

PERKINS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

February 27, 2024

The Perkins Township Trustees met Tuesday, February 27, 2024, in the Township Services Facility located at 2610 Columbus Avenue. The Trustees present were James Ommert, James Lang, and Timothy Coleman. Chairman Coleman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:30 a.m.

AGENDA

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

FINANCIALS

Mr. Coleman moved to approve the financials for the period ending February 29. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-030

Extend the Moratorium Prohibiting Smoke and Vape Shops

Mr. Coleman moved to extend the moratorium prohibiting smoke and vape shops as originally authorized by Resolution 2023-45. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Director Angela Byington reminded the Board of previously adopted moratoriums that had or were due to expire. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

Resolution 2024-031

Extend Moratorium Prohibiting Wind and Solar Wind Systems

Mr. Coleman moved to extend the moratorium prohibiting Wind and Solar Energy Systems as originally authorized by Resolution 2023-59 and amended by Resolution 2023-138. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Director Byington said that this was a six-month moratorium. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

Resolution 2024-032

Apply for a Wightman-Weiber Grant – Summer Play Program

Mr. Coleman moved to apply for, and accept if awarded, a grant through the Wightman-Weiber Foundation in the amount of \$1,000 to be for the summer play program. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Director Link said this was for a 'hands on' program at our parks. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

Resolution 2024-033

Accept the Small MS4 Program Annual Plan of Work

Mr. Coleman moved to accept the Small MS4 Program Annual Plan of Work for Year 2024. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Director Link said this was through Erie County Soil and Water. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

Resolution 2024-034

Support Opposition to Senate Proposed Zoning Change

Mr. Coleman moved to support the Erie County Township Association's support proposal for the Ohio Township Association's intervention in any State Senate proposed zoning law change. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Mr. Coleman said this was a proposal by a couple of representatives to abandon all zoning in townships. The proponents of the legislation say that township zoning is prohibiting building/development in their areas. Ms. Schaefer pointed out that the legislation is limited to non-home rule townships. Mr. Coleman agreed that if we were a home rule township it would not affect us. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

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Resolution 2024-035

Approve Disposition of Police Equipment – Back Seats

Mr. Coleman moved to declare as surplus and dispose of the back seats from two old Dodge Chargers and four 2024 Chevy Tahoes that were replaced with plastic molded seats. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Chief Musser said that the seats from the Tahoes will be sold on GovDeals. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

Resolution 2024-036

Rescind Resolution 2023-225 – Premier Bank

Mr. Coleman moved to rescind Resolution #2023-0225 transferring the Premier Bank account to StarOhio. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Ms. Schaefer said that during the Ohio Township Association conference she learned that if we maintain a balance of over \$250,000 in the Premier account, we would receive an interest rate similar to StarOhio's. We can invest more than the FDIC amount because Premier is part of the Treasurer's Collateral Pool. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

Resolution 2024-27

Supplemental Appropriations

Mr. Coleman moved approve Supplemental Appropriations for Fund 4915 Capital Project– Fire Station:

4915-220-311-0000	Accounting & Legal Services	\$ 50,000
4915-220-316-0000	Engineering	\$ 50,000
4915-220-310-0000	Professional & Technical	\$ 50,000
4915-220-345-0000	Advertising	\$ 3,000.
4915-220-360-0000	Contracted Services	\$597,000

Source: The \$150,000 receipt from Aligned Data and the \$600,000 grant.

Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Ms. Schaefer said that the amounts will be finalized after receiving an amended certificate and with a discussion with Chief Murphy, Ms. Byington and Mr. Boyle. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

Department Reports

Police Department – Chief Musser said that Huron Township will be doing an all alert on March 19th that will go out to all phones, TVs, etc.

Fire Department – Chief Murphy had nothing further. Mr. Coleman asked if we had been going to the Neil Armstrong facility for practice. Chief Murphy said not officially.

Public Works Department - Director Link noted that his report had been reduced to writing for the Board.

Community Development – Director Byington had nothing further to add to her written report.

Notices/Correspondence

- Next Regular Meeting – March 12 @ 6:00 pm

Fiscal Officer Comments

- Payments for the period February 14 – February 29 total \$395,187.69 and included payments to: Contractor's Design for the Stonewood project; Lexipol for the Police policies; Erie Conservation District for Phase 2 of the Stormwater Program
- The audit for 2022-21 was released February 20th. This was the first clean audit, meaning no findings, since 2012.

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- Perkins Township, for the second straight audit period, was awarded Auditor of State Keith Faber's StaRS award for the Highest Achievement in Open and Transparent Government.
- Ms. Schaefer acknowledged the cooperation of all departments that made both the clean audit and the StaRS award possible.
- The Annual Financial Report for Perkins Township was filed on February 22nd. Once it has been accepted, it will be posted on the website and available for public inspection.

Trustees' Discussion

Mr. Coleman thanked everyone for the teamwork on both the audit and the StaRS award. It is not an easy task, but with teamwork it gets done. He believes that with the new Fiscal Officer they will be in line to still get these awards.

In reviewing our policies and recent conferences, Mr. Coleman asked the Board to consider the following revision of the Travel & Reimbursement Policy. It had been his understanding that we could only pay for the registration for the Fiscal Officer-elect. However, there has been clarification received from the State Auditor and the Ohio Township Association that allows pay for all the expenses, not just registration.

Mr. Coleman proposed amending the Travel Policy to include the Fiscal Officer-elect. Ms. Schaefer recommended that the policy be revised to include all incoming elected officials in case there was training for Trustees before a new term they would be covered also.

Ms. Schaefer did note an email from the Director of OTA advising that we should not give a blank check or a Township credit card to that person. So, we would issue a blanket certificate and the travel expenses for meals and mileage would be on a reimbursement basis. The registration and lodging would be pre-paid. Mr. Ommert recapped the steps he had taken to clarify this issue.

Resolution 2024-038

Revised Travel & Reimbursement Policy

Mr. Coleman moved to revise the Travel & Reimbursement Policy to include training expenses including motel, meals, and mileage for incoming elected officials. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Resolution passed.

Public Forum

Lisa Crescimano, Stonewood Drive, said that she had submitted a public records request for the TIF agreement that had been adopted with Aligned Data. She has not received a reply. Director Byington asked if she had checked her SPAM or JUNK mail folders because she was under the understanding that Kip Wahlers had responded directly. We will follow up on this.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Lang moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Coleman seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Ommert, aye; Mr. Lang, aye; Mr. Coleman, aye. Meeting adjourned.

Timothy Coleman, Chairman

Diane Schaefer, Fiscal Officer