

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of **MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Meeting

Held

MARCH 18,

2008

Chairman Spanovich called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. with Mr. Angelou, Mrs. Stewart and the Fiscal Officer, Nancy White, present.

Also present were:

Matt Monell	406 Howland Drive
Dolly Hanning	2354 Agler Rd.
Cleatus & Kim Wong	3001 Woodland Ave.
Darrell Strohmenger	3001 Woodland Ave.
Jeffrey Thompson	2463 Mecca Road
Gregory Thompson	2463 Mecca Road
Dan Bender	Rocky Fork Enterprise
Ken Bing	2610 Ferris Rd.
Jim DeConnick	Fire Chief
Michael Pocock	Police Chief
Calvin McKnight	Service Director
Steve Blake	Code Enforcement Officer
Government Students from Gahanna Lincoln High School	

Mr. Spanovich led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Mr. Angelou offered a Prayer.

Res. 75-08: Approve Minutes of February 19, 2008 and March 3, 2008

Mr. Angelou moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2008 and March 3, 2008 meetings. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 76-08: Approve Warrants for April, 2008

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve the April, 2008 warrants for payroll and bills. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Fiscal Officer presented the following correspondence to the Board:

1. Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security notice advising that March 23-29 has been designated as "Severe Weather Awareness Week". On Wednesday, March 26th at 9:50 a.m., Franklin County will participate in a statewide tornado safety drill and at that time, tornado warning sirens will be sounded as part of the test. They are encouraging businesses to conduct a tornado safety drill at that time.
2. Ohio Division of Liquor Control notice of a new liquor permit request received from ARC Business Development, Inc. at 2280 C Stelzer Rd. in Mifflin Township. Chief Pocock was given a copy to investigate and found no problem so we will not request a hearing.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS (NEW BUSINESS)

ADMIN & IT

Training Request for Paul Adkins – Paul Adkins, IT, is requesting the Board's approval to attend the Compellent 2008 C-Drive Training & Certification Seminar held in Minneapolis, Minn. on May 7 & 8, 2008. The total anticipated cost will be \$1385.00. The Board approved the request and it will be signed off on by Mr. Spanovich.

Request #08-01 for Fiscal Officer to Attend Payroll Seminar – Mrs. Stewart signed off on the Fiscal Officer's request to attend a payroll seminar presented by our payroll vendor, Paycor in Cincinnati for an approximate total cost of \$330.00.

SERVICE

Compensatory Time – Calvin McKnight requested 16 hours of comp time for the snow emergency hours he worked. The Trustees had no objections.

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Mrs. Stewart signed off on the invoice for road salt picked up in February from the City of Gahanna for 42 tons of salt in the amount of \$2,100.84.

Mrs. Stewart signed off on the invoice from Lapham-Hickey Steel Corporation for the purchase of steel plates for the repair of storm water drops in the amount of \$1,405.62.

Service Credit Bonus – Mr. McKnight said that he was just made aware today that Larry Stewart qualifies for a service credit bonus in the amount of \$900.00 for 17 years service.

Res. 77-08: Approve Service Credit Bonus for Lawrence (Larry) Stewart of the Service Department

Mr. Angelou moved to approve a service credit bonus for Lawrence (Larry) Stewart of the Service Department for \$900.00 at the discretion of the Board and funds permitting as recommended by Calvin McKnight. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

POLICE – Chief Pocock thanked everyone for their help on the passing of the Police levy including the Trustees, Fiscal Officer and citizens, Loni Kinkaid and Cleatus & Kim Wong. He also thanked Calvin and all of the Service Department for the great job they did handling the blizzard conditions. The Chief said he has two motions before the Board for approval.

Res. 78-08: Approve Hiring Thomas Baughn as a Part-time Non-Paid Police Officer

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve hiring Thomas Baughn as a part-time non-paid Police Officer as recommended by Chief Pocock. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 79-08: Accept Resignation of Steven McGuire as a Part-time Non-Paid Police Officer

Mr. Angelou moved to accept the resignation of Steven McGuire as a part-time non-paid Police Officer per his request as recommended by Chief Pocock. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Unclaimed Funds - Chief Pocock said he, Officer Hissong and Lt. Price have been working for quite a while to clean up the property room and discovered \$30,000 in unclaimed funds. This money was deposited in a Fifth Third Bank account by the Fiscal Officer. The Chief said he has been working with the Prosecutor's Office for approval and after a signature this week by the Judge, the funds will belong to the Police Department.

