

Perry Township Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

January 15, 2019 7:00 pm

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

Excused absence:

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

Public Hearings/Invited Guests:

Swearing-In Ceremony for Sergeant Jason Fisher

Trustee Chessler indicated that Police Chief Pomesky has conducted testing to fill a promotion opening for Sergeant in the police department and extended congratulations to Jason Fisher on behalf of the Board in this new leadership role. Trustee Chessler gave a brief summary of Jason's early interest in law enforcement and education and relayed that Jason has been with the Perry Township Police Department since 2006. Trustee Chessler indicated that Jason has consistently stepped up to assist the department in a progressive and positive direction. Trustee Chessler recognized Sergeant Fisher's family here with him this evening and asked Jason to please step forward so we can administer the oath of that office.

Trustee Chessler requested Jason to please raise his right hand:

I, Jason V. Fisher, do solemnly swear or affirm, that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio and the resolutions of Perry Township, and I will faithfully, honestly and impartially discharge the duties of a police sergeant and in for the Police District of Perry Township, Stark County, Ohio during my continuance in that office.

Trustee Chessler presented Sergeant Fisher with the signed Oath of Office.

Sergeant Fisher stated that he wanted to thank his wife and kids as well and Chief Pomesky for the opportunity as well as the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Chessler stated that the Board would go into an Executive Session at this time and invited the audience to partake in cake and refreshments during this brief recess.

Brief Recess

Executive Session(s):

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G) (4) preparing for, conducting or reviewing collective bargaining to include the Board, Fiscal Officer, Law Director and Department Heads as requested; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

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

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at: 7:06 pm

The Board adjourned from Executive Session at: 7:18 pm

Trustee Chessler called the meeting back to order at 7:20 pm out of Executive Session and indicated that this was a discussion with the Board, Fiscal Officer and Law Director with regard to Collective Bargaining matters.

Trustee Chessler made a motion to authorize the Law Director to enter into a joint petition with the Local 935 of the Perry organized workers represented by AFSCME Ohio Council 8 for a joint petition to serve to include in the existing collective bargaining agreement additional members as safety service mechanics; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Communications:

Discuss Stark County District Advisory Council Meeting – March 7, 2019

Trustee Chessler indicated that by mail, he received the quarterly report from the Stark County Health Department regarding a statutorily required district advisory council meeting of the Stark County General Combined Health District to be held at 7 pm on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at the Stark County Health Department. Trustee Chessler relayed that it was indicated that this information was sent to all Township Trustees; the subject matter to be presented at this meeting: a presentation regarding a request for an increase from the political subdivisions for the health department's operating budget and the request for a 2% increase in five (5) consecutive years beginning in 2020 and ending in 2024. Trustee Chessler stated that in the past, the Board has made a Board designation for a representative to attend these meetings; Trustee DeChiara confirmed that he would attend the upcoming meeting as the Board designee.

Trustee DeChiara relayed that if we would be able to get some specific information from the Health Department before this upcoming March meeting for review; Trustee Chessler briefly explained his opposition of the 2% increase request but added that if Trustee DeChiara would be able to get any information beforehand, it could be reviewed and discussed by the Board at the upcoming February 5th meeting.

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 \$50,258.76 for the week ending today, January 15, 2019; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Fiscal Officer:

Administration:

Fire Department:

Police Department:

Road and Park Department:

Consider 4th Street/Pleasant Hills Storm Sewer Improvement—Phase II Pay Request #3

Trustee Chessler indicated that this next item on the Agenda is pay request #3 regarding the 4th Street/Pleasant Hills Storm Sewer Improvement Project Phase II. Trustee Chessler stated that the Board has received the itemization for the payment request:

The total request to Hammontree and Associates is \$5,748.00; the Township portion is \$1,551.96; To Easton Construction, the total request is for \$154,807.52, the Township portion is \$41,798.03.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board approve those two payments, one to Hammontree & Associates and the other to Easton Construction in the amounts stated; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

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

Consider Approving Bid for Dump Truck Chassis and Utility Truck Chassis

Trustee Chessler indicated that Road Superintendent Masalko has submitted a request by memo dated January 14, 2018 to approve the purchase of a new dump truck chassis and utility truck chassis through the Diesel Emission Reduction Grant awarded two years ago and based upon the bids received. Trustee Chessler indicated that the referral of these bids by the Board to the Road Superintendent and Law Director were shown to be in compliance; after review the Law Director and Road Superintendent recommend that the bid from Waikem Auto Family be approved for the F450 truck and F550 truck.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board accept the bid from Waikem Auto Family for those two items of equipment, a 2019 F-450 XL Regular Cab, Cab & Chassis 4x4 for the quoted price of \$42,393.10 and for the 2019 F-550 XL Regular Cab, Cab & Chassis 4x4 for the quoted amount of \$44,247.10.

