

Perry Township Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

October 3, 2017 7:00 pm

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

De Ann M. Covey ~ Executive Director Stark County Veterans Services Commission

Trustee Chessler called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone here this evening. Trustee Chessler stated that we would be deviating from our normal opening tonight and welcomed special guest De Ann Covey, Executive Director of Stark County Veterans Services Commission who will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Chessler stated to Ms. Covey that on behalf of the Perry Board of Trustees, our Department Heads and staff, we would like to present this flag to you as a small token of our appreciation.

Ms. Covey thanked the Board and asked for a show of hands of the comrades in the audience and thanked each of them for their service. Ms. Covey gave a brief explanation as to the services that the Veterans Services Commission provides and indicated that one of her goals before she actually retires is to make sure every single veteran in Stark County knows that the Veterans Services exists (in Stark County).

Excused absence:

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

Public Hearings/Invited Guests:

Swearing In Ceremony of Victoria Carafelli and Jacob Butcher

Trustee Chessler asked Victoria Carafelli and Jacob Butcher to please step forward and indicated that the Board would like to welcome them to the Perry Township Fire Department. Trustee Chessler stated that he would like Victoria and Jacob to recite the Oath of Office and asked if they would please 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 charter ordinances and resolutions of Perry Township, Ohio, the rules and 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 and this I do as I shall answer unto God~

Trustee DeChiara made a presentation of fire helmets and badges to Victoria and Jacob. Trustee Haines read aloud a firefighter's creed and relayed that this is something that every Perry Township Firefighter will experience.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board of Trustees hire Victoria Carafelli and Jacob Butcher as full time firefighters paramedics for the Perry Township Fire Department effective today, Tuesday, October 3, 2017 pending the final results of medical examinations; both will be afforded all benefits as applicable for full-time employees with the starting rate of pay of \$13.54 per hour; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Consider Hiring Sarah Hardie as a Part-Time Firefighter-EMT

Trustee Chessler stated that we will now welcome part-time personnel, Sarah Hardie to the Perry Township Fire Department. Trustee Chessler asked Sarah to please raise her right hand, repeat after him and state her name:

I, _____, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the charter ordinances and resolutions of Perry Township, Ohio, the rules and 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 this I do as I shall answer unto God~

Community Events Recognition

Trustee Chessler stated that in regard to the events that have happened this week and the last couple of weeks, we all know how our lives can change in an instant that we never dreamed would be possible and relayed that he wanted to say a heartfelt thanks on behalf of the Board of Trustees to all members of the fire service here tonight to welcome their fellow firefighters to the fire service this evening.

Also, Trustee Chessler stated in regard to the fourth annual Oktoberfest and parade held Saturday, September 16th, the Board would like to recognize and thank the members of the community who have given of themselves, not just on this one day, but every year.

Trustee Chessler asked the members of the Junior ROTC program to please join him at this time. Trustee Chessler indicated that Major Marshall was unable to be here this evening, but shared that the Board has asked the members of the Perry High School Junior ROTC to attend the meeting tonight. Trustee Chessler briefly shared his unique experience and distinct pleasure of being asked to be an honorary parade flag bearer with Perry High School teacher and fellow classmate, Kathy Patron. Trustee Chessler relayed the unique perspective of walking the parade route with the members of the Junior ROTC and further relayed the level of community pride displayed regarding the flags and how they commanded the respect and attention of all the parade spectators, men, women and children of the Perry Township community. Trustee Chessler proudly observed that it was the community's intuitive reflex to pay their respect to the flags.

On behalf of the Perry Township Board of Trustees, Trustee Chessler awarded Certificates of Recognition to the Perry High School Junior ROTC Honor Guard for their outstanding support and dedication to the Perry Township Community Events, presented October 3, 2017. Trustee Chessler again thanked these members for their service to our community.

Trustee DeChiara stated that the Board would like to recognize Steve Toohey, Ben Moretta and Tim Blythe. Trustee DeChiara briefly highlighted the many community events that these gentlemen have continually been involved with, Operations Flags of Freedom, Perry Oktoberfest and Light Up Perry and presented them with recognition awards on behalf of the Perry Township Board of Trustees. Trustee DeChiara further extended the Board's sincere appreciation for their unwavering community leadership and support of the Perry Township Community Events.

Trustee Chessler stated that the Board would like to recognize Glen Reichenbach, Chris and Tracy Shaeffer, Joe Newsome and Tom Ross. Trustee Chessler also briefly highlighted the numerous ways in which these volunteers have provided the Township so generously with their time, sponsorships and community leadership. Trustee Chessler thanked them very much for their community involvement and asked them to please accept these recognition awards on behalf of the Township.

