

Perry Township Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

October 3, 2023 6:00 pm

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

Welcome/Invited Guests

Retirement recognition of Fire Captain Rachel Berkey for 19 years of dedicated service to our community

Trustee Nelligan introduced Fire Captain Rachel Berkey. Trustee DeChiara spoke about her dedication to the Perry Fire Department. Fire Chief Sedlock stated how much he appreciated her and that the department would miss her. He requested the Board to accept Captain Berkey's retirement effective Tuesday, October 3, 2023. He presented her with a plaque and her helmet

10 Minute Recess

Excused absence:

Additions/Deletions to Agenda – Roll Call by Department:

Administration Martin would like to add sealing quotes for the administration and Fire department parking lots.

Trustee DeChiara would like to add a short executive session on township real estate.

Communications/Announcements Details available at Perrytwp.com:

1. Fire Prevention Week – Open House October 8th at stations 1,2 & 3. Vehicle displays, coloring contests, and much more. Visit perrytwp.com for event details.
2. In lieu of the Board meeting on November 7th the Board will meet on October 31, 6:00pm

Public Speaks on Agenda Items Up for Action

Unfinished Business:

Department Agenda Items (Information/Action Items)

Administration:

Consider FMLA request of Employee A

Administrator Martin requested consideration of FMLA for a township Employee A. Administrator Martin stated the Board had before them a request from Employee "A" for approximately an undisclosed period of time in February 2024. The person has been advised of the FMLA policy. Administrator Martin stated they are also aware it is their responsibility to report their time away to their department head for approval. FMLA concurrently runs with sick and vacation time that must be exhausted. FMLA is the federal law which we abide by per the physician's script.

Trustee Nelligan stated so moved. Seconded by Trustee Miller.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Consider opening Capital Budget accounts for all department

Trustee Nelligan would like to open a discussion and perhaps open capital reserve accounts for the departments. She indicated that over the last several weeks the Board has been working with the department heads on identifying projects or capital expenditures that are going to need to occur over the next 5-10 years. Trustee Nelligan would like to review the entries that she had spoken on with the department heads and make sure this is the route we want to go and open several accounts in each area with the Fiscal Office. If we don't want to move forward, she indicated she would mark it off and make a motion.

Police: Capital Budget Police accounts for a capital reserve account including building infrastructure, cars, and uplifting and retirement buyouts that are projected to happen in the next 5 years. Trustee Nelligan asked Chief Taylor if he was in agreement with the \$20,000.00 for the building infrastructure, \$13,500.00 per year for the cars and uplifting, and the retirement buyouts of \$42,773.64. Chief Taylor stated he was in agreement with Trustee Nelligan.

Trustee Miller asked a few questions concerning the purchase of the cars. Trustee Nelligan explained that in his normal budget, Chief Taylor will still budget for cars and they will not be included in the reserve accounts. This is to start with knowing that there is going to be increases in cars and uplifting in the next 5 years. He will reserve these monies so that when the bill comes in higher than what his budget is, he will have the reserve money for increases in vehicles and uplifting.

Law Director Mathews explained there will still need to be a maximum amount in the resolution. He indicated that for the police on the resolution, you can use a maximum of \$250,000.00, which will be for a 10-year period on the capital items and 5 years on the retirement buyout.

Trustee Nelligan made a motion to open up a reserve account for the police department. This would be \$20,000.00 for the building infrastructure, \$13,500.00 per year for the cars and uplifting, and the

retirement buyouts of \$42,773.64. For the police resolution, there is a maximum of \$250,000.00, which will be for a 10-year period on the capital items and 5 years on the retirement buyout.

Seconded by Trustee Miller

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes

Road: Capital Budget Based on what Public Works Director, Anthony Davide provided to the Board, the first year he would want to reserve \$243,750.00 for 3 trucks over a 5-year period. A tool truck starting at \$21,250.00 a sweeper at \$56,250.00, a dump truck at \$15,000.00, a water jet truck at \$80,000.00, and 5 years on a retirement buyout at \$18,400.00.

Trustee Miller asked what year would he be planning on purchasing a tool truck and would purchase it in 2028.

