

# HAMILTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

## August 20, 2014

Mr. Weber called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. with all members of the board present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all in attendance.

Mr. Duvelius made a motion and Mr. Wallace seconded the motion to adopt the proposed agenda for the August 20, 2014 meeting.

Roll call as follows:	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes
	Kurt Weber	Yes

Mr. Weber made a motion and Mr. Duvelius seconded the motion to dispense with the public reading of the minutes and approve as written for the August 6, 2014 meeting.

Roll call as follows:	Kurt Weber	Yes
	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes

Mr. Weber made a motion and Mr. Duvelius seconded the motion to pay the bills before the Board with check numbers 73493 through 73532 and 73534 through 73536 and check number 73616; check number 73533 was voided due to a printer malfunction.

Roll call as follows:	Kurt Weber	Yes
	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes

Mr. Weber made a motion and Mr. Duvelius seconded the motion to pay payroll and withholding checks with check numbers 73537 through 73615

Roll call as follows:	Kurt Weber	Yes
	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes

Mr. John Lazares, Interim Kings School District Superintendent, introduced himself and Mr. Tim Spinner, Assistant Superintendent. There are 4,200 students in Kings School District. Mr. Lazares stated a study is being developed on how to deal with the growth in the area and it will be presented to the School Board when finished. Mr. Lazares thanked the Board for their time and stated he would be in touch.

Ms. Melissa Brock, Human Resources, asked the board to make a motion to approve the purchase of a cemetery lot within the Murdock Cemetery – New Section, lot 132, grave 2, to Jerry Krebs at the Hamilton Township resident cost of \$400.00 and the deed reflected would be #2014-17.

Mr. Duvelius made a motion and Mr. Wallace seconded the motion as stated above.

Roll call as follows:	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes
	Kurt Weber	Yes

Ms. Brock asked the board to accept the resignation of Officer Shane Johnson with an effective date of February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and to ratify as an authorized act a signature of the Human Resource Manager to the related settlement and release agreement.

Mr. Duvelius made a motion and Mr. Weber seconded the motion as stated above.

Roll call as follows:	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	Kurt Weber	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes

Mr. Gary Boeres, Administrator, stated there was a bid opening at 12:00 p.m. today for the cleaning service. A spreadsheet was given to the trustees outlining the bid results with Service Master as the lowest bid at \$19,139.00. Mr. Boeres would like to meet with Ms. Brock and maybe Mr. Rusty Holman, Volunteer Financial Analyst, about possibly hiring a part-time employee to see if it would be a lower cost than going with a company for the cleaning service.

Mr. Duvelius made a motion and Mr. Weber seconded the motion to table the cleaning bid proposal until September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014.

Roll call as follows:	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	Kurt Weber	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes

Mr. Boeres stated there were no nuisance properties this evening.

Mr. Boeres noted there were no large purchase order requests.

Mr. Boeres next item was to discuss fishing at Mounts Park. There was a proposal to open fishing for September 20-21, 2014 from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Department Heads and Park Board will work together to develop rules and guidelines for the event. Mr. Weber noted no tax dollars will be used for capital improvements. Mr. Boeres noted the portable restrooms were being funded by Phipps Towing.

Mr. Weber made a motion and Mr. Duvelius seconded the motion to move forward with the proposed date of September 20-21, 2014 for fishing at Mounts Park without using tax payer dollars for related expenses and use volunteer staffing.

Roll call as follows:	Kurt Weber	Yes
	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes

Mr. Duvelius asked if a rain date was discussed. Mr. Boeres stated if it does get rained out they would cancel it and bring it back to the trustees to decide another date.

Mr. Wallace thanked Mr. Dan Phipps, Phipps Towing for his donation of funds to cover the portable restrooms for the event.

Mr. Boeres stated the Little Miami Chamber held the Cardboard Boat Regatta over the weekend and he would like to invite those who organized the event to the next meeting to recognize them.

Mr. Boeres noted the Touch-A-Truck event is this Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and encourage the board to attend.

Mr. Boeres prompted discussion about commercial interest in developing around State Route 48 and using Tax Increment Financing (TIF) dollars. It is sometime difficult to answer developer's questions that are policy related. Mr. Boeres would like to see if the board would be interested in nominating one of the trustees to work with him when he talks to the developers and then bring the results of those discussions back to the entire board at a future trustee meeting.

Mr. Boeres stated Kroger is asking the township to commit to TIF Funds for their project. In order to complete the Hoptown 2010 Access Management Plan the township will have to commit funds from the Kroger property that are collected as tax dollars to pay for some of the improvements. The TIF dollars would be collected from the new Kroger building, then used to off-set road improvement costs for the project. The project is roughly estimated to cost at \$200,000.00 per year for 15 years with a final price of \$2 million dollars. Mr. Weber noted the good thing about service payments are if the TIF for some reason didn't perform as well as we hoped, then Kroger would be responsible for making the service payments. It was stated this is not a done deal yet with Kroger and it is still in negotiations. Mr. Boeres stated if this project is approved, things would happen very quickly and he just needed approval from the board to begin negotiations with Kroger. Mr. Wallace wanted to see the proposed road improvements. Mr. Boeres provided the board with a map and it was noted the map is available to view in the Administration office and if the plan is approved it could be posted on the website. The trustees were okay with moving forward and Mr. Weber was nominated to work with Mr. Boeres on behalf of the Board on TIF Projects.

