up.
Every time, at every scene, I leave part of myself behind. Fire demands its price.
I have found true friends through fire, have stood shoulder to shoulder with them. They've saved me;
I've saved them.
I have known complete and utter exhaustion, but forced myself to take that next step, haul that hose
a little closer. I can never give up.
I have endured the nightmares fashioned from the terror and loss I have felt, from the horrors I have
seen. I have been changed by fire. I can never forget. I will always remember.
When that call comes, I know deep down that I might not come back. Someday I might have to give
my life so that another can live. I can never give up.
You'll never know my name. In a world filled with communication, I often go unthanked,
unremembered. I hope you'll never need me, but if the moment ever comes, I'll be there. Always.
I am a warrior. I battle flames.
I am a hero. I am a savior.
I am strong.
I am a firefighter.*

Trustee Haines stated to Nick and Andrew that may they hang this poem with pride. Trustee Haines asked a member of each Nick and Andrew's family to please step forward and assist with the ceremonial pinning procedure. Trustee Haines congratulated each of them on behalf of the Board.

Commendation of Captain Ron Riggs

Trustee Chessler asked Captain Ron Riggs to please step forward. Trustee Chessler relayed that Fire Chief Martin had sent the Board a memo that was provided to him by Assistant Chief Brad Winter of the Lafayette Township Fire Department; their Township recently experienced the passing of a Township Trustee that was deeply appreciated by their Fire Department and his passing had a profound effect on the members of the department. Trustee Chessler read aloud the message that stated "words cannot express our sincerest gratitude and thanks to the Stark County CISD Team" (Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team), of which Ron Riggs is a member.

Trustee Chessler stated that Captain Riggs had responded as one of our members and inquired of Captain Riggs what the CISD Team is. Captain Riggs stated it is the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team and explained that when a critical event happens within the community or amongst the police or fire, we go out and sit with the people and talk with them; basically listen to them and let them talk their way through the event that has happened.

Trustee Chessler stated that being a firefighter has to do with fighting fires, but many times it also has to deal with the healing process by comforting those who were affected by the things that happened along the fire service. Trustee Chessler stated to Captain Riggs that the Board wanted to recognize him and thank him for being from Perry Township and providing that service.

Commendation of Firemedic Harold Ritz and Firemedic Matt Gatchell

Trustee Haines indicated that Matt Gatchell's representative was here this evening and indicated that Harold Ritz was on duty this evening.

Trustee Chessler stated that he wanted to thank Fire Chief Martin and Administrator Joyce Fetzer because many times, the Board would make not make this presentation in a ceremonious way; we would have these new part-time firefighters take the oath and be on their way and there would only be four or five people here, but thanks to them, we recognize that it is worth taking the time and extending an invitation for families to take time out of their evenings to be here and recognize their family members and loved ones for the things that they have done and for the service to our community and for the things that they are about to do to serve our community.

Trustee Chessler read aloud a letter from Affinity Medical Center, the Emergency Department staff physicians, Emergency Director, Trauma Coordinator and EMS Coordinator stating that they would like to compliment the crew of Ritz and Gatchell for their outstanding care of a 79 year-old male fall with a head injury. Trustee Chessler stated on behalf of the Perry Board of Trustees, I will present this to you on behalf of Matt Gatchell.

Trustee Chessler stated that he would like to remind the part-time firefighters and the full-time personnel that we will take a few minutes to have them sign their Oath of Office; Trustee Haines made note of a motion needed for the hiring of these part-time and full-time personnel at this time as well.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board of Trustees hire as part-time firefighters with the Perry Township Fire Department effective Tuesday, March 21, 2017 the following individuals: Jacob Butcher, Beau Boswell, Joseph Clark II, Kevin DeCosta, Adam Haas, Hunter Johnston, Kayla Kalgreen, Brent Bauman and Joshua Frank; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board of Trustees hire Nick Wilson as a full-time firefighter/paramedic with the Perry Township Fire Department effective Tuesday, March 21, 2017 accorded all the benefits that are applicable to full-time employees for the starting rate of pay of \$13.54

and accorded all other benefits as provided in the Collective Bargaining Agreement; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board of Trustees hire Andrew Kendrick as a full time firefighter/paramedic with the Perry Township Fire Department effective Tuesday, March 21, 2017, accorded all the benefits that are applicable to full-time employees through the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the starting rate of pay of \$13.54; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, abstained. Mr. Haines, yes.