Trustee DeChiara asked do we have to itemize the items in the capital improvement or can we just state "I want to start setting money aside for trucks and equipment with this much money a year" Does this need to be itemized? Law Director Mathews indicated the only itemization is between capital items and reserve items. Because they are different resolutions, Law Director Mathews stated. He suggested opening the Road Department capital improvement not to exceed \$500,000.00 per year for 10 years then all you have to identify is the amount of money is the amount of money you put in the first year.

Public Works Director, Anthony Davide the second year will be the same.

Trustee Nelligan made a motion to open up a truck reserve account or equipment for 1.5 million over the life of the fund. And open a reserve account for \$92,000.00 over 5 years starting with the \$18,400.00.

Seconded by Trustee Miller

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes

Fire:

Trustee Nelligan stated for the fire department they will reserve monies for a fire truck, a tower one refurbishment, and another unit refurbishment. Also, a separate account for the retirement buyouts.

Trustee Nelligan made a motion for \$1,750,000.00 for capital and \$62,000.00 for retirement buyouts.

Seconded by Trustee Miller

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes

Zoning:

Trustee Nelligan indicated to Zoning Inspector Whytsell that they will reserve \$50,000.00 for a vehicle over the next 5 years. Zoning Inspector Whytsell will also budget in his normal budget to demolish buildings, but will also be going to create a capital reserve account for any incidentals that may happen along the way as we are starting to be faced with so things or an emergency building that needs to be torn down. Trustee Nelligan and Zoning Inspector Whytsell also discussed reserving \$18,000.00 a year for the next 5 years for demolition. Trustee DeChiara stated he liked the idea of having some money for demolition. Trustee Nelligan gives him a cushion from the general fund. Trustee DeChiara stated \$90,000.00 will be tied up out of the general fund for the next 5 years for demolition only and \$10,000.00 for the vehicles. Trustee Miller stated that would then be around 150,000.00.

Trustee Nelligan stated so moved. Seconded by Trustee DeChiara

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes

Consider sealing quotes for the parking lot

Administrator Martin presented quotes for the sealing of the Administration and Fire Administration parking lot. She presented information on the paving with a quote from Vasco Asphalt Company in the amount of \$5,857.00. The second quote was unattainable and Pav-all came in with a quote of \$11,400.00. Administrator Martin asked the Board to make a motion based on the above to consider hiring Vasco Asphalt Company to provide sealing services at the Administration and Fire Administration Building not to exceed \$5,857.00 split between both departments.

Trustee Miller had questions about the billing process.

Trustee Nelligan asked if this was the way to go with the parking lot. Administrator Martin indicated that this is every 3 years to have it sealed.

Trustee Nelligan stated so moved. Seconded by Trustee Miller

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes

Road and Park Department

Zoning:

Police Department:

Fire Department:

Consider the retirement of Captain Harry Ellis effective 9-10-23

Chief Larry Sedlock made the record straight to consider the retirement of Harry Ellis. He was recognized at a previous meeting, however, but an actual vote was needed. Chief Sedlock stated Captain Ellis has been a valued dedicated member of the Perry Township Fire Department, our community, and the residents of Perry Township for the past 42 years. Because Captain Ellis began as a volunteer, he understood how important it was to provide leadership and mentorship to the new firefighters so they could grow in the fire service. It is with heavy heart, that after 42 years with the Perry Township Fire Department, I request the Board to accept Captain Ellis's retirement effective Sunday, September 10, 2023.

Trustee Nelligan stated so moved. Seconded by Trustee Miller.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Consider the retirement of Captain Rachel Berkey effective 10-3-23

Chief Larry Sedlock stated Captain Rachel Berkey has been a dedicated member of the department as well as the community and our residents for 19 years. She also began as a volunteer firefighter. Chief Sedlock requested the Board accept Captain Berkey's retirement effective Tuesday, October 3, 2023.

Trustee Nelligan stated so moved. Seconded by Trustee Miller.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Consider the purchase of an ambulance

Chief Sedlock asked the Board to consider the purchase of a 5th ambulance. Chief Sedlock indicated there has been much discussion concerning the 5th medic unit on how to move forward. Everyone thought it would be necessary to keep them in rotation so that we would not have the same problem that we have had in the past where they all came due at the same time. Chief Sedlock got a quote from The Life Line Custom Superline. The unit will be identical to the other units that we have purchased. This purchase will keep us in line with the goal of having the medic units the same for service reasons as well as continuity for our crews. The Life Line Custom Superliner will be mounted on a 2025 Dodge 4500 4x4 chassis. It will be replacing our 2014 Chevy ambulance with approximately 98,000 miles. It will take approximately 2 years to arrive. Currently, due to our call volume, we are putting approximately 20,000 to 25,000 miles per year on our medic units. Purchasing this unit will help us achieve our goal of rotating our medic units so they don't all need to be replaced at one time.

