

## Hamilton Township Trustee Meeting

June 1, 2022

Trustee Board Chairman, Joe Rozzi, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Rozzi and Mr. Sousa were present.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by all.

A motion was made by Mr. Rozzi, with a second by Mr. Sousa, to approve the clerk's journal and accept the tapes as the Official Meeting Minutes of the May 18, 2022 Trustee Meeting.

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes

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

Roll call as follows:

Mark Sousa	Yes
Joe Rozzi	Yes

### **Presentations**

Mr. Rozzi extended a warm welcome to family and friends in attendance for the recognition of the newest Fire Lieutenant, Mr. Brian Webb, and Assistant Police Chief, Captain Quillan Short.

He then turned the floor over to Fire Chief Jason Jewett.

Chief Jewett, introduced Mr. Brian Webb and read the Oath of Office to officially swear him in as Lieutenant of the Hamilton Township Fire Rescue.

After a round of applause was given, Police Chief Scott Hughes presented Captain Short. He then delivered the Oath of Office to formally swear him in as Assistant Chief of the Hamilton Township Police Department.

Following a second round of applause, Mr. Rozzi called a brief recess.

Upon return, Mr. Centers announced the Economic Development updates. He stated the portal was launched on Facebook the previous week and the township's website would soon be revamped. Mr. Centers presented the major highlights which included the following components of the Hoptown Development: Kroger Marketplace, Tribute Hamilton Township Luxury Apartments, Township Plaza, Casey's General Store, a vehicle service center, Taco John's, a bank, Mounts Park improvements (which consist of a baseball field revitalization, trail marker/map-board systems, chip-sealed parking, playground installation, sunflower field and memorial garden), a fire training tower, State Route 48 widening and Truckbase, LLC.

### **Public Comments**

Mr. Rozzi opened the floor to public comments at 6:34 p.m.

Mr. Mark Merkel stepped forward to voice his appreciation of the police and fire departments. He also expressed his approval of the new economic portal. Finally, he suggested development announcements be broadcasted through additional methods to increase transparency.

At that point, Mr. Dan Crombie approached the front of the room to recommend that development communication be delivered to residents via USPS mail. He also brought up past concerns regarding traffic issues and the ODOT study near the mosque development on Schlottman Road. Mr. Crombie questioned the zoning standards and accountabilities, in which Mr. Rozzi announced the code was in the process of being re-written.

Additionally, Mr. Rozzi commented that ODOT is not obligated to notify the township on their findings. He predicted the widening on 48 would help alleviate a lot of Mr. Crombie's traffic concerns. Mr. Rozzi proclaimed Hamilton Township was moving forward in the right direction with upcoming developments.

Mr. Sousa defined the zoning process. He then noted that electronic newsletters were established to provide communication updates to the residents, in conjunction with the social media platform. In response to transparency, he clarified the process and methods in which the board was at liberty to communicate pertinent details of future developments.

At that point, Mr. Centers affirmed that the Zoning Inspector was indeed at the construction site daily, the Zoning Administrator had been on calls following-up as needed and the process checks and balances were being dutifully managed.

Finally, Mr. Mike Peddicort came forward to voice his apprehensions regarding the new luxury apartment building and the effect it would have on his property value, traffic flow and privacy reduction. He suggested a structure be put up to provide some privacy to homeowners in the abutting subdivision.

At that juncture, Mr. Centers advised Mr. Peddicort to retrieve his contact information from his business card so they could discuss his concerns together in depth.

As no one else stepped forward, Mr. Rozzi closed the floor to public comments.

### **Human Resources**

Ms. Kellie Krieger requested a motion to approve the contract for Captain Quillan Short effective May 15, 2022.

A motion was made by Mr. Rozzi, with a second by Mr. Sousa, to approve the contract as indicated above.

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes

Next, Ms. Krieger requested a motion to update the Hamilton Township roster with the following changes:

- to remove Officer Shelby Davis effective June 6, 2022
- to remove Firefighter Chris Glancy effective May 26, 2022
- to move Firefighter Adam Gilpin from full-time to part-time

A motion was made by Mr. Rozzi, with a second by Mr. Sousa, to update the roster as aforementioned.

Roll call as follows:

Mark Sousa	Yes
Joe Rozzi	Yes

**New Business**

-Motion: to enter into contract with the International Association of Firefighters 4055

Mr. Rozzi made a motion, with a second by Mr. Sousa, to enter into contract with the International Association of Firefighters Local 4055 regarding the observance of the Juneteenth Federal Holiday.

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes

-Motion: to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Deerfield Township for details regarding the joint Fire Training Tower

Mr. Rozzi made a motion, with a second by Mr. Sousa, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Deerfield Township for details regarding the joint Fire Training Tower to be located in Marr Park.

Roll call as follows:

Mark Sousa	Yes
Joe Rozzi	Yes

-Resolution 22-0601: Appointing a Representative and Alternate Representative to the *OneOhio Recovery Foundation, Inc.* Board

Mr. Rozzi made a motion, with a second by Mr. Sousa, to accept Resolution 22-0601, appointing a Representative and Alternate Representative to the *OneOhio Recovery Foundation, Inc.* Board

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes

**Administrator’s Report**

Mr. Centers discussed the timeline of completion for various township projects, such as the chip seal for the Mounts Park driveway, trail paving at Testerman Park, the fire training tower RFPs/ construction and the maintenance building RFQs.

He then gave a reminder for the Touch a Truck event date held on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 2:00 at Fellowship Baptist Church.

Mr. Centers stated the township would be investing an additional \$2.5 million with Red Tree Investment Group, as discussed at the Trustee Retreat earlier in the year. With around \$1million already invested, the security range was between one to five years, although the majority was short term due to the conditions of the market. The rates were from 1.84% to 3.5% with an average maturity of approximately one year. He noted the remainder of the investments should be submitted within the month.

Next, Mr. Centers commented that the tax budgets were compiled by all department heads and Ms. Ellen Horman. After review, voting on the final versions would be taken at the next meeting.

Finally, he clarified that Mr. Benjamin Yoder served as Law Director for both Hamilton Township and Deerfield Township. Mr. Centers mentioned that it had been an amicable arrangement for both townships, but he wanted to bring forth the matter to the board to ensure there were no issues to be had by the trustees with the aforementioned agreement.

Mr. Yoder explained that he did not give advice or opinions on topics at hand, he simply reduced it to writing.

Trustee Rozzi and Trustee Sousa did not have concerns with this arrangement.

### **Trustee Comments**

Mr. Sousa congratulated both Kings and Little Miami students for wrapping up another school year. He wished the children a fun and safe summer.

He also shared that the county and state were working together for upcoming traffic studies for the widening and tandem bridge project for Route 48.

Mr. Weber noted the safety and capacity details for future planning and described the process of receiving funding.

Mr. Rozzi commented on the nice weather from the previous weekend. He joked that all should be fully aware of when the clock struck 10 p.m. in Hamilton Township (King's Island Fireworks).

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Rozzi made a motion, with a second from Mr. Sousa, to enter into executive session in reference to O.R.C.121.22 (G) (3), conference with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, at 7:08 p.m.

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes

Mr. Rozzi made a motion, with a second from Mr. Sousa, to exit the executive session at 7:46 p.m.

Roll call as follows:

Mark Sousa	Yes
Joe Rozzi	Yes

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Rozzi made a motion, with a second from Mr. Sousa, to adjourn at 7:46 pm.

Roll call as follows:

Joe Rozzi	Yes
Mark Sousa	Yes