5 Minute Intermission

Communications:

Public Speaks on items up for Board Approval:

Township Business requiring Board Action:

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Trustee Chessler made a motion to approve bills in the amount of \$36,579.53 for the week ending March 14, 2017 and bills and payroll in the amount of \$292,703.30 for the week ending March 21, 2017 for a combined total of \$329,282.83; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Fiscal Officer:

Administration:

Consider Accepting Perry Rotary Donation to Perry Parks in the Amount of \$4,000 Consider Accepting Perry Rotary Patriots Parade Sponsorship Check of \$1,000

Trustee Chessler stated that he was invited and had the honor of representing the Board at a recent regular meeting of the Perry Township Rotary. Trustee Chessler briefly relayed that Perry Township Rotary presented him, on behalf of the Board, with a check in the amount of \$4,000.00 to be earmarked for electrical improvements at Hartwick Park. Trustee Chessler relayed that Perry Rotary also presented him with a second check in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the sponsorship of the inaugural Perry Rotary Patriots Parade to be part of the many celebrations over this Memorial Day weekend beginning May 26, 2017.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board gratefully accept the total of \$5,000.00 from the Perry Rotary; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Fire Department:

Consider Resignation of Brandon Hamm

Trustee Chessler stated that the Board is next asked to consider an email submitted March 14, 2017 from Brandon Hamm; he has submitted his resignation as a probationary firefighter and has conveyed that he is not able to meet the obligations of office.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board accept the letter of resignation for Brandon Hamm effective March 14, 2017; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Consider Disposal of Expired Personal Protective Equipment

Trustee Chessler asked Fire Chief Martin to please outline or summarize the request in this matter.

Fire Chief Martin stated that the Fire Department is requesting the Board of Trustees to authorize the disposal/donation of obsolete/damage/unfit personal protect equipment (PPE) that is unable to be used for the purposes of combat structural firefighting. Disposal/donation of PPE is acceptable under Ohio Revised Code 505.10 (7).

Chief Martin stated that there are 28 sets of PPE coats and 35 sets of PPE pants that are over fifteen (15) years old and past the recommended service time; therefore the fire department has determined the items to be obsolete, damaged, unrepairable and/or unfit with no value to the items. Chief Martin indicated that upon Board approval, these items will be donated to Stark State College Fire Science program. Stark State will not be able to use the items for training of new firefighters. Activities in the fire science program are not considered structural firefighting.

Trustee Chessler inquired of Law Director Hall if there was a special statute for donating Township equipment. Law Director Hall stated that it is a subsection of ORC 505.10 and added that it is appropriate.

Trustee Chessler stated that based on the Chief's presentation, makes a motion that we dispose of the outlining personal protective gear and find that the gear, in its current state, has no further market value for its intended purpose and authorize the Chief to take the steps necessary to donate to the Stark State College fire science program; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Police Department:

Road and Park Department:

Consider Approval of Emergency Funding for Engine Replacement Dump Truck in the Amount of \$8,650 and \$1,250 Core Charges

Trustee Chessler stated that he wanted to thank and commend Trustee Haines and Road Superintendent Masalko for taking a situation that really could have been a lot worse and turning it into a situation that isn't that bad. Trustee Chessler stated that specifically, we found out that a very expensive engine in one of our trucks blew up and was not serviceable.

Trustee Haines relayed that the motor in one of the Road Department trucks, used for salting the roadways, blew out. Trustee Haines gave a brief explanation regarding the details of the cost estimates to replace this motor. Trustee Haines indicated that many thanks goes to dedicated road department employee, Harvey for finding a used matching motor on eBay in the amount of \$8,650.00 that met all the specifications needed for our mechanics to be able to install this motor. Road Superintendent Masalko relayed that there is a \$1,250.00 core charge that will be reimbursed to the Township upon the trade-in of the old parts.

Trustee Chessler stated based on this information makes a motion that the Board approve the purchase of a used engine and authorize the expenditure of \$9,900; \$8,650 which is the purchase price and \$1,250 is the core charge that will be reimbursed to the Township upon the trade-in of the old parts; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

Trustee Haines stated that he wanted to make mention that one of the things that made this situation so difficult was the fact that this was a Sterling dump truck which is out of business and gave a brief explanation in this regard.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Law Director: None.

Zoning:

Problem Properties

Executive Session(s):

Department Matters Not Requiring Board Action:

Administration: None.

Fire Department: None.

Police Department:

January and February Monthly Activity Reports

Road Department: None.

Parks/Recycling: None.

Zoning: None.

Law Director: None.

Upcoming Events:

Public Speaks-Open Forum: None.

Adjournment:

With nothing further to come before the Board, Trustee Chessler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes. Mr. Haines, yes.

Craig Chessler, President

Joe Schlegel, Fiscal Officer