Trustee Chessler asked Adam Reiger and John Wellman to please step forward. Trustee Chessler stated that over the course of the past two years, these representatives of the respective fire and police unions have coordinated with their fellow union members to become involved in our community events in order to raise money for charities. Trustee Chessler relayed just several ways that monies were raised; for a 14 year old young lady diagnosed with a rare cancer that sadly took her life just before Christmas this year; for our veterans at the Massillon SAM Center that provided enough food to fill their pantry; and a lighthearted event called the Pumpkin Chunkin at the recent Oktoberfest which raised approximately \$200.00 for charity purposes. Trustee Chessler stated that on behalf of the Trustees, extended their most sincere gratitude to Adam and John on behalf of both of these unions.

Trustee Haines read aloud a Proclamation to the dedicated Perry Township Fire and Police Unions for their community leadership in the Perry Township community events and to recognize their charity efforts in making a difference in the lives of many.

Trustee DeChiara stated that the Board would next like to recognize Mike Burris and Stephanie Spencer. Trustee DeChiara shared that these two individuals have been involved in our community events and parade from the initial inception of the bicentennial celebration. Trustee DeChiara stated that on behalf of the Perry Township Board of Trustees, our sincere gratitude to Mike Burris and Stephanie Spencer for their continued community leadership and service as our parade chairpersons and for their tireless involvement in the Perry Township Community Events.

Trustee Chessler asked Fire Chief Martin to please step forward. Trustee Chessler stated that Chief Martin has been the race director for the Perry Township Hero 5k Run/Walk since its origination in 2014. Trustee Chessler briefly detailed what the Hero 5k Run/Walk represents here in the Perry Township Community. Trustee Chessler relayed that the enthusiasm and attention to detail that Chief Martin puts forth in organizing this event is the crown jewel in what is and will continue to be a very moving

Memorial Day weekend. Trustee Chessler presented Chief Martin with a recognition award as a small token of the Board's appreciation for his continued community leadership and service as the race director of the Perry Township Hero 5k Run and Walk.

Trustee Haines stated lastly, but certainly not least, the Board would like to recognize Mr. Keith Nutter, Area Manager of Aqua Ohio and principal sponsor of the Perry Township Community Events. Trustee Haines stated that on behalf of the Board, would like to not only recognize Mr. Nutter for this major sponsorship, but to thank him for helping bring family fun and entertainment to the Perry Township community through these events. Trustee Haines presented Mr. Nutter with a recognition award stating that this was in recognition for his exceptional leadership and principal sponsorship. Mr. Nutter thanked Trustee Haines and the Board members and stated that Aqua Ohio would again be a proud sponsor next year as well.

Trustee Chessler thanked everyone for coming tonight and indicated that we will take a brief 10 minute recess; invitation extended for all to share in cake and punch if so desired.

10 Minute Recess

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 \$323,914.94 for the week ending 09/26/17 and bills and payroll in the amount of \$297,448.25 for the week ending 10/03/17 for a combined total of \$621,363.19; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

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

Fiscal Officer:

Consider Accepting the Special Meeting Minutes of 09/05/17; Regular Meeting Minutes of 09/05/17; Regular Meeting Minutes of 09/19/17

Trustee Chessler stated that we have three (3) sets of minutes to be approved this evening, Special Meeting Minutes of 09/05/17; Regular Meeting Minutes of 09/05/17 and Regular Meeting Minutes of 09/19/17. Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board approve the minutes as submitted; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Administration:

Consider Central Catholic Tennis Court Paving Invoice

Trustee Chessler stated that a request had come from Central Catholic last year regarding the tennis courts there that had fallen into disrepair. Trustee Chessler stated that several parents from the school had made an appeal to the Board about the conditions there as well as the safety issues. Trustee Chessler indicated that Central Catholic had embarked on a capital campaign to improve the tennis courts among other things and requested that we participate to the extent of our involvement of the tennis courts. Trustee Chessler stated that we had discussed that in our budget hearings last year and they had requested the Board to contribute the amount of \$8,000.00 for the paving project.

Trustee Haines stated that this included paving as well as painting and added that phase two of this campaign would also include the replacement of the fencing. Trustee DeChiara stated that they did a wonderful job and added that it looks very nice.

Trustee Haines made a motion that the Board approve payment for the partial request of the tennis court paving project at Central Park located near Central Catholic High School in the amount of \$8,000.00; Seconded by Trustee Chessler.