Training - Chief Pocock said he will have some training requests coming up for mandated training for all the Officers this year and some reimbursement checks coming back for some mandated training done last year. He said he will discuss this further at the next Staff Meeting.

Bullet Resistant Vests – Chief Pocock said he is holding up payment of the vests that have already been approved and received until they are custom designed better for the Officers as they are not fitting well.

Gasoline Saving Program – It is now a Federal mandate to save gasoline by not letting a cruiser idle when not in use. The Mifflin Officers now turn the motor off while doing paper work or otherwise not in use. He said Lt. Price put together a gas savings program but they have not received any grant money and probably will not.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Steve Blake said he has been working with Miracit to tear down and rebuild some homes in foreclosure and was having no response from one of the banks. He thanked the Fiscal Officer for contacting the bank and getting them to cooperate.

Mr. Angelou said there was a good article in the yesterday's Dispatch on suburban blight with pictures of Mr. Blake inspecting two very bad properties in Mifflin Township. It mentioned the work Mifflin and other entities are trying to do to clean up these properties.

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Annexation – Steve Blake said he attended the annexation hearing today regarding the Petition for Annexation from Mifflin Township to the City of Columbus that was discussed at the last meeting. The reason the two property owners at 2673 and 2693 Johnstown Road wanted to annex into Columbus was to get water. Mr. Spanovich said that we have been trying to get water for these people and the Leonard Park area for years, but Columbus would not let them tap into their water system without annexation. Mr. Blake said that because of the awareness and interest now of the Commissioners, it would be a good time to pursue this again. The Fiscal Officer said she will write a letter to Jim Schimmer, the Economic Development and Planning Department Director, asking him to attend our April 7, 2008 Staff Meeting to discuss a possible solution to this problem.

Mr. Angelou said that while we are passing out “thanks”, we would like to thank the Fiscal Officer for suggesting to place a Replacement Police Levy on the ballot and for the community for its support. This reflects their appreciation for good Police work.

FIRE – Chief DeConnick said he has several requests before the Board for approval as follows:

Res. 80-08: Approve (26) Body Armor-Med Vests from On-Duty Equipment Co. for a Total of \$19,930.00

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve Purchase Request No. 03.05.08 for 26 Body Armor-Med Vests from On-Duty Equipment Company for a total of \$19,930.00 which is a revision of the original Purchase Request dated 12/01/07 as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Res. 81-08: Approve Drug-Free Workplace Employee & Supervisor Training from Working Partners for \$2610.00

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve Purchase Request No. 03.07.08 for Drug-Free Workplace Employee & Supervisor Training from Working Partners for \$2610.00 as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mr. Spanovich seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Mr. Spanovich asked that Purchase Request 03.06.08 for a 2008 All-terrain/EMS Rescue Polaris Ranger vehicle in the amount of \$49,699.00 be tabled at this time.

Res. 82-08: Approve Service Credit Bonuses for Firefighters Engler, Spanovich, Yorde, Crosson, Hyer, Lee, Torres, Dunlevy, Williams, Cline, Davis, Kovacs and Diehl

Mr. Angelou moved to approve service credit bonuses for Firefighters Engler, Yorde, Crosson, Hyer, Lee, Torres, Dunlevy, Williams, Cline, Davis, Kovacs and Diehl for \$500/each and Anthony Spanovich for \$900 at the discretion of the Board and funds permitting. Mrs. Stewart seconded. Mr. Angelou and Mrs. Stewart voted yea and Mr. Spanovich abstained. Motion carried.

Mr. Spanovich signed off on the training request for the Fireground Size-up and Operations one and two day seminar on April 5 – 6, 2008. The full seminar for 5 personnel is in the amount of \$400.00 and the one day seminar for 7 personnel is for \$490.00 making the total cost to be \$890.00.