Chief Sedlock recommended to the Board the total cost of \$389,060.00. There are two options on how to purchase the unit. Chief Sedlock went on to explain the costs. He indicated that we have the money available through ARP money that needs to be spent by December 31, 2026, and the balance in our budget. We may not get the ambulance until after that and there is a potential price increase. He recommends that to allow the purchase of the ambulance and that we pay for it in full at the time of the order. This will guarantee the price of the ambulance as well as ensure that the APR money is spent on time.

Chief Sedlock directed questions to the Law Director on securing this purchase. Law Director Mathews stated possibly a bond. This may be built into the price. Trustee DeChiara stated this happened years ago and they lost money. Law Director Mathews gave other options for the monies for the purchase. Law Director Mathews will work on a bond.

There were continued questions and concerns from Trustee DeChiara. There was also concern about replacing Fire Station 1.

No action- Tabled

Law Director:

Fiscal Officer Report

Consider Pending Warrants

Fiscal Officer Chessler stated the following pending warrants for week ending 9-19-2023 for bill/payroll in the amount of \$266,233.08 and week ending 9-26-2023 for bills in the amount of \$164,185.05 for a combined total of \$430,408.13.

Trustee Nelligan stated so moved. Seconded by Trustee Miller.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Consider accepting August 2023 bank reconciliations

Fiscal Officer Chessler indicated that the account is reconciled for the month of August.

Trustee Nelligan stated so moved. Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Board of Trustees of Trustees Updates – Roll Call

1. Trustee Nelligan
2. Trustee Miller

3. Trustee DeChiara, Jr

Public Speaks:

Maria Kimble

Maria Kimble of 3665 Briardale Dr NW. She began by thanking the Road department for clearing out the drainage ditch. Ms. Kimble asked the Board if there was any help in clearing trash from the ditch now that it was flowing. Trustee Nelligan referred her to the Perry Rotary. She continued by thanking the Zoning Department for providing her with information concerning the telecommunication tower and why certain residents were only notified about the tower. She also continues about her concerns with the tower.

Ms. Kimble also is very upset about Massillon Cable digging in her mother's yard. She explained the situation and hoped for some input.

Law Director Mathews explained the laws related to towers.

Ms. Kimble also talked about the telephone pole on her mother's property. The Massillon Cable stated it was not their responsibility and to call Ohio Edison. Law Director Mathews gave her the best information he could on these companies.

Justin Candea

Justin Candea of 4970 Southway Dr. represented Young Trucks. Mr. Candea came to give a courtesy heads-up on Young Trucks. He gave a history of Young Trucks with Perry Township. Young Trucks is working on building a new dealership. He proceeded to state that they are planning on moving the business to Canton Township. Mr. Candea stated they have no intention of selling the Southway location and still will use it as the dealership. The Board thanked him for coming in and giving them this information.

Problem Properties:

Department Matters Not Requiring Board of Trustees Action:

Administration:

Fire Department:

Police Department:

Road Department:

Parks/Recycling:

Zoning:

Law Director:

Announcements:

Public Speaks-Open Forum:

Adjournment:

Adjournment:

With nothing further to come before the Board of Trustees, Trustee Nelligan made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:55 pm; Seconded by Trustee Miller

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Executive Session(s):

ORC 121.22 (G)(1) personnel to include Board, Law Director, Public Works Director and Administrator

ORC 121.22 (G)(3) conference with legal counsel concerning imminent or pending court action to include the Board, Law Director

ORC 121.22 (G)(2) to discuss township Real Estate

With nothing further to come before the Board of Trustees, Trustee Nelligan made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 6:56 pm; Seconded by Trustee Miller.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Nelligan, yes. Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

The Board of Trustees adjourned from Executive Session at 7:04 pm

Lisa Nelligan, President

Craig Chessler, Fiscal Officer