

Minutes of February 13, 2024

Record of Proceedings

The Washington Township Board of Trustees regularly scheduled meeting held at the Washington Township Administration Building, 6200 Eiterman Road, Dublin, Ohio, on February 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., with Mr. Stu Harris, Chairman, calling the meeting to order, and it opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call – Mr. Stu Harris, Chair – Present
 Mr. Jan Rozanski, Vice Chair – Present
 Mr. Charles Kranstuber, Trustee – Present but left the meeting at approximately 6:45p.m.

Oath of Office:

Mr. Harris administered the oath of office to the following:

- Jim Cullison as Full-Time Probationary Lieutenant, badge pinned by Lt. Tim Erickson.
- Blaine Maag as Full-Time Probationary Firefighter, badge pinned by wife Ariana Maag.

Chief O'Connell welcomed Firefighter Maag to the Washington Township Fire Department family, and thanked the other firefighters in attendance. He reminded Firefighter Maag and his family that the goal of WTFD is to take care of the firefighters, and noted that the Trustees and Township Administrator ensure that every resource possible is made available to meet that goal. Chief O'Connell asked for the family's help in ensuring that Firefighter Maag takes advantage of the mental health services offered by WTFD when needed.

Chief O'Connell commended Lt. Cullison for his advancement. He noted that as an avid supporter of the department, WTFD is fortunate to have Lt. Cullison as a leader.

Executive Session – Personnel:

Motion by Mr. Kranstuber, seconded by Mr. Rozanski to go into Executive Session for Personnel and to discuss the appointment of a public official per the request of Township Trustees and the Ohio Revised Code #121.22(G)(1) at approximately 6:15 p.m. Motion passed. #2024.02.13.001

Reconvened:

Meeting reconvened at approximately 6:45 p.m. and with no action taken in executive session.

Franklin County Sheriff's Report:

Deputy Burton Haren submitted a written and verbal report to the Trustees for January 9 through February 13, 2024, including an update on the following:

- During this period, there were thirty (30) Total Calls for Service/Self-Initiated Activity, six (6) Total Reports Taken and two (2) Total Arrests/Citations;
- The six (6) reports included:
 - Two (2) Thefts, one involving theft of mail from a business on Cosgray and the other an email scam resulting in changing direct deposit information for employees;
 - Three (3) Traffic Stops, two (2) involved motorists who failed to stop for the school bus stop sign on Cosgray. Deputy Haren continues to investigate this complaint;
 - One (1) Vandalism, an Uber driver drove through a resident's yard.
- The arrest was a result of a domestic violence complaint. Append #001

Opportunity for Residents to Speak:

Mr. Bostic provided a brief update on the progress of conversations between St. John Lutheran Church and the City of Dublin with regards to establishing a P.U.D. (Planned Unit Development.) He also noted that he has been assisting the Dublin Food Pantry and may approach the Board for funding in addition to what was provided in 2022.

Presentation by Julie Rinaldi, CEO of Syntero – Annual Update and Accompanied by Dublin ACT Student Representatives:

Dublin ACT Coalition Presentation

Several students from Dublin City Schools and representing Dublin ACT Coalition presented to the board. The students first expressed their appreciation to the board for previous contributions toward creating posters to promote the Dublin ACT Coalition's message. The group then provided the Board with a budget sheet for the 2024 Harmony Music Festival, a substance-free event featuring student and adult performers from Dublin City Schools. This year's event will be held at Coffman Pavilion on April 12th, from 5-8:30 p.m., and is free to attend. In addition to the performers, the event will offer yard games, booth games, a raffle and food trucks. The main message of the event is to promote substance free living.

The students are requesting grant money from the Board to fund the event, including the purchase of audio/visual equipment that has previously been borrowed from a Dublin City Schools' educator. Mr. Rozanski noted that a portion of the money requested will be allocated to purchasing gift cards and inquired as to how the gift cards would be used. The students explained that the gift cards will be given to game and raffle winners during the event.

Mr. Richter explained to the students that WT received funds from the Opioid Settlement Agreement. This settlement was against pharmaceutical companies that made, distributed and sold opioid painkillers, who were sued for their role in fueling the overdose epidemic. If Dublin ACT earns the grant from WT, these funds would be used to fund the grant.

Sue Hutras, Coordinator of Dublin ACT provided the board with handouts outlining a collaborative project with Nationwide Children's Hospital. The outlined toolkit may be found on their website at

<https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/specialties/comprehensive-pain-management-clinic/know-more-do-more>.

