

**PERKINS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**April 12, 2022**

The Perkins Township Trustees met Tuesday, April 12, 2022, in the Township Services Facility located at 2610 Columbus Avenue. Trustees present were Jeffrey Ferrell and James Lang. Vice Chairman Coleman was excused. Chairman Ferrell opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

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

**MINUTES**

Mr. Ferrell moved to approve the minutes of Regular Session of December 28, 2021; January 11, January 25, and February 8, 2022. Mr. Lang seconded. All were in favor.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mr. Ferrell moved to approve the financial reports for the month ending March 31 and the period ending April 12, 2022. Mr. Lang seconded. All were in favor.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Director Byington read the application by Kevin Didion, on behalf of Primos GM LLC, to amend the Zoning Map for three (3) parcels of land at Columbus Avenue and Industrial Parkway (PPN 32-00906.002, 32-00906.003 & 32-00906.005) from “I-2”/ Heavy Industrial District to “C-2”/ General Commercial District.

Director Byington said that while the Comprehensive Plan has these properties as “Industrial”, they are on Columbus Avenue and surrounded by residential properties. The Zoning Board recommended approval of the change.

Mr. Ferrell moved to open the public hearing. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Mr. Ferrell asked if there was anyone to speak in favor of the change. Kevin Didion said that he would answer any questions the Board had. With no comments Mr. Ferrell moved to close the public hearing. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye.

Mr. Ferrell said that this change makes all the sense in the world because with the setbacks in the Industrial district it creates a hardship for Mr. Didion to build on the property.

**Resolution 2022-072B**

**Amend the Zoning Map - at Columbus Avenue and Industrial Parkway  
(PPN 32-00906.002, 32-00906.003 & 32-00906.005) to General Commercial District**

Mr. Ferrell moved to amend the Zoning Map for three (3) parcels of land at Columbus Avenue and Industrial Parkway (PPN 32-00906.0002 32-00906.003 & 32-00906.005) from “I-2”/ Heavy Industrial District to “C-2”/ General Commercial District. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2022-073**

**Proceed with the Removal of Two-Family Residential Structure  
– 2707 Tremper Avenue (PPN 32-01171.000)**

Mr. Ferrell moved to proceed with the removal of an unsafe and structurally defective two-family residential structure at 2707 Tremper Avenue (PPN 32-01171.000), and certifying expenses related to such nuisance abatement to the Erie County Auditor. Mr. Lang seconded the motion.

Code Enforcement Officer Amanda McCain recapped the steps taken and notifications given taken to date to the owners of the property. A proper rehabilitation proposal had not been submitted. Chief Building Official George Poulos did not grant an extension of time for the rehabilitation of the property.

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Susan Brown, Assistant County Prosecutor, said that she was familiar with this case and all the necessary steps had been taken. The property owner has been afforded his due process under both Ohio law and Federal law.

Mr. Ferrell then asked owner Gregory Rodriguez if he had any questions or comments. Mr. Rodriguez said that he tried to attend the limited home shows in the area. Because he was not the owner of the property in the beginning, he did not have access to the property and was not able to get any proposals. He now has estimates for everything except the box for the electrical work. Mr. Rodriguez asked for more time to obtain the remaining estimates. He paid cash for the property and does not want the property demolished.

Mr. Ferrell said the motion had been properly seconded and with that the Township would proceed with the demolition. Roll call: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-074**

**Authorize Purchase of a Snowplow and Ice Control Equipment Package**

Mr. Ferrell moved to authorize the purchase of a snow and ice control equipment package (including a wing plow) for a single axle truck from Henderson Products, Inc. in the amount of \$117,444.00. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Director Link said that this was in addition to the cab & chassis that was authorized at the last meeting. This will be purchased under the State co-operative bid. Roll call: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-075**