Res. 83-08: Approve Hiring Scott Grigarauskas and Jay Somerville as Part-time Emergency Communication Dispatchers for MECC on Probationary Status

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve hiring Scott Grigarauskas and Jay Somerville as Part-time Emergency Communication Dispatchers within the MECC organization at the current probationary hourly rate of \$11.65 as recommended by Chief DeConnick. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Mr. Spanovich signed off on the request of Firefighter Charles Wilhelm to attend the Certified Fire Safety Inspector course taught at the Ohio Fire Academy from April 5 – 16, 2008 for a cost of \$370.00.

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Res. 84-08: Approve Request of Chief DeConnick to Attend the IAFC Conference in Denver from August 12 – 16, 2008 for a Cost of Approximately \$2,531.00

Mr. Spanovich moved to approve the request of Chief DeConnick to attend the IAFC Conference in Denver from August 12 – 16, 2008 for a cost of approximately \$2,531.00. Mrs. Stewart seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Chief DeConnick gave the Trustees a copy of the EMS Net Revenue report and the February MECC Chief's Meeting minutes for their information. The Fiscal Officer said we do have a rescheduled MECC members meeting on Saturday, March 29th at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the finalization of the Lease Agreement.

Chief DeConnick gave the Trustees a copy of the list of awards given entities from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. It shows that the Plain Township Fire Department (for MECC) received the highest award in the amount of \$665,360.00. The Trustees were also given a copy of a "thank you" from a man for the great services of the Medic 131, Unit 1 crew.

Chief DeConnick said he spoke with the Fiscal Officer regarding issuing two charge cards for training purpose expenses to be used mainly for out of town training. He said he is recommending two cards be issued for \$1500/card. This would satisfy the Auditors over reimbursement checks. The Trustees asked that this be placed on the April 7, 2008 Staff Meeting for written guidelines and criteria to be put in place. Reimbursement checks will be issued for personnel incurring training expenses before new cards can be issued.

Chief DeConnick said the Firefighters would like to do a raffle for a meal they would provide at the Fire House to benefit the ill son of a fellow Firefighter. The Trustees said that they approved of this but would like an okay from the Prosecutor's Office before they go ahead with it.

Fire Department Salary Increases – Mr. Spanovich said that the Trustees studied the proposals from the Fire Department and after serious consideration, they arrived at increases of 3.5% for Firefighters and 2.5% for Lieutenants, Captains, Battalion Chiefs and Chiefs.

Res. 85-08: Approve Fire Department Pay Increases of 3.5% for Firefighters & 2.5% for Lieutenants, Captains, Battalion Chiefs and Chiefs Effective March 23, 2008

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve Fire Department Pay Increases of 3.5% for Firefighters and 2.5% for Lieutenants, Captains, Battalion Chiefs and Chiefs effective March 23, 2008. Mr. Angelou seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Mrs. Stewart said that at the last Regular Meeting on February 19th, Dolly Hanning presented the Trustees with signed petitions from residents requesting that Medic 132 be placed back at Fire Station 132. She also mentioned there was a long response time for a child. Chief DeConnick explained the details of that emergency call. The call came in on a cell phone which takes a little longer to get all the details and our Engine was out on a run at the time. The total response time was 11 minutes with Columbus transporting the child without lights and siren just to be checked out further. We have been using automatic response for over 30 years.

Chief DeConnick gave a brief presentation to the Board on the reason for the Medic 132 removal from Fire Station 132. He gave them a booklet titled "Township-Wide EMS Services Review". As stated before, paramedic services are delivered by all Mifflin Fire Engines. Engine 132 is staffed by the same crew that rode the Medic. The only thing an engine cannot do is transport. Sta. 134 has the most EMS incidents and transports and has the only 24 hour staffed paramedic transport Medic located to serve all of Mifflin Township. By moving Medic 132 to Sta. 134, the response time to the unincorporated area actually improved. As the charts shows, Medic 132 was not always in the Station because they made a very large number of automatic response EMS runs as they are surrounded by Columbus and Clinton. Since the change, Station 132 can now respond to more Mifflin Township EMS incidents. Mr. Angelou said the statistics speak for themselves. Chief DeConnick said that they felt what they did was right and the numbers do show it was right. (See Referral File)