Append #002

Syntero Annual Update

Ms. Rinaldi began by thanking Chief O’Connell for his support and involvement with the Dublin ACT Coalition. She provided a PowerPoint presentation of the 2023-2024 Syntero annual update. Syntero is focusing on a post-pandemic reset, while the organization did not cut or reduce any programs during the pandemic, it was affected with workforce issues during and following the pandemic. Ms. Rinaldi noted that every funding source helps the full organization; the Northeast Columbus Office closed, allowing the opportunity to open a new office in Mt. Gilead, where the need in Morrow County is great.

Another focus for Syntero is First Responder Programming and growing expertise in the area. Ms. Rinaldi described the Public Safety Social Services Coordinator position for the City of Dublin PD, funded by ARPA monies. This position follows up with a family after referral from a First Responder. She also outlined a focus on Older Adults, looking to support aging residents and assistance in finding resources.

Ms. Rinaldi also touched on options for free virtual parent/guardian workshops, available at <https://www.syntero.org/parent-guardian-workshops>.

On behalf of the Board and WT, Mr. Rozanski thanked Ms. Rinaldi for everything that she and her organization undertake. Append #003

Presentation by Jon Heider, Senior Planner with MORPC – Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Mr. Heider presented the 2024-2050 Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan. MORPC is required by federal law to create the plan, and presents it to all members as part of the planning process. Mr. Heider provided the board a draft of strategies, which he stated are available at <https://www.morpc.org/2024-2050-metropolitan-transportation-plan/>, along with an interactive map.

Replying to Mr. Harris’ questions on project priority and funding, Mr. Heider indicated that the municipalities send the projects to MORPC, and then MORPC works to establish regional priorities. With attention given to the map outlining an extension of Tuttle Crossing Boulevard, Mr. Richter explained that the City of Dublin had funds for the extension project, but then shifted them to the Post Road/US-33 project priority. With that project well underway, focus has returned to the Tuttle Crossing extension project.

Mr. Heider outlined the next steps listed below:

- Community Presentations – 54 scheduled between January and March;
- Public Comment Period Open Through March
- MORPC MTP Open House – March 19, 3:30-6:30 p.m. at MORPC, 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43215
- Feedback Incorporated Into Final Document
- MTP Adoption – May 2024 Append #004

Resolution Adoption of the Solid Waste Management Plan:

Mr. Rozanski introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY OF CENTRAL OHIO (SWACO).

WHEREAS, Washington Township is located within the jurisdiction of the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO); and

WHEREAS, the SWACO Board of Trustees prepared and adopted a final draft of the Solid Waste Management Plan (hereinafter “Plan”) in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 3734.53, 3734.54, 3734.55 and 3734.56 on December 12, 2023; and

WHEREAS, SWACO has provided a copy of the Plan for ratification to each of the legislative authorities located in the Authority’s jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Washington Township must decide whether it approves of said Plan within ninety (90) days of receipt of the Plan; and

NOW, **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Washington Township, Franklin, Delaware, and Union Counties, State of Ohio:

- Section 1: The Board of Trustees hereby approves the adoption of the SWACO Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Section 2: The Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to send SWACO a copy of this resolution to the attention of Andrew Booker, SWACO, 4239 London Groveport Road, Grove City, Ohio 43123, or via e-mail to Andrew.Booker@swaco.org.
- Section 3. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Board and that all deliberations of the Board and any of the decision-making bodies of the Board of Trustees which resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of the State of Ohio.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees voting Aye. Resolution adopted. #2024.02.13.002

Append #005

Motion to Approve 2023 Township Highway System Mileage Certification:

Motion by Mr. Rozanski, seconded by Mr. Harris, to authorize the approval of the 2023 Township Highway System Mileage Certification, Certifying as of December 31, 2023, Washington Township is responsible for maintaining 1.738 miles of public roads. Motion passed. #2024.02.13.003

Append #006

Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Rozanski, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the Meeting Minutes from the January 9, 2024, as presented. Motion passed. #2024.02.13.004

Append #007

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Rozanski, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Bills: December 31, 2023 \$ 113,912.58
- Bills: December 31, 2023 \$ 5,004.80
- Bills: January 10, 2024 \$ 134,876.12
- Bills: January 31, 2024 \$ 84,181.00
- Electronic Payments: January 2024 \$1,585,697.07
- Medical Payments: January 2024 \$ 339,381.03
- Transfers: December 2023 \$ 216,407.00
- Payroll: January 19, 2024 \$ 615,459.30
- Monthly Payroll: February 2, 2024 \$ 9,465.74
- Payroll: February 2, 2024 \$ 535,754.12
- Monthly Financial Report for December

Motion approved.