**Contract with Burges & Burges Strategists, Inc.**

Mr. Ferrell moved to authorize a contract with Burges and Burges Strategists Inc. for the preparation of a Strategic Plan in an amount not to exceed \$19,000.00. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Mr. Boyle noted that all departments have put in significant time in developing a plan for their departments. This contract would allow us to have one concise document. Mr. Ferrell said this would allow us to get public input to see the direction the residents want us to follow. Mr. Lang said he agrees and this project has taken much too long dur to Covid. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-076**

**Declare Surplus Furniture for the Police Department**

Mr. Ferrell moved to declare old desks, chairs, and shelving in the Police Department's Detective Bureau as being surplus and to be disposed as determined by the Chief. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Chief Donald said that when they remodeled the squad room, they did not do the detective bureau. Their furniture was outdated and the new furniture will be delivered tomorrow. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-077**

**Increase the Hourly Rate for Part-time Police Department Patrol Officers**

Mr. Ferrell moved to increase the hourly rate for part-time Police Department Patrol Officers to \$18.50 per hour, effective April 23, 2022. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Chief Donald said that they were having difficulties attracting part-time officers. This will make us competitive with other departments. Mr. Lang said that this was needed a long time ago to get qualified people. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution 2022-078**

**Hire Miguel Hall-Tackett as a Part-time Firefighter/EMT**

Mr. Ferrell moved to hire Miguel C. Hall-Tackett as a part-time Firefighter/ EMT, effective April 13, 2022, at a rate of \$14.00 per hour. Captain Bonner reviewed Firefighter Hall-Tackett's qualifications. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-079**

**Accept Resignation of Firefighter/Paramedic Tanner Roth**

Mr. Ferrell moved to accept the resignation of full-time Firefighter/ Paramedic Tanner Roth, effective April 25, 2022. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Captain Bronner noted that Tanner is transferring to another department where they do not run a squad. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-080**

**Hire Tanner Roth as Part-time Firefighter/Paramedic**

Mr. Ferrell moved to hire Tanner Roth as a part-time Firefighter/ Paramedic, effective April 26, 2022, at a rate of \$16.00 per hour. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Captain Bronner says that Tanner still lives in the Township, so he wants to continue to be involved with the Township. Mr. Lang questioned why the other part-time person was only getting \$14.00 per hour. Captain Bronner said that Tanner was a paramedic which involves more training. Paramedics received \$16.00 per hour. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-081**

**Accept Retirement of Chief Building Official George Poulos**

Mr. Ferrell moved to accept the retirement of Chief Building Official George Poulos, effective May 30, 2022. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Mr. Boyle said that Mr. Poulos has been with the Township for 8-9 years. He has also been the Chief Building Official for other surrounding agencies. He has decided to retire. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-082**

**Authorize a Special Fund for Housing Rehabilitation Grants**

Mr. Ferrell moved to authorize the creation of a Special Fund for Housing Rehabilitation Grants. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Mr. Ferrell said that this a request from the Fiscal Officer in case we are required to have the program in its own fund. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-083**

**Accept Resignation of Part-time Firefighter Bryan Cox**

Mr. Ferrell moved to accept the resignation of part-time Firefighter Bryan Cox, effective April 20, 2022. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Captain Bronner said the Bryan had accepted a full-time position with Bath Township outside of Lima. He is moving outside our area of residency. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Department**

**Police Department** – Chief Donald announced that Sgt. Martin Curran was selected as the Officer of the Year by his peers. It is a well-deserved award. They held their annual Easter Egg Hunt and there was a great turnout. He appreciated the help from the other departments.

Chief Donald asked for approval to apply for two grants.

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**Resolution 2022-084**

**Apply for a Grant from Ohio Department of Public Safety**

Mr. Ferrell moved to authorize a grant to the Ohio Department of Public Safety and accept it if awarded. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Chief Donald said this was overtime for the officers and the was a maximum of 350 hours for the IDEP portion and 350 hours for the STEP portion. This is for extra officers during certain peak blitz times. We have had this grant in the past. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-085**

**Apply for Violent Crime Reduction Grant Program**

Mr. Ferrell moved to authorize a grant application, and accept it if award, for the Violent Crime Reduction Program. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Chief Donald said this was from Governor DeWine's office. There are two things you can apply for – violent crimes and the other is retention and bonuses for employees. They intend to apply for the retention and bonuses type of grant. If awarded, Chief Donald would sit down with Mr. Boyle to write a policy as to who qualifies. It would be for a bonus for current full-time staff and a hiring bonus for new employees. This would help attract and retain staff. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Recreation** – Public Services Coordinator Henley wanted to thank Foster Chevrolet for the donation of baseball equipment.

