

Hamilton Township Trustee Meeting

September 20, 2023

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

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

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited by all.

A motion was made by Mr. Sousa, with a second by Mr. Rozzi, to approve the clerk's journal and accept the tapes as the Official Meeting Minutes of the September 6, 2023, Trustee Meeting.

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| Roll call as follows: | Mark Sousa | Yes |
| | Joe Rozzi | Yes |

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

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| Roll call as follows: | Joe Rozzi | Yes |
| | Mark Sousa | Yes |

Guest Speaker – *Warren County Career Center*

Joel King, the superintendent for Warren County Carrer Center, provided the Board of Trustees and audience a video explaining the programs that are offered at the center. With the projection of large manufacturing companies coming to Warren County there is a need for more trade schools. The Carrer Center is unable to hold the capacity of applicants due to current economic growth. The proposal presented before the board, is a ballot issue that taxpayers would pay a percentage based on the housing income to support a co-funded project for a new buildout and equipment. More information can be found at www.mywccc.org/ballotissue.

Public Comments

Mr. Sousa opened the floor to public comments at 6:19 pm.

Rusty Holman: Wants to know why at the last meeting, Steve Pegram was granted 240 hrs. of sick leave when only serving 8 months in the Administrator position before retiring.

Mr. Sousa: Standard practice, you accrue through the years (when working in different departments and/or different townships) follows you. Steve had many more sick hours accrued and accepted an offer at a lower payout of 240 hours.

Scott Hughes: You can find information on pensions in the Ohio Revised Code.

Joe Walker: Came up to address the BOT about a conversation that he had with a Blanchester City Councilman and was told that he was aware that Mr. Walker was running for Trustee and wanted to thank Hamilton Township for the donation of the Police Department's office equipment that he believes is valued at \$5,000, if not more money. Mr. Walker is curious why we donated the office equipment and did not resell it on govdeals.com, putting that money back into the township. Also, what determines equipment not having value to donate instead of reselling. He requests a public record of the Resolution that authorized it of no value to donate.

Mr. Hughes: No difference of when HT Police donate to other departments that need equipment. Not sure how the councilman determined the value of the equipment.

Mr. Walker: Is there an ORC code on how to expose unvalued property.

Mr. Hughes: As you know, being a prior Trustee, we dispose of property that has no value.

Mr. Walker: Questions \$5,000 of property being no value to the taxpayers.

Mr. Sousa: If there is an opportunity to assist a neighboring county that cannot afford the equipment, we then help.

Mr. Walker: When I was here the equipment was old. The councilmen that received the equipment said it looked brand new.

Mr. Sousa: We will provide a copy of the resolution.

Mr. Walker stated that he would come in and pick up a copy of the resolution.

Marvin Stotz: When is the repaving for Humock Ct going to be complete?

Don Pelfrey: Stated in November he will be conducting assessment and ratings and will post his findings shortly afterwards.

Mr. Stotz: Wondering who took his signs from in front of Kroger on US 48.

Mr. Rozzi: Kroger will take down signs that are private property.

Mr. Sousa: Generally, you need to seek permission from the property owners.

Paul Sisk: Address road conditions for Laurel Glen; and not on the radar for resurfacing/topcoat on Hamilton Township's spreadsheet on the website. Additionally, Cozaddale-Murdock Road is a safety concern and is a direct cause of the poor road service. Also, he has emailed a video for the Convention of States to review and asking their take on the matter.

Mr. Pelfrey: Laurel Glen has a topcoat. The assessment online is only 1-2 years away from the last non-curb and gutter that has not been paved and will be pushed up. Cozaddale is a county road.

Kurt Weber: Working for Warren County Engineer, he is not sure what the schedule is for repaving Cozaddale but will investigate it and get back to Mr. Sisk.

Mr. Sousa: The Board of Trustee is waiting for the new Administrator until addressing the amendment issue.

Mr. Sousa closed the floor to public comments at 6:32 pm.

New Business

- Resolution 23-0920A: Increase in appropriations in Police Fund

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve Resolution 23-0920A.

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| Roll call as follows: | Mark Sousa | Yes |
| | Joe Rozzi | Yes |

- Resolution 23-0920B: Resolution Disposing of Junk Motor Vehicles

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve Resolution 23-0920B.

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| Roll call as follows: | Joe Rozzi | Yes |
| | Mark Sousa | Yes |

- Resolution 23-0920C: Increase of Appropriations in the General Fund

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve Resolution 23-0920C.

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| Roll call as follows: | Mark Sousa | Yes |
| | Joe Rozzi | Yes |

- Resolution 23-0920D: Denying a Zone Change

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve Resolution 23-0920D.

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| Roll call as follows: | Joe Rozzi | Yes |
| | Mark Sousa | Yes |

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve the Then and Now Purchase Order for Kroger TIF.

Roll call as follows: Mark Sousa Yes
Joe Rozzi Yes

-Motion: Motion to approve the sale of cemetery deeds

Mr. Sousa made a motion with a second from Mr. Rozzi to approve the purchase of cemetery deeds.

Roll call as follows: Mark Sousa Yes
Joe Rozzi Yes

Trustee Comments

Mr. Rozzi: Thanked everyone for the birthday wishes.

Mr. Sousa: With the widening of US 48 accelerating, expect more delays and intermittent lane closures. Thanked the CPPAA for their hard work with the K9 Fundraising event.

Administrator's Report

Scott Hughes: The Fire Department is finalizing plans for their October 14th Open House. Little Miami Homecoming Parade is happening on October 5th, with the route starting at Mounts Park, traveling down Stubbs Mill, then down US 22/3 to the school. We are now accepting Fall Decoration entries with the deadline of October 11th. Trunk or Treat will be held October 21st at Testerman Park from 1-3 pm. Public Works has completed 7.5 miles of roadways paved this year, done with their paving projects for 2023, estimated cost of 1.3 million which is up from earlier projections. K9 continues training and is slated to be certified October 6th, with HTPD conducting a formal ceremony at the October 18th Board of Trustees meeting. Thank you to everyone that donated to the K9 Fundraiser, brought in nearly \$21,000. Today, the entire K9 Program, consisting of equipment, training, outfitting is covered because of the donations which are phenomenal.

Fiscal Report

Mr. Weber:

August 2023 Fiscal Report- Does not reflect the 2nd half of the draw from the County. Through the end of August, that's 67% through the year (budgeted revenue \$14.7 million), received through the end of August \$9.7 million of the \$14.7 million budgeted anticipated revenue. The final appropriations/expense budget was \$18.8 million, we've spent over \$10.2 million which is

54.1%. Total cash balance overall is \$17.2 million and the unencumbered fund balance is \$10.6 million. Some of the higher fund balances consist of General Funds at \$1.4 million, Road & Bridge at \$1.5 million, Police Department \$2.6 million, ARPA Fund \$1.1 million, and Fire/EMS at \$2.1 million.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Sousa made a motion, with a second from Mr. Rozzi, to adjourn at 6:45 pm.

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| Roll call as follows: | Joe Rozzi | Yes |
| | Mark Sousa | Yes |