

Hamilton Township Trustees Meeting

March 18, 2020

Trustee Board Chairman, Darryl Cordrey, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mr. Cordrey, Mr. Rozzi, and Mr. Sousa were present.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by all in attendance.

Motion made by Mr. Cordrey with a second by Mr. Rozzi to approve of the clerk's journal and accept the tapes as the Official Meeting Minutes of the March 4, 2020 Trustee Meeting.

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

Motion made by Mr. Cordrey with a second by Mr. Rozzi to approve Payroll for pay cycle February 23, 2020 – March 7, 2020, Electronic Fund Transfer Direct Deposit Vouchers 1180495177 – 1180495241 and 1180495436 - 1180495439.

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

Motion made by Mr. Cordrey with a second by Mr. Rozzi to approve the withholding payments for payment cycle February 23, 2020 – March 7, 2020, checks numbered 31839368 – 31839390 and 31839402 - 31839405.

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

Motion made by Mr. Cordrey with a second by Mr. Rozzi to approve billing invoices for payment cycle March 9, 2020 – March 13, 2020, checks numbered 81275 - 81281.

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

Motion made by Mr. Cordrey with a second by Mr. Rozzi to approve billing invoices for payment cycle March 16, 2020 – March 20, 2020, checks numbered 81282 - 81318.

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

Presentations

-Swearing in Fiscal Officer elect, Kurt Weber

Current Fiscal Officer Mr. Jim Hunter read the Oath of Office officially swearing in Mr. Kurt Weber as the new Hamilton Township Fiscal Officer.

A round of applause was given by all.

Mr. Hunter thanked and commended Ms. Horman for her help and direction over these last four years that he was in office.

Mr. Weber thanked Mr. Hunter for swearing him into office as well as for his leadership. He is looking forward to working with everyone. Mr. Weber also thanked his family for all of their support.

Public Comments

Mr. Cordrey opened the floor to public comments at 6:38 pm.

Mr. Joe Walker submitted questions via email to Mr. Centers. Those are as follows:

It has been over four months since the passage of the Police and Fire Levy's; do we know when the new police hires will take place as well as the timeline for the six additional officers that were proposed? Also, the livestream of the meeting that will take place this evening, will that continue for the future as it has been talked about for a few years?

Mr. Centers explained that during the campaign we discussed phasing in six officers in the future; right now we have three in process. It was a two interview process, followed by a physical fitness, psych evaluations and so on. It usually takes a while. With the amount of Field Training Officers (FTO's) that we have, we are maxing them out by bringing on three new hires at once and are happy to bring three on at once. This has been the same timeline as every police officer hiring process in the past. It usually takes right about four months for the total process. Mr. Centers gave examples of officer's hired in the past and their hiring timelines.

Regarding the live streaming of the Trustee meetings, as we discussed during the Emergency Meeting, we are going to do this for as long this COVID-19 situation is going on. We are discouraging public attendance for safety protocol reasons but we want to be sure that there is access to the meetings as well as public comments like this. There are a myriad of reasons why

we do not want to continue live streaming; one being that we do not have the equipment, Mr. Hickey is currently holding his cell phone in the middle of the room to stream this because that is the only option right now. Other reasons relate to liability as we have discussed before. Therefore this will not become common practice but as long as the COVID-19 is going on, this will be our means to get the meetings out for the public.

No additional comments were submitted therefore Mr. Cordrey closed the floor to public comments.

Human Resources

Human Resources Manager, Ms. Kellie Krieger prefaced her roster updates that as long as we return to the office on April 6, 2020, we want to proceed with the two new hires that she is getting ready to present. However, if for some reason that return gets pushed back, we would like to push back their start dates as well. With that, she requested a motion to bring back, for a fourth year, Mr. Preston Robinson effective April 6th at a pay rate of \$13.00/hr for one of our Seasonal Parks positions.

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve of the above-mentioned roster update.

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

Ms. Krieger requested a motion to hire Nicole Early as the Community Development Coordinator/Administrative Assistant effective April 6th at the pay rate of \$18.00/hr.

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve of the above-mentioned roster update.

