

Hamilton Township Trustee Meeting

May 19, 2021

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

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by all.

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 May 5, 2021 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 the bills as presented to the Board.

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

Presentations

Mr. Centers asked Mr. Yoder to join the Trustees in front of the dais where he was presented with a Proclamation honoring him for his exemplary work.

Mr. Yoder stated that he was with the Frost Brown Todd Law Firm and recently moved to Bricker and Eckler with 3 of his closest colleagues. For a lawyer to transition to a different firm is a really big deal and he dropped the bomb two weeks ago that he was moving and asked everyone to move with him and now he's won an award! He thanked everyone and expressed his appreciation.

Next, Chief Hughes formally introduced the four officers that we hired in 2020: Josh Clift, Dan Perry, Luke Ratliff and Alex Stephens. Following each of their introductions, a pinning ceremony took place along with the official, public swearing in.

Chief Hughes also recognized the promotion from officer to Sergeant for Rich Smith. Sgt. Smith has been with our department for 17 years and is instrumental in many activities and programs for our Police Department. His son pinned on his Sergeant's badge.

Next, Chief Reese invited Megan Haas forward. She joined our department, part time in 2017 as a Firefighter/EMT and was promoted to a Full Time Firefighter/Paramedic in 2020. Chief Reese officially swore her in.

Chief Reese spoke about Josh Myers and Justin Cormany's promotions next. Mr. Cormany was hired full time with Hamilton Township Fire in 2007. He took the Lieutenants process in 2019 and was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain in 2020. Mr. Myers joined our department part time in 2014 and was hired full time in 2019. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 2020. Both Officers have done an amazing job and their crew speaks highly of them. Chief Reese pinned their badges on them, and family members were invited to place their collar brass on them.

Lastly, Chief Reese asked Jason Jewett to step before the audience. Mr. Jewett has an extensive history in public safety. He came to us from Milford where he had been a shift Captain for 5 years. Before that he was Assistant Chief for 9 years with Wayne Township in Clermont County. Mr. Jewett wears many hats in the fire industry. This year he joined Hamilton Township as our

Assistant Fire Chief and we are happy to have him. Chief Reese pinned the badge on Mr. Jewett and his wife came forward to pin his collar brass.

All individuals were applauded by the audience.

Mr. Cordrey called a brief recess.

Public Comments

Mr. Cordrey called the meeting back to order and opened the floor to public comments at 7:24 pm.

No comments were made, therefor Mr. Cordrey closed the floor to public comments at 7:24 pm.

New Business

-Resolution 21-0519: Intent to Award Resolution for Baxter Road project

This is a Resolution authorizing the award of contract to Fillmore Construction, LLC for the Baxter Road culvert #146-0.25 Replacement Project. The Township placed a 'request for bid' for the Baxter Road Culvert replacement project, which was advertised from April 18, 2021 - May 2, 2021. The Township received five bids and is recommending Fillmore Construction, LLC based on the competitive bidding process, price, reputation, and background check. The budget impact for this project is \$56,637.50.

Mr. Centers explained that we have a culvert project out on Baxter Rd. The replacement will occur in July. The process involves putting a request for bids out which we did. We budgeted \$130,000 for the project and the lowest and best bid came in at \$56,637.50. It is a one way in, one way out street and it will be closed. We will contact the residents by going door-to-door and we will also be hosting a meeting with the County Engineer's office to learn exactly what is happening on their road. We have contacted the garbage company and the postal service. In the case of an emergency, we will fill the gap to make it accessible for the emergency vehicles. All mitigations are taken into consideration.

Mr. Cordrey asked how these residents will leave their homes?

Mr. Centers stated that they will not. This road will be shut down for the whole day, 2 separate periods of time. It will be open by the end of both of those days but for 2 different days/ a normal workday, the road will be closed.

Mr. Rozzi asked if they will be two consecutive days?

Mr. Centers stated that they will not. The material will be placed, and it needs to set so then a few days later it will close again so they can do the final setting.

Mr. Hickey stated that we will make sure the road standards will be met.

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve Resolution 21-0519.

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

Work Session

-Signs in 'Right of Way' text amendment.

Mr. Yoder mentioned that we have previously had a work session on this, and Ms. Carly Sherman is present to answer any questions as our "sign expert". Based on the feedback from the last meeting, they made some language change suggestions for the Board to review.