**Public Works** – Director Link asked the Board to approve an appropriation of unappropriated funds to the capital vehicles fund for the Henderson equipment that had been approved earlier. He said that when they did the appropriation earlier in the year the cost of the snowplow was not included. Mr. Ferrell thought it was included. Ms. Ohlemacher said that it was not included in the vehicle accounts.

**Resolution 2022-086**

**Supplemental Appropriations – Snowplow/Ice Control Equipment**

Mr. Ferrell moved to approve supplemental appropriations for the purchase of the snowplow/ice control equipment from Henderson Equipment in the amount of \$130,000. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Mr. Ferrell then asked where the money was coming from, one of the road funds? Mr. Link thought it came from the General Fund. There was a question regarding this. Mr. Ferrell said that it would be up to Ms. Schaefer to make the appropriations needed. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

Mr. Link reported that the Erie Conversation District had contacted him. They are conducting a study on how bats are moving through the Township. They are going to be putting up cameras in Columbus Park and Strickfaden Park to monitor the movement of the bats to determine if there is a correlation between the movement of water in streams.

**Community Development** – Director Byington said her reported had been submitted and she had nothing else to report,

**Administrator** – Administrator Boyle presented a draft report regarding Limit Home Rule. They are still waiting on ODOT to give their approval on awarding a contract for the SRTS sidewalk project.

The Township did receive a letter from the Erie County Engineer indicating that \$111,111 was available for road projects. Mr. Boyle was asking for approval of a resolution to participate in this funding.

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**Resolution 2022-086B**

**Request Funding for Road Projects from Erie County**

Mr. Ferrell moved to request funding from Erie County for road projects in the amount of \$111,111.11. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Mr. Ferrell said that they had had quick discussion regarding the roads they want to do which include Briar Drive and Matthes Avenue. Mr. Boyle said the deadline was April 29 and there was not a formal application to be completed under this program. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Resolution 2022-087**

**Supplemental Appropriation – Property Acquisition**

Mr. Ferrell moved to approve supplemental appropriations:

1000-760-790-0123 Property Acquisition \$150,000.00

Source: Unappropriated General Fund money.

Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Mr. Ferrell noted that any amount that was not spent would go back into the General Fund. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Resolution adopted.

**Notices/Correspondence**

- Next Regular Meeting – April 26 @ 8:30 am

**Fiscal Officer Comments**

- Payments for the period March 26-April 12 total \$290,535.15 and include payments to: Foster Chevrolet for the Silverado for Public Works; DL Smith, final payments for Columbus Park and Oakland Park; Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, additional 2022-2023 premium base on true up report; Bill's Implement for the mower leases; Community First National Bank for the SCBA lease; East Coast Rescue Solutions for the Forcible Entry Door Simulator; and Sedgwick MCO for the 2022-2023 MCO service
- Local Government Conference is tomorrow & Thursday online.

**Trustees' Discussion** – Mr. Ferrell said they need to follow up on the issue of Home Rule townships.

**Public Forum** –

Gregory Rodriguez, Tremper Avenue, asked what exactly the status of his property was. Mr. Ferrell said that they passed a resolution tonight to proceed with the demolition of the property. He asked what his options were. Assistant Prosecutor Brown advised that she could not give him legal advice but gave him some contact information at Legal Aid.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Lang moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm. Mr. Ferrell seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Ferrell, aye. Meeting adjourned.

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Jeffrey Ferrell, Chairman

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Diane Schaefer, Fiscal Officer  
(from Digital Recording)