

**PERKINS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**SPECIAL SESSION**

**May 3, 2021**

The Perkins Township Trustees met Monday, May 3, 2021, in the Township Services Facility located at 2610 Columbus Avenue. Trustees present were Timothy Coleman, Jeffrey Ferrell, and James Lang. Chairman Coleman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 a.m.

**AGENDA**

Mr. Coleman moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Ferrell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**HEARING** - Continuation of Street Lighting Hearing for Windamere #5 Street Lighting

Ms. Schaefer said that she had been in contact with Julianne Smith who advised that the developer was willing to pay for the installation of the streetlights.

**Resolution 2021 - 82**

**Approve the Windamere #5 Street Lighting District**

Mr. Ferrell moved to approve the creation of the Windamere #5 Street Lighting District. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution adopted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2021-83**

**Hire Part-time Police Administrative Assistant Elizabeth (Casey) Sparks**

Mr. Coleman moved to hire Elizabeth (Casey) Sparks at \$12.00 per hour effective May 17, 2021, as part-time administrative assistant for the Police Department. Mr. Ferrell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution adopted.

The Trustees then had a general discussion regarding the finances for the Fire and Police Departments. Mr. Boyle said that Chief Murphy has estimated that he will use up his carryover balances by a couple years out. And none of that financing accounts for a new fire station. He believes that an additional 2.75 mil levy would collect a little over \$1 million.

Chief Donald said he has talked with the school. He has an obligation to his officers and their families. He does not want to wait because he cannot continue the path he is on unless the Trustees are going to commit extra funds from the General Fund.

Mr. Boyle said that the schools were looking at going on the ballot November of 2022.

Ms. Schaefer said that the earliest the renewal levies could go on the ballot in November 2022. If they failed then, May and November of 2023 would be the backups.

Mr. Ferrell said that the schools are subject to House Bill 920 just like the Township is, so there has been no growth in the taxes. In addition both departments are short three officers. The Township has been very lucky in the cost of health insurance in recent years. However, we cannot count on that continuing. The General Fund cannot continue to finance the Police Department, Cemetery, Parks, Recreation, Administration, sidewalks, and everything else that comes from the General Fund. Mr. Ferrell noted that the General Fund pays for cleaning up of neighborhoods. The cemetery is getting full and so we are looking at purchasing more property. On the other hand, revenues are declining such as franchise tax. The only good thing is the inside millage that increases with the values of the property.

Mr. Lang asked how long the new levy would last or be enough to fund the departments. If the levy generates \$1 million and the extra officers cost about \$400,000, Mr. Lang questioned whether the officers would ask for a ton in raises to eat up the extra. Chief

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Donald said that hopefully there would be a conversation upfront that the difference is not just for huge raises. It goes for other things like equipment replacements and upgrades. And the difference is to be used to keep their job long term.

Mr. Boyle said that with the elimination of estate tax, personal property tax, and rollbacks, the State has shifted the tax burden from the state level to the local governments.

Mr. Lang asked if they wanted to put the levy on this year. Mr. Coleman said that if they put it on in November then they would have next year to put it on if it failed this year. Mr. Lang said that his opinion was that this year was not the best time; however, he understands the need. Mr. Ferrell said that if we put it on in November that gives us a good part of the summer to market it.

Mr. Ferrell said that if they put the renewal levies on as a replacement and an increase that costs the taxpayers more. Ms. Schaefer agreed a replacement would cost the taxpayers an additional 12.5%. And if you put them on as a combination renewal and new, then you run the risk of the renewal not passing.

Mr. Ferrell would like to proceed to see how much the levies would generate. Ms. Schaefer said that the Board needed to pass resolutions of necessity for the auditor to give you those amounts.

**Resolution 2021-84**

**Resolution of Necessity for Additional 2.75 Mil Fire & EMS Protection Levy**

Mr. Coleman moved to adopt a Resolution of Necessity for an additional 2.75 mil Fire & EMS Protection Levy, five years, Mr. Ferrell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2021-85**

**Resolution of Necessity for Additional 2.50 Mil Fire & EMS Protection Levy**

Mr. Coleman moved to adopt a Resolution of Necessity for an Additional 2.50 Mil Fire & EMS Protection Levy, five years. Mr. Ferrell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2021-86**

**Resolution of Necessity for Additional 2.75 Mil Police Protection Levy**

Mr. Coleman moved to adopt a Resolution of Necessity for an Additional 2.75 Mil Police Protection Levy, five years. Mr. Ferrell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2021-87**

**Resolution of Necessity for Additional 2.50 Mil Police Protection Levy**

Mr. Coleman moved to adopt a Resolution of Necessity for an Additional 2.50 Mil Police Protection Levy, five years. Mr. Ferrell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution adopted.

If adopted, the above levies would be placed on the November 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot and would be used for the same purpose as the current levies.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Ferrell moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 am. Mr. Coleman seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye, Mr. Coleman, aye.

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Timothy Coleman, Chairman

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Diane Schaefer, Fiscal Officer