Law Director Hall indicated that he would ask the Board to go forward with that resolution and then would also ask the Board to approve a change order. Mr. Hall explained that Mr. Masalko was in contact this afternoon with the grant award committee and gave a brief explanation regarding this change order request; the grant award committee confirmed the award for a F-450 4x2, but in regard to Road Superintendent Masalko's explanation regarding his preference of the F-450 4x4, this would be an additional cost of \$2,540.00 to upgrade that truck to a 4x4 chassis.

Trustee Chessler stated that there has been a motion on the floor to accept the quoted amounts for the two items that the Law Director recommend that we approve; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Trustee Chessler stated that based on the explanation of the Road Superintendent and Law Director, makes a motion that the Board approve a change order with regard to the purchase of the 2019 F-450 Regular Cab to authorize the expenditure of an additional \$2,540.00 so that we may get the vehicle in the 4x4 version; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Law Director:

Discuss Police and Road Department Levies

Trustee Chessler indicated that the next item on the Agenda is a discussion of the Police and Road levies. Trustee Chessler asked if Law Director Hall could please refresh our recollection of our previous discussions regarding these levy matters.

Law Director Hall gave a brief overview regarding the renewal of the road levy and referenced the December 18, 2019 Work Session wherein more discussion of this matter took place. Law Director Hall clarified the proposal that the road levy go on the upcoming ballot as a 5-mill additional with the representation that the remaining levies would be terminated upon passage.

Trustee Chessler indicated that for our purposes tonight, the Board would need to pass a resolution asking the Auditor to certify the amount that would be generated by an additional 5-mill levy.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board direct and authorize the Law Director to seek from the Auditor's Office, certification of as necessary, an additional 5-mill levy for the Road Department beginning in 2019 to be placed on the ballot in the May primary election; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Trustee Chessler indicated that discussion would now proceed to the Police Department levies.

Law Director Hall referenced the two police levies that expired in 2018, the 3.9 mill levy and the 3.49 mill levy. Mr. Hall stated that based upon some additional research he did with the prosecutor's office and the Board of Elections makes recommendation that the Board consider renewing the 3.49 mill levy with an increase of 2.5 mill making the levy a 5.99 mill; and then also separately renew the 3.9 mill levy to be placed on the upcoming May ballot as two separate issues.

Fiscal Officer Schlegel also referenced these two expired levies and further confirmed that they would either have to be renewed or renew an additional. Mr. Schlegel made recommendation that the 3.9 mill be renewed and the 3.49 be renewed with an additional 2.5 mill.

Further discussion took place regarding the proposed police levies; Trustee Haines inquired of Fiscal Officer Schlegel what amount the two current proposed levies, 3.9 and 3.49, were currently bringing in. Mr. Schlegel confirmed they are bringing in \$3,476,218.00.

Trustee DeChiara inquired of Police Chief Pomesky what his thoughts were regarding the discussion of these levies. Chief Pomesky gave a brief explanation and also indicated that ultimately, felt we need an additional 2.5 mills to carry us into the future, to 2023.

Trustee Chessler made a motion to authorize the Law Director to request from the Stark County Auditor, certification of the amount to be generated by renewing the current 3.9 mill levy; to certify the amount that would be generated by the renewal of the 3.49 mill levy with an increase of 2.5 mills; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board authorize the Law Director to request from the Stark County Auditor, certification of the millage necessary to generate \$5,000,000.00 under current valuations; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Trustee Chessler indicated that there were no other Agenda items listed for Board action and further stated that he wanted to let the members of tonight's audience know that regarding this levy matter, the Board is requesting the Auditor to tell us how much, in exact dollars, that would be generated. Trustee Chessler further explained that a second meeting would be required, as well as a second Board action to approve both of the proposed police levies before being able to put them on the upcoming ballot.

Zoning:

Problem Properties:

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.

Announcements: None.

Public Speaks-Open Forum:

Matt Gatchell, 629 Kolpwood NW – Mr. Gatchell stated that his issue wasn't necessarily with millage, but with the increase. Mr. Gatchell briefly explained his criticism regarding the last police levy indicating that he has seen no increase in the services that we were told we were getting. Mr. Gatchell stated that

he didn't think another increase could be passed, especially double the increase that we voted for last time without having a firm, five to ten-year plan in place as to what those dollars are going to go for.

Trustee Chessler referenced the past police levies and acknowledged the comments and criticisms that he has heard for the last five years as well and indicated that the Board recognizes the charge before them regarding the current proposed police levies. Trustee Chessler stated that we need to take the information that we get back and indicate the amount of money needed to run the police department with specifics as to staffing, equipment and every dollar spent.

More discussion took place regarding this matter; Mr. Gatchell referenced the past police levies and indicated that there has been no accountability for the dollars that he voted to allow the Police Chief to spend. Trustee Haines indicated that he would welcome Mr. Gatchell, at any time, to come in to review the police budget to show where the monies were spent.

Adjournment:

With nothing further to come before the Board, Trustee Chessler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

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

Craig Chessler, President

Joe Schlegel, Fiscal Officer