

PERKINS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

February 22, 2022

The Perkins Township Trustees met Tuesday, February 22, 2022, in the Township Services Facility located at 2610 Columbus Avenue. Trustees present were Timothy Coleman, Jeffrey Ferrell, and James Lang. Chairman Ferrell opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:30 a.m.

AGENDA

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Ferrell moved to approve the financial reports for the period ending February 25, 2022. Mr. Coleman seconded. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2022-033

Hire Jordan Speer as a Class C Patrol Officer

Mr. Ferrell moved to hire Jordan Speer as a Class C Patrol Officer effective February 26, 2022, at a rate of \$23.43 per hour with an additional Education allowance of 5% for a Bachelor of Science. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Chief Donald reviewed Jordan's educational and work background. Mr. Coleman said that Jordan comes highly recommended. Mr. Ferrell welcomed Jordan aboard. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-034

Adopt a Car Support Program Policy for the Police Department

Mr. Ferrell moved to adopt a Car Support Program Policy for the Police Department. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Chief Donald outlined his belief that the policy will extend the life of the vehicles. Mr. Coleman said that it makes sense that if one person is responsible for a vehicle, they will take pride in keeping the vehicle in good condition. It is also a deterrent having the vehicles seen in neighborhoods in the Township. Mr. Ferrell said that the policy, when it was part of the collective bargaining agreement, was not well managed. Things have changed since then and he has confidence that Chief Donald will correct anything that is wrong with the policy. Chief Donald said that the policy would not be part of the collective bargaining agreement. Having a vehicle is a perk of the job. Mr. Lang said that it is a benefit to respond directly from the officer's resident. He definitely supports the program. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-035

Adopt a Facial Hair Policy

Mr. Ferrell moved to adopt a Facial Hair Policy. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Chief Donald said that this is aligned with the winter policy for uniforms. It originally started as a No Shave in November policy. Mr. Ferrell said that he believed that Chief Donald would be able to administer this policy as well. There is also a section that permits more liberal fingernail polish during the same period. Mr. Ferrell noted that safety will need to be the precedent if there are changes in OSHA, CDC, or Health Department regulations. Mr. Lang asked if the fingernail policy was for female officers only. Chief Donald said that even the current policy does not say that. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-036

Apply for a Grant through the ERPC Metropolitan Planning Organization

Mr. Ferrell moved apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant through the ERPC Metropolitan Planning Organization for the installation of Road Pavement Markers on Woodlawn and Marshall (Stoneway to Campbell). Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Director Link said this would extend the markers on Marshall from what has already been

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installed. The request would be for around \$30,000. Ms. Schaefer said that the State did pay for the markers on the other section of Marshall since the entire project came in under the estimate of the project. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-037

Participate with the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation for Funding through the Ohio Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program

Mr. Ferrell moved to participate with the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation for funding through the State of Ohio Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Director Byington reviewed the funding process and a list of potential properties. Mr. Ferrell said he believed that it would be beneficial for several commercial properties. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-038

Authorize a Grant to the Wightman Wieber Foundation for Playground Equipment at Strickfaden

Mr. Ferrell moved to authorize a grant application to the Wightman Wieber Foundation for playground equipment at Strickfaden Park and accept the grant if so awarded. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Director Link said that it would be for two pods for a cost of \$13,200 which includes the pods and shipping. They would do the installation. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-039

Request Cooperation from Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation regarding Property Acquisitions

Mr. Ferrell moved to request cooperation from the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation regarding property acquisition. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Director Byington said this was a formal request for the County land bank to transfer the listed properties into the name of the Township. Mr. Ferrell said that since the County has taken additional funds from the tax collection to fund the land bank, they should be more responsive to our requests. He suggested contacting our State representative to retrieve the properties that have been forfeited to the State. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-040

Authorize a Grant Application to the MPO under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplementary Appropriations Act

Mr. Ferrell moved to authorize a grant application to the MPO under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplementary Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) for a Strub Road sidewalk project and accept the grant if so awarded. Mr. Ferrell noted this would be for the sidewalk from the school to Route 250. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-041

Amend Schedule A for George Poulos

Mr. Ferrell moved to amend the Schedule A for George Poulos, Building Official, to reflect a 5% increase. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Director Byington said that Mr. Poulos had not received a raise since 2018 when he took a reduction in pay. Mr. Ferrell said that without Mr. Poulos we would not have a building department and even though part-time he was available when needed. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

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PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Ferrell then opened a public hearing for the property at 2719 Columbus Avenue. Director Byington said this was for the carriage house which had been before the Board several times. She said that all interested parties had been notified and there was no objection. There were no comments from the public. With that Mr. Ferrell closed the public hearing.

