

Hamilton Township Trustee Meeting

October 18, 2023

Trustee Board Chairman, Mark Sousa, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Mr. Rozzi, Mr. Cordrey and Mr. Sousa were present.

Roll call as follows:

Mark Sousa	Yes
Joe Rozzi	Yes
Darryl Cordrey	Yes

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by all.

A motion was made by Mr. Sousa, with a second by Mr. Cordrey, to approve the clerk's journal, and accept the tapes as the Official Meeting Minutes of the October 4, 2023, Trustee Meeting.

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Abstain
Mark Sousa	Yes
Darryl Cordrey	Yes

A motion was made by Mr. Sousa, with a second by Mr. Rozzi, to approve the bills as presented before the Board.

Roll call as follows:

Darryl Cordrey	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes
Joe Rozzi	Yes

Public Comments

Mr. Sousa opened the floor to public comments at 6:04 pm.

Rusty Holman: Requests to add a second public comment section or move the comment section to the end of the Trustee Meeting.

The Board of Trustees agrees to adding a second public comment section to the end of the Trustee Meetings starting November 1, 2023.

Mr. Sousa closed the floor to public comments at 6:06 pm.

Work Session – Striker Road Sewer Easement

Scott Hughes: Property in question is owned by Hamilton Township, formally the community garden. There is interest for purchase of a neighboring property, belonging to South Lebanon’s district. The potential owner is asking Hamilton Township to allow a sewer line to run from Striker Road, through the old community garden, connecting to his property.

Mr. Sousa: Has the sewer access been granted and is he reaching out with questions on the planning of the how and where?

Mr. Hughes: This is just a preliminary conversation to see if the township would entertain the idea of allowing a sewer line through the property.

Mr. Cordrey: If we allow the sewer line, would the township have access to the line? If there is development on the property in the future, we would need to ensure access to the line and not blocked.

Mr. Rozzi: Wants to know if there would be any negative impact on the property or deem the property unusable if there is a sewer line put in.

Mr. Sousa: With the current annexation of properties on Striker Road, we need more details about the potential impact.

Mr. Hughes: He will get with Cathy in the Zoning Department and follow up with the Trustees.

New Business

-Motion: Motion to approve the contract with Little Miami Youth Baseball

Mr. Sousa invited Steve Smith to comment regarding the agreement with Hamilton Township and LMYB.

Mr. Smith: He is comfortable and happy with the agreement and does not have any questions or concerns at the time.

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve the agreement with Little Miami Youth Baseball.

Roll call as follows:	Joe Rozzi	Yes
	Darryl Cordrey	Yes
	Mark Sousa	Yes

Trustee Comments

Mr. Cordrey: Station 76’s Open House had a great turnout, a lot of smiling faces with kids, and it was neat to see the car burning demonstration. Also, thanked Nicole Earley for her help getting prizes and food for the event. Remind residents that the Spooktacular voting has started. Stubbs Mills Road is fully open. Lastly, a long-term resident, Mr. Bill Dowden passed away; he was a profound influence in the township.

Mr. Rozzi: No comment

Mr. Sousa: Reminder Trunk-or-Treat is this Saturday at Testerman Park. Also saddened by the news of Mr. Dowden's passing.

Administrator's Report

Scott Hughes: Construction has started on the new Kroger Marketplace. The widening of State Route 48 is continuing. The Fire Department conducted their Open House with over two hundred participants. Public Works will finalize their budget between now and the end of November. Shawn Parks started his new role as Police Detective. Hamilton Township renewed the insurance plan with Otarma.

Kurt Weber: Update on Grandin Rd. Bridge, Warren County Engineers just poured the deck of the bridge. Concrete guardrails will be the next step. There are hopes that the bridge will reopen by the end of the year, depending on supplies and weather.

Fiscal Report

Mr. Weber:

September 2023 Fiscal Report- Through the end of September, which is 75% through the year, we have received \$15.9 million of the \$14.8 million budgeted anticipated revenue. The final appropriations/expense budget was \$19 million, we spent over \$11 million which is 59%. The total cash balance overall is \$22 million and the unencumbered fund balance is \$15.5 million. Some of the higher fund balances consist of General Funds at \$1.9 million, Road & Bridge at \$2.2 million, Police Department \$4.1 million, ARPA Fund \$1.1 million, and Fire/EMS at \$3.8 million.

Executive Sessions-

Mr. Sousa made a motion at 6:24 pm with a second from Mr. Rozzi to enter Executive Session in reference to O.R.C. 121.22 (G)(1) to discuss appointment, employment, and compensation of a public employee.

Roll call as follows:

Darryl Cordrey	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes
Joe Rozzi	Yes

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi, to appoint Jeff Wright as the Township Administrator and approve and appoint an agreement with Mr. Wright to serve as the Administrator.

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes
Darryl Cordrey	Yes

Mr. Sousa: Currently we do not have a start date in place yet for Jeff, which is to be determined. Jeff is the current Administrator for Miami Township. He has 27 years of experience in various zoning, planning, and economic development roles. His expertise and passion are in planning and development.

Mr. Sousa invited Jeff Wright to comment regarding the agreement with Hamilton Township as the newly appointed Administrator.

Jeff Wright: He is thrilled to be the next administrator. The external thoughts and feelings with outside communities about Hamilton Township are incredibly positive. He looks forward to creating meaningful relationships with business owners, residents, Little Miami School District, and will be doing outreach with them. Thanked the board and staff for putting their trust in him.

Mr. Cordrey: With Mr. Wright's background, as the Administrator he will exceed the Township's vision with economic development. He has witnessed Mr. Wright's role in the developments with FC Cincinnati, 275 corridor, and Old Milford's redevelopment. He could not be more excited to have Mr. Wright take the position.

Mr. Rozzi: Mr. Wright brings a different level of expertise and professionalism to the township and is extremely excited to have him onboard as the Administrator. He has seen what Mr. Wright has done in the eight years at Miami Township, bringing in FC Cincinnati was admirable and hopeful for what he can bring to Hamilton Township.

Mr. Sousa: Mr. Wright has executed over two thousand TIFs and JEDs, with this caliber of experience he will be adding tremendous value to the township.

Mr. Sousa made a motion at 6:44 pm with a second from Mr. Rozzi to enter Executive Session in reference to O.R.C. 121.22 (G)(1) to discuss appointment, employment, and compensation of a public employee.

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes
Darryl Cordrey	Yes

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Cordrey to come out of Executive Session at 6:55 pm.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Sousa made a motion, with a second from Mr. Cordrey, to adjourn at 6:55 pm.

Roll call as follows:	Joe Rozzi	Yes
	Darryl Cordrey	Yes
	Mark Sousa	Yes