Mr. Centers stated that we believe the proposed language is what the Trustees were looking for, but we did not want to put it into a resolution without their review. If they are happy with the changes, then we will put it into a resolution for the next meeting.

Mr. Cordrey asked if we the offenses were 'per sign' or per day?

Ms. Sherman stated that we are trying to enforce the number of signs so she would view it as a per sign offense to try to minimize the number of signs placed in the public right of way.

Mr. Centers added that we cannot treat any signs different whether they are yard sale signs or commercial advertisement signs. To ensure that residents can still advertise for personal use, we could initiate a warning system.

Ms. Sherman stated that for any zoning violation the Board has the option to send a warning letter first if they wish. These fines are all flexible. The only thing that is not is that the max fine is \$500 per offense. Another option for a warning is that we could remove the signs and discard them which is something that people notice; with the zoning text amendment people will realize that the township reserves the right to do that with respect to signs. The next time you find a sign of theirs in a public right of way, they would then be fined based on this enforcement.

Mr. Sousa asked what the process is for our volume offenders?

Ms. Sherman stated that each offense is a misdemeanor offense so it would have to go through the criminal prosecution process. The prosecutor will be made aware that we are serious about these enforcement issues.

Mr. Sousa asked if Mr. Kraemer has any thoughts or concerns about this?

Mr. Kraemer stated that he does not. We will be very strict on this. For example, our Zoning Inspector removed several signs today alone, and within a few hours there were a large amount placed right back out in the right of way.

Mr. Yoder pointed out that since this is a zoning amendment, it will go through the zoning process and go before RPC first, then to our Zoning Commission for review and then before the Board of Trustees for a final vote. Due to this process, we are months away from enforcement.

Fiscal Report

Fiscal Officer Mr. Kurt Weber gave the report for April stating that Ms. Horman does a great job preparing these reports! We are 33% thru the year. Expenditures are at 32%; around \$4 million of our \$12.6 million budget. We did receive our 1st settlement draw which equaled approximately \$5.1 million or 55% of our expected amount. We have received approximately 51% of our budgeted revenue. Mr. Weber mentioned that our private audit is progressing, and it is close to being finished.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Centers mentioned that Hamilton Township was highlighted on the Willie Cunningham Show for the efforts put forth in the officer involved incident that occurred.

Next, Mr. Centers announced that last week was Police week and this week is a shared recognition week for EMS and Public Works.

Mr. Centers reminded everyone that the 22/3 viaduct will be closed June 7th for approximately 50 days which takes us to July 27th. More details will be released as they come available.

Mr. Weber commented on this topic as a representative of the Warren County Engineer's Office stating that they are doing a traffic detour for Old 3C. He cautioned residents to expect long delays and reminded everyone that the bike trail will also be closed during the bridge work.

Mr. Centers next mentioned that after conversations with the County, Hamilton Township will now be one of the first to receive road resurfacing instead of one of the last like prior years. The road work will be after school lets out but will begin early summer so we will push information out as we receive it.

Lastly, Mr. Centers recognized Mr. Hickey for completing his Public Sector Leadership class from Xavier University. He has been attending this class for the last few months and it is a huge accomplishment.

Trustee Comments

Mr. Sousa thanked the Mannocho family for the organization of collecting items for the Police Department. He also spoke about his recent experiences with shadowing each of our departments and mentioned the work that they truly face on a day-to-day basis.

Mr. Rozzi also touched on the passion that our employees have for their jobs and helping their community.

Mr. Cordrey commented on the meeting attendance and how great it was to have the turn out that we had tonight. He reminded everyone that Touch-a-Truck will be held on June 19th from 10am-2pm. Lastly, he congratulated the graduating classes of 2021.

Executive Session

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to enter into Executive Session at 7:58 pm in reference to O.R.C. 121.22 (G) (1) to consider the appointment, employment, or compensation of a public employee or official.

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

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to come out of Executive Session at 9:00 pm.

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

New Business

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve the salary adjustments as proposed.

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

Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve Resolution 21-0519A: to enter contract with Ben Yoder and Bricker and Eckler for legal services.

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

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Cordrey made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to adjourn at 9:01 pm.

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