Resolution 2022-042

Proceed with Removal of Structure at 2719 Columbus Avenue

Mr. Ferrell moved to proceed with the removal of an unsafe and structurally defective accessory structure at 2719 Columbus Avenue and certify expenses for nuisance abatement to the Erie County Auditor. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Mr. Ferrell opened the public hearing for the property at 2707 Tremper Avenue. Director Byington noted this was the first step in the process. It has been inspected by the Chief Building Official and has been found to be unsafe. The owners have notified the Township that they are opposed to the demolition, but to date no rehabilitation plan has been submitted.

Gregory Rodriguez, Tremper Avenue, said that he had a purchase agreement for the property. He presented copies of an inspection report that said there was nothing wrong with the foundation. He stated that he was willing to bring it up to code and the finances to do it. He plans to live there forever. He has qualified for the CHIP program but needs to own the property before that will fund the project.

Jose Rodriguez, owner of the property, supports Gregory Rodriguez's request. The structural condition of the property is okay. He also requests that the Board not move forward.

With that Mr. Ferrell closed the meeting. Mr. Ferrell said that the Township has a policy regarding this type of situation. We have been dealing with this for some time. He prefers to move forward with the notice of intent during which time Mr. Rodriguez can submit a plan for improvement.

Mr. Gregory Rodriguez said the Paul Ricci never intended to demolish the property. Mr. Ferrell said that he was going by the current reports submitted by Mr. Poulos, Chief Building Official. Mr. Coleman agreed with Mr. Ferrell that the owners have been on notice for some time and yet we still have no timeline as to what is going to be done and how soon it will be fixed.

Luis Rodriguez said that until recently no one had been inside the property. He understands that the property is not as beautiful as the Trustees might like. However, he totally disagrees that the problems cannot be fixed.

Mr. Ferrell again outlined the procedure that the owners and potential owner need to follow to save the property from demolition. They need to work out the agreement with the Community Development Department as soon as possible.

Because comments were being repeated, Mr. Ferrell closed the hearing. (A CD will be made of this meeting for future reference.)

Resolution 2022-043

Notice of Intent to Demolish – 2707 Tremper Avenue

Mr. Ferrell moved to provide notice of an insecure, unsafe, or structurally defective structure at 2707 Tremper Avenue and intent to demolish. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

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Department Reports

Police Department – Chief Donald requested permission to dispose of bikes that had been collected since the last auction.

Resolution 2022-044

Authorization to Dispose of Abandoned Bicycles

Mr. Ferrell moved to authorize the Police Department to disposed of abandoned bicycles periodically as they were collected. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Ms. Schaefer noted that they would still need to be advertised as unclaimed property before being disposed. Mr. Lang asked if it could just put on the website. Mr. Ferrell suggested getting a legal opinion from Mr. Coppeler. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2022-045

Approve Grant Application to Wightman Wieber Foundation – Radar Units

Mr. Ferrell moved to approve, and accept if awarded, a grant application to the Wightman Wieber Foundation for five (5) Radar Units. Chief Donald reviewed the need for the grant application. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Public Works – Director Link noted that baseball registration was open until March 2nd. General maintenance in the parks and cemetery continues. They have finalized the contract with Firelands for the baseball league.

Mr. Ferrell said that David Stang, Foreman, managed the recent storm that occurred while Director Link was gone. The entire department did a good job.

Community Development – Director Byington advised that there would be a public hearing at the next meeting for Medical Marijuana Dispensaries.

Notices/Correspondence

Next Regular Meeting – March 8 @ 6:00 pm

Fiscal Officer Comments

- Payments for the period February 9 – February 22 total \$182,764.57 and include payments to: Erie Regional Planning for annual dues; Interaction Insight for the annual maintenance on the Revcord; Seagate Office for chairs for the meeting room.
- The Annual Financial Report was filed on February 9th.
- A list of expired driver's license has been given to each department.

Trustees' Discussion

Mr. Ferrell asked about the \$20 license fee that is charged for license renewals. Ms. Schaefer said the \$5 comes back directly to the Township. The other \$15 goes to the county and we get a portion of that back also.

Public Forum - none

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Ferrell moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 am. Mr. Coleman seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Meeting adjourned.

Jeffrey Ferrell, Chairman

Diane Schaefer, Fiscal Officer