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

Consider Gifting Out of Service Fire Helmets to Firefighters

Trustee Chessler stated that this next item is a request by Trustee DeChiara regarding fire helmets.

Trustee DeChiara stated that he has been asked by different members of the department (fire) about receiving out-of-service helmets. Trustee DeChiara referenced a memo from Chief Martin that stated his concerns regarding this matter. Trustee DeChiara stated that he would personally like to see the Board move forward and give these out-of-service helmets with specific stipulations in place to avoid misrepresentation to the department.

More discussion took place regarding this matter. The Board agreed to table this matter to be able to form specific criteria or policy regarding gifting out of service fire helmets.

Fire Department:

Consider Accepting the Resignation of Ryan Jones

Trustee Chessler stated that the Board has received, in memo form from Ryan Jones, a letter of official resignation from the Perry Township Fire Department effective October 2, 2017; he will no longer be a member of the department and he appreciates everything that has been done for him in the past year and wishes everyone the best of luck in future endeavors.

Trustee Chessler stated that he would like to acknowledge and accept that notification of the resignation of Ryan Jones, effective October 2, 2017; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Consider Hiring Sarah Hardie as a Part-Time Firefighter-EMT

Trustee Chessler stated that we did give the oath to Sarah Hardie as a part-time employee, but makes a motion that the Board authorize the hiring of Sarah Hardie as a part-time firefighter-EMT subject to compliance with all Township resolutions, state and federal laws relating to total and average hours allowed to be worked; she will be required to complete all the requirements placed on probationary employees and afforded all the benefits currently applicable to part time employees; her hiring date is effective today, October 3, 2017 at \$12.00 per hour; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Trustee Chessler stated that Chief Martin has informed him that the hourly rate of pay we approved was at \$12.00 per hour, but the contract provides that it is \$12.24.

Trustee Chessler makes a motion that the Board rescind the prior resolution; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board hire Sarah Hardie as a part-time firefighter/EMT as subject to compliance with all Township resolutions, state and federal laws relating to the total and average hours allowed to be worked per year; she is required to follow all of the current requirements placed on probationary employees and also receive all the benefits currently applicable to the part-time employees with an effective hiring date of Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at the current rate of pay for part-time employees which we believe to be \$12.24 per hour; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

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

Police Department:

Road and Park Department:

Consider Opening the 2017 Striping Program Quotes

Trustee Chessler stated that by memo of September 28, 2017; the striping quotes are received and to be opened tonight and asked Road Superintendent Masalko to take over from here.

Road Superintendent Masalko stated that the Road Department just recently solicited quotes for the 2017 Road Striping Program and indicated that three (3) quotes were received:

1. J.D. Striping **\$23,232.10**
2. Oglesby's **\$23,716.54**
3. A & A Safety **\$24,958.50**

Road Superintendent Masalko also added that he has asked the Board, after he and the Law Director have looked over the quotes, to be able to award the lowest and best quote.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board acknowledge and accept the bids that were received for road striping and table the matter for further consideration by the Law Director and Road Superintendent; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

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

Law Director:

Zoning:

Problem Properties

- **3350 Roanoake NW**

Zoning Inspector Cugini stated that this 3350 Roanoake NW fire damaged property is a carryover from the September 5, 2017 Board meeting. Mr. Cugini indicated that the Board gave him authorization to seek opinions from the Stark County Building officials, our own fire department and Deputy Chief Mark Abbott as well as the Stark County Health Department. Zoning Inspector Cugini referred to the information before the Board regarding the Stark County Building Department and the Stark County Health Department deeming the above-stated house uninhabitable in its current condition. Zoning Inspector Cugini indicated that these entities could not deem this house beyond repair, falling down or in danger of collapse; the house could not be condemned and demotion would not be likely. Mr. Cugini added that what was communicated was with the proper amount of money and work, the house could be savable.

Zoning Inspector Cugini stated that because of the current condition of the house would like to ask the Board's permission to seek a contractor to secure the property by boarding up the home, clean up the trash and debris and ensure that the grass is mowed.

Law Director Hall stated that he would like to ask the Board's permission to initiate a lawsuit against the landowner to attain a court order compelling him to agree to a plan and demonstrate to the Board and the Court's satisfaction, that he will rebuild the property or take it down. Mr. Hall indicated that this is an extraordinary step and it can be done under the residential property maintenance code.

Trustee Haines stated that it has been seven (7) months whereby this has been an open property with no headway made. Trustee Chessler stated that he agreed that the neighbor's shouldn't be stuck with this property that is uninhabitable with no compulsion to fix it up and agreed that we need to move this forward.