Mr. Ray Warrick, Fiscal Officer, provided the monthly financial sheets to the trustees that include the monthly bank reconciliation. All bills are paid and purchase orders are up-to-date. Mr. Warrick stated they are still working to adjust the interest on the township investments into the reconciliation statements and that will begin this August. Mr. Warrick presented Appropriation/Fund/Revenue Status by fund as of July 31, 2014.

Mr. Warrick stated a Resolution has already been approved by the trustees to collect rent payments from the Police Department and the State Auditor's office would like adjust the Resolution. This will be done at the next meeting.

Mr. Warrick noted there is a Fiscal Emergency Commission meeting on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. and he will be reporting the steps we are taking to fix the 11 findings. He is hoping this will all be done in two (2) months.

Mr. Warrick sent the board information on the cost of levies. The Police Levy of 1 Mil expires at the end of 2015. The board must decide if they wish to renew/replace/enlarge the levy monies or let it expire. If they decide to put on a special levy it can be very expensive. He obtained a report and spreadsheet from the Board of Elections for guidance. The choices of election times are limited. There is a special election called for February 5, 2015, but there are currently no issues/candidates on the ballot. They have until the February 5<sup>th</sup> date to submit the ballot language. The estimate cost to put on a special election is \$800-900.00 per precinct and Hamilton Township has 19 precincts for a special election. The only election that definitely going to happen is in November, 2015. There is still some cost to put on a levy then, but is very minimal. Mr. Warrick wanted to make sure we look at where the Police Department is and the level of service that we provide to the community and make sure we are comfortable with that level before deciding on levy amounts. Mr. Warren Ritchie, Law Director, asked if the Police Fund would pay for the levy to be put on the ballot or if the General Fund would? Mr. Warrick stated the Police Department could, but they are in a tight financial condition.

Mr. Warrick stated Mounts Park has an old landfill with garbage on a section of the property. Mr. Warrick spoke to a friend who is in the landfill business about the situation and said as long as the landfill ceased to operate before 1982 there is no danger of EPA citations. If the board wanted to pursue selling any part of the land, then the landfill would become an issue. The cost associated with clean-up is unknown. Mr. Warrick believes it is in the best interest of the township to at least have the option of bringing in some funds. The size of the property and the finance level of the township may be too much for the township to develop the property like it deserves. Mr. Wallace agreed with Mr. Warrick to continue exploring options.

Mr. Duvelius commented in regards to the Ambulance/EMS Fund closing. There will be no interruption in service just the funds collected from the insurance companies. There will be no interruption of life saving services by the Fire Rescue. The service is not being shut down in any way.

Mr. Duvelius and Mr. Weber thanked Mr. Warrick all of his work.

Mr. Weber opened the floor to the public.

Chief Jon Wheeler, Police Department, stated there is a vacant full-time patrolman position and he would like verbal approval from the board to move forward with the process of filling the position pursuant to the union contract with Officer Bobby Haussermann, who was the next eligible officer.

Mr. Weber made a motion to allow Chief Wheeler to move forward with the process of hiring Officer Bobby Haussermann to fill the vacancy left by Shane Johnson.

Chief Wheeler clarified this was not a new position.

Mr. Wallace asked for more financial information before the position is filled. Mr. Duvelius stated the position had to be filled per union contract.

Mr. Duvelius seconded the motion.

Mr. Warrick asked what impact the hiring will have on the police budget. Chief Wheeler stated the increase is estimated at \$9.00 per hour plus an increase from 56 hours per pay period to 80 and the addition of an insurance package. He could get an exact number, but it will be less than hiring a new full time person. Mr. Ritchie noted the union did not push about filling the position and could have which showed their cooperation and patience. Chief Wheeler stated there is another position that has gone unfilled for about three (3) years now and it has been left unfilled with an MOU from the union.

Roll call as follows:	Kurt Weber	Yes
	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes

Mr. Weber closed the floor to the public.

Mr. Weber gave an update about the Warren County Parks meeting he attended on behalf of Hamilton Township. The County Park Board asked for input from elected officials about how they feel about the county parks. The feedback was positive, but an invited member of the audience prompted the discussion on a possible levy. Mr. Weber had stated to the audience that there are not county parks in Hamilton Township and had said our park levy was defeated soundly in the fall.

Mr. Weber made a motion and Mr. Duvelius seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Roll call as follows:	Kurt Weber	Yes
	Gene Duvelius	Yes
	David Wallace	Yes