#2024.02.13.005
Append #008

Once Around

Township Administrator Eric Richter provided an update:

- Mr. Richter responded to questions from Mr. Harris regarding the Franklin County Engineer vacancy and selection process. Mr. Richter outlined that Brad Foster was endorsed by the Republican Party to finish the current term that ends on January 5, 2025.
- Mr. Richter provided several items of information in the trustee packet:
 - After discussion on recent legislation surrounding adult use cannabis, Mr. Harris and Mr. Rozanski will revisit the conversation when Mr. Kranstuber is present. Mr. Richter noted to the board that any action made may need to be rescinded or adjusted as legislation is approved by the legislature and signed by the Governor. The City of Dublin has not taken any action at this time, and is considering passing a “moratorium” until such time as that legislation occurs.
 - A summary report of the Rings Road / Cosgray Road intersection was provided. The report summarizes that the best long-term solution for the intersection is a roundabout. There was discussion surrounding the parcel owned by WT at the intersection that is allocated as a potential future location for a fire station. Mr. Richter noted some of the challenges with the location for that purpose, including the lack of public water and sewer. The Engineer’s office has confirmed the house on Rings Road is able to remain even with construction of the roundabout.
 - The Envision Dublin Update provided to Council by City Manager Megan O’Callaghan was provided in the trustee packet.
- Mr. Richter provided a verbal report that progress is being made on the agreement with CSX to finish the sidewalks in Amlin. He will continue communication with CSX.
- There will be a celebration of Fiscal Officer Joyce Robinson and her service to WT on March 26 from 4-6 p.m. at the Administration Offices.

Chief Alec O’Connell provided an update:

- Chief O’Connell continued from Ms. Rinaldi’s discussion on mental health, explaining that WTFD offers annual mental health evaluations for the firefighters.
- Chief O’Connell provided an update of recent runs where crews performed fantastically, including:
 - A residential house fire;
 - A mutual aid call for an individual who jumped from O’Shaughnessy Dam.
- Chief O’Connell announced there will be a celebration of life for former WTFD Battalion Chief Steve Kimple on March 2 in Pataskala. WTFD may send a Quint to represent BC Kimple.

Assistant Chief John Donahue provided an update:

- Chief Donahue provided the January monthly report, it was the busiest January on record for the department;
- Chief Donahue announced that the new Quint went into service on Thursday, February 8 and commended FMI on their outfitting the apparatus;
- Chief Donahue provided an update on year-end strategic goal status. He replied to Mr. Rozanski’s request by providing a timeline for other apparatus on order, with the Engine scheduled in June, two (2) Medics to begin the build process in September, and the final Engine in April of 2025.

Human Resources Manager Catherine Grossman provided an update:

- Ms. Grossman expressed appreciation to the board for their support in continuing education, as she just updated a certificate through HRCI;
- She is currently finalizing the 2023 Human Resources statistics;
- A list of potential part-time firefighters is in progress;
- She is working with WT Training & Safety Manager to update the Drug Free Workplace policy to include information specific to cannabis use;
- She and Mrs. Lawler will attend the Ohio Safety Congress Expo in March;
- Ms. Grossman will provide the Board with a list of potential questions to assist with the Fiscal Officer candidate interviews.

Fiscal Officer Joyce Robinson provided an update:

- The year-end process for 2023 has been completed;
- The Hinkle Report is being prepared by accounting firm and will be submitted to the State Auditor hopefully by the end of the week;
- Ms. Robinson will provide the Annual report to the Board of Trustees at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- The 2024 Budget has been entered into CMI, the Township’s Financial System.

Trustee Stu Harris provided an update:

- Mr. Harris expressed interest in attending the Dublin Chamber of Commerce Economic Forecast Breakfast on Tuesday, February 27. Mr. Richter has registered for the event, Mr. Harris and Mr. Rozanski will also register to attend.
- Mr. Harris attended the Franklin County Township Association dinner and was invited by the County Coroner to tour the morgue, he inquired whether anyone else would like to attend the tour.

Adjourn Meeting:

Meeting of February 13, 2024, adjourned at approximately 8:03 p.m.

Mr. Stu Harris, Chair

Ms. Joyce E. Robinson, Fiscal Officer