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

New Business

-Resolution 20-0318: Accepting Public Streets of Hopewell Valley Subdivision Section 3 This allows Hamilton Township to accept Section 3 of Hopewell Valley Subdivision as public roads and setting the speed limit at 25 m.p.h.

Mr. Cordrey asked Mr. Centers when it comes to declaring an emergency for a Resolution that means that there is essentially no lapse in time?

Mr. Centers explained that if we did not declare an emergency they would have to bring it three times before they voted and during that time there would not be an established speed limit on those roads. It is not going to change as every subdivision road in Hamilton Township is 25 m.p.h. however, by turning them over we have to declare a speed limit which will keep it 25 m.p.h. So to declare an emergency, it takes effect immediately therefore we can enforce the speed limit on those roads without break.

Mr. Sousa stated that he knows there is ongoing construction in Hopewell Valley; this is section three, how many phases or sections are there?

Mr. Hickey stated that he believes there are maybe six or seven phases in the community.

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve Resolution 20-0318.

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

-Resolution 20-0318A: Authorizing abatement, control or removal of vegetation, garbage, refuse or debris of property located at 6893 Zoar Rd, Maineville, Ohio 45039.

This property was notified on January 31, 2020 with a notice from Hamilton Township of their violations. This property owner has not remedied their violations resulting in this Resolution to send a certified Notice from the Board of Trustees. If the situation is not remedied, Hamilton Township will clean the property and assess the property taxes for the work.

Mr. Cordrey asked Mr. Centers to go over the process for this. Mr. Centers explained that any time we have a zoning issue like this; tall grass, debris, junk vehicles in the yard, anything like that, Mr. Kraemer sends out a letter. Per our Zoning Code, they have 14 days to remedy the violation. However, we gave this property owner over 30 days to remedy the violation. If it does not get remedied, we bring a Resolution to the Board, if you guys approve it, we send a certified letter giving them seven days to clean up the property. If at that time it is not cleaned, our Public Works guys will go out and handle it at their Special Duty rate and then we will assess that on their property tax. With everything going on with the COVID-19, this will not be an essential task which will give the property owner more than seven days because we are not sending our Public Works crew in to do that until it is safe.

Mr. Sousa asked for transparency if this was part of a larger group of violations that were checked into.

Mr. Centers explained that a lot of our Zoning is complaint driven. If we get a complaint we go check it out. We don't always jump right into the formal letters as we try to make contact and let people know of the violation so they can get it taken care of. With this one we sent out multiple letters to different properties and this was the only one that did not correct the issue.

Mr. Rozzi asked if this has been a past problem? Mr. Centers responded that it has been. We send letters often but they typically don't make it to the Board because the property owners handle it.

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve Resolution 20-0318A.

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

Fiscal Officer's Report

We are 17% thru the year. Our expenditures are at 20% and our revenues are at 5.4%. This is very standard as we do not get our first draw from the County until April. Things will start to balance out after that draw.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Centers mentioned supporting our local businesses as much as possible with the bars and restaurants closing down. We have gotten a list of local restaurants that are still open for pick-up, delivery, Uber Eats, Grub Hub, etc. We are still trying to get permission from the person that created that list to post on our website and push that out for our residents. Once we do get permission that will be posted on our website.

A few people have reached out asking if the Township could declare a State of Emergency. Yesterday the County Commissioners held a Commission meeting and voted 2-1 to not declare a County-wide State of Emergency and we as a Township fall directly under the County and that is their direction at this time.

Trustee Comments

Mr. Sousa spoke on the outpouring of support around the community for the local small businesses, for the schools putting together a group that were delivering food to students in need during the school absence. It's very reassuring for the quality of our community.

Mr. Rozzi stated that he visited Kroger earlier in the day and it was refreshing to see the calm right now.

Mr. Cordrey is proud of what he is seeing from our residents. He referenced design searches such as a Shamrock hunt that he saw to get people out and about. He encouraged everyone to continue the support and to keep reaching out to neighbors and friends to see if they need anything and to provide interactions. He reminded everyone that if there are questions, to reach out to the Elected Officials and Township staff as they are all here to help how they can.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to adjourn at 6:51 pm.

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