

**Perry Township Board of Trustees
Special Meeting 12:30 pm
December 2, 2016**

Welcome/Introductions

Trustee Haines welcomed everyone to the Perry Township Board of Trustees Special Meeting at 12:30 pm on December 2, 2016.

Trustee Haines stated that we will begin by going around the table and introducing ourselves so that we know who is in attendance for this meeting.

Trustee Doug Haines introduced himself, Board President, Perry Township Trustee; Craig Chessler, Perry Township Trustee; Ralph DeChiara, Perry Township Trustee; Charlie Hall, Perry Township Law Director; Joe Schlegel, Perry Township Fiscal Officer; Fonda Williams, Mayor's Office, City of Canton; Jason Reese, Canton Law Department; Sam Sliman, Director of Annexation, City of Canton. Trustee Haines indicated that Canton Mayor Bernabei would be joining them shortly.

Public Meeting ~Press Notices Provided to WHBC, Canton Repository and Massillon Independent

Trustee Haines stated that for the public meeting, we did send out press notices to WHBC, the Canton Repository and the Massillon Independent.

Purpose of Special Meeting ~ Discus the JEDD with the City of Canton

Trustee Haines stated that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the emails that have gone back and forth and added that this discussion would be as a whole body so that everyone would be on the same page to be able to move forward. Trustee Haines indicated to Law Director Hall that since he and Jason Reese, Canton Law Department, have been exchanging emails, asked if they would bring them up to speed on where they are regarding this matter.

Law Director Hall stated that there are two (2) issues that he felt needed to at least be addressed today; the first is that the Annexation Agreement is almost complete; there is some dispute over annexation language and added that he did a draft which he circulated among the Perry Trustees Board to review and would like some input. Mr. Hall inquired of Trustee DeChiara if he would be agreeable with him to share this with the city at this point. Trustee DeChiara stated yes. Mr. Hall stated that he knew that this had not been discussed with the other Board members. Mr. Hall stated that we have to negotiate or finalize the Annexation Agreement.

Law Director Hall indicated that another thing that he would like to briefly address is the tax abatement application from Dr. Johnson. Mr. Hall stated that the Trustee representative and he met with the school board representatives a week ago and after that meeting they had more discussion with Dr. Johnson. Law Director Hall indicated that Dr. Johnson still wants to try to pursue 100% of the 15 year

abatement and added that we have to talk about how to dovetail that together with the Board of Education or the Commissioners so that we can move that ahead. Mr. Hall stated that he felt these were two of the big issues that he felt were outstanding.

Law Director Hall referred to a draft from Attorney Reese of the Canton Law Department; Mr. Hall stated that he took the annexation agreement and plugged it back in the draft, the specific language that he would like to discuss and in which he felt very comfortable recommending to the Perry Township Board, in this agreement and as it was in the original extension 12, page 9 to read through together.

Mr. Hall read aloud the language and indicated that this was different than what Attorney Reese had provided; it is different than at this point what we have discussed from the Board's side or the City Administration side. Law Director Hall indicated that what he has tried to do is craft language that would be acceptable to both sides but does not undermine or take away the statutory authority of the City to do what it would want to do.

Law Director Hall greeted Canton Mayor Bernabei and relayed what was previously discussed wherein they were finalizing the annexation language in the JEDD and added that discussion still needed to be done regarding the tax abatement request.

Mr. Hall inquired if they wanted to take a few minutes to consult with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and counsel. Mayor Bernabei agreed to this request.

Law Director Hall stated that before taking this short recess, he wanted to convey his understanding and gave more explanation in this regard.

Brief Adjournment: 12:45 pm

Attorney Reese gave review to the agreement language by way of the letter headings and also read aloud a portion of the language. Mr. Reese indicated that all they want (the language) to do is to delineate owner-initiated, city initiated; that is the only difference.

Mr. Reese stated that before the City submits an annexation petition to the County Commissioners, the City shall notify the Township and attempt to negotiate, in good faith, an annexation agreement, CEDA or JEDD before processing the City initiated annexation proceeding. Mr. Reese stated that they are good with E, but would like to add an F. Mr. Reese read aloud the following proposed language: 'Perry Township agrees that it will offer Canton City the right of first refusal to any future JEDD agreements within Perry Township.'

Trustee DeChiara indicated one of his concerns and more discussion continued.

Law Director Hall indicated that once he completed the final agreement language he will suggest to the Board at their next regular scheduled meeting on December 20th that this will be on our Agenda for final adoption of this JEDD Agreement.

Trustee Haines inquired where the City was in this process. Attorney Reese stated that they were in the same process and gave a brief explanation regarding this matter.

Law Director Hall indicated that he wanted to talk about this tax abatement request; Dr. Johnson wants to go forth 100% for the fifteen (15) years. Mr. Hall stated that he would like to talk about the timeline; now that we know he owns the property and now that we are anticipating that we have an agreement, as of December 20th, Mr. Hall added that what he will ask the Board to do is in the January meeting will have the tax incentive review committee recommend to the Board of Trustees to forward Dr. Johnson's request of 100% for fifteen (15) years to the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Hall indicated that because we have a JEDD plus the City also has to agree, he will ask the City to pass an ordinance also suggesting or recommending that the County Commissioners save that 100% for fifteen (15) years then we can file the agreement with Dr. Johnson and the final agreement with the Board of County Commissioners with the proposed contract. Under the statute, the County Commissioners then give notice to the Board of Education and they process it from there.

Mr. Williams inquired that with that type of abatement, his understanding was that the school board had to have it before we could. Mr. Hall stated no and indicated that it is a little bit different since this is going to remain in their Township. Mr. Hall indicated that we will look at the statute again, but according to the statute, the draft agreement gets submitted to the County Commissioners, they have forty-five (45) days to act, but they give notice to the Board of Education and the Board of Education then has to copy it.

More discussion took place regarding this matter.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Adjournment

With nothing further to come before the Board, Trustee Haines made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:34 pm; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

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

Doug Haines, President

Joe Schlegel, Fiscal Officer