Law Director Hall stated that as Zoning Inspector Cugini indicated, steps should be taken to secure this property and relayed that with the Board's permission, we can assess this matter as a civil penalty against the property owner.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board approve authorizing the Law Director, at his direction and guidance, to assist the Zoning Inspector to take the steps necessary to initiate legal matters to have this structure, 3350 Roanoake NW, secured and to further authorize that the Board accepts to secure the structure and to make sure that the nuisance conditions are remediated in the interim.

Trustee DeChiara verified of Chief Martin that this location was boarded up after the fire and inquired if he knew who took them off. Chief Martin indicated that he did not know who took the boarded materials off. Trustee DeChiara indicated that we now have to pay out of our funds to re-board this property and indicated that a no trespassing sign should be put up as well. Trustee DeChiara inquired of Law Director Hall that in addition to the lawsuit if there was a way to force the house into foreclosure with the back taxes. Law Director Hall indicated that we do not have the direct authority to do that, but added that he would coordinate this with the county treasurer's office to take some action in this matter.

Trustee Haines seconded the motion.

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

- **4204 Southway SW**

Zoning Inspector Cugini gave a brief explanation in regard to a complaint he received in February 2017 concerning a large amount of trucks and different construction equipment, running a business out of the home in a residential area at the above-stated address. Mr. Cugini stated that in reviewing back records further indicated that this has been going on since 2014. Zoning Inspector Cugini indicated that a stop order was issued to the homeowner in February 2017 whereby he complied with the removal of trucks and equipment. Mr. Cugini indicated that the zoning department had continued monitoring this property throughout the following months and again received another complaint regarding the large trucks in and out of the property. Zoning Inspector Cugini relayed that upon his visit to the above-stated property, the homeowner did confess that he was running a business out of his house; Law Director Hall issued a stop order with an issued date of November 23, 2017. Law Director Hall indicated that he felt 60 days was more than ample time to either move this business or sell the property.

Trustee Chessler inquired if the Board would prefer to just grant the authority tonight if the property owner wasn't in full compliance with this order.

Trustee Haines indicated that he was fine with that since this matter has been going on for more than a year and referred to the photograph documentation of the activity at this property.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board authorize the Law Director and Zoning Inspector to take any steps necessary, including filing a suit in court to compel compliance with the zoning resolution as outlined in the correspondence to the homeowner; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Executive Session(s):

Department Matters Not Requiring Board Action:

Administration: None.

Fire Department: None.

Police Department: None.

Road Department: None.

Parks/Recycling: None.

Zoning: None.

Law Director: None.

Public Speaks-Open Forum:

Timothy Blythe, 2956 Bridgeton St. NW, Massillon 44646 – Mr. Blythe made reference to the Central Park tennis courts and inquired about several parks that the Township doesn't have any involvement in, i.e., 16th Street and Central Park. Fiscal Officer Schlegel relayed that the Board turned the 16th Street Park over to the baseball association years back. Mr. Blythe indicated that the Auditor's site indicates that the 16th Street Park is owned by the Board of Trustees. Trustee Chessler inquired of Law Director Hall if he would look into this matter.

Trustee Haines relayed that there is a signed lease on the Central Park as well as Hartwick Park that documents what the responsibilities are and added that ours (Township) is the general responsibility of mowing/maintaining adding that any capital things are mutually negotiated.

Mr. Blythe stated that he also wanted to comment on the safety gear discussion referencing that in the private sector, personal protective equipment is destroyed when it is deemed not usable. Law Director Hall indicated that once the equipment (for the fire department) is rendered unusable, it is labeled as such.

Tom Ross, 2845 Standish SW – Mr. Ross stated that he wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Board and Chief Martin; that as of October 1st, all three stations were staffed 24 hours a day, the additions look amazing.

Trustee Chessler inquired of Chief Martin if there were plans for the community to be part of an open house for the new additions to Stations 2 and 3. Chief Martin indicated that there were some finishing touches to the training room and then they would plan for an open house.

Announcements:

~Fall Leaf Drop Off: Saturday, October 14th through Sunday, November 19, 2017. Location Site: Perry Road Department, 1500 Jackson Avenue SW, Massillon. Weekdays: Dusk until Dawn. Saturdays and

Sundays: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Leaves only please. CLOSED VETERAN'S DAY, Friday, November 10th.
Visit www.perrytwp.com for details.

~Stark County Trick or Treat – Sunday, October 29, 2017: 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Adjournment:

With nothing further to come before the Board, Trustee Chessler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Craig Chessler, President

Joe Schlegel, Fiscal Officer