

Hamilton Township Trustee Meeting

October 16, 2024

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

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

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 as the Official Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2024, 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

Public Comments

Mr. Rozzi opened the floor to public comments at 6:01 pm.

Mr. Joe Walker requested clarification regarding the motion passed at the last meeting with the Impact Group, which totaled approximately \$50,000.

Fire Chief Jewett explained that the Board had approved a motion for a Crisis Communication plan for the Township in the amount of \$9,500. The remaining \$39,000 is allocated to the Fire Department for strategic planning and rebranding efforts. This approach, which is used by some of the largest fire departments across the country, including local departments like Deerfield, aims to improve operational efficiency and enhance service to residents of Hamilton Township and the surrounding areas served by the department. The money to cover the cost of this service will be from the EMS Billing Fund.

Administrator Jeff Wright then clarified that the subject had not been passed during the last meeting and would be included on the agenda for discussion soon.

Mr. Rozzi closed the floor to public comments at 6:05 pm.

New Business

- Resolution No. 2024-1016A – Authorizing Appropriation Increase in the Fire & EMS Special Levy Fund and EMS Billing Fund

The funds will be appropriated from the unencumbered fund to cover the retirement benefits of a 20-year employee and to provide insurance for three full-time employees through HSA accounts.

Mr. Rozzi made a motion with a second from Mr. Sousa to approve Resolution 2024-1016A, a resolution approving an increase in appropriations in the Fire & EMS Fund and EMS Billing Fund to reconcile budgets for the calendar year 2024.

Roll call as follows: Joe Rozzi Yes
 Mark Sousa Yes

- Motion to join Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. for the purpose of property and casualty insurance coverage

Mr. Wright recommended that the Township explore other options, specifically the Ohio Plan, which is also used by several townships in Warren County. He suggested reviewing the rates and considering the proactive measures they take with staff, such as cybersecurity training. He emphasized the importance of reassessing coverage every 2-4 years to make more informed decisions.

Mr. Rozzi asked how many entities in Ohio provide this type of insurance. Mr. Wright responded that there are only about three to five companies offering such services for public entities in the state.

Mr. Sousa expressed confidence in the decision, noting that while the coverage remains the same, the Township is simply switching from one pool provider to another.

Mr. Rozzi made a motion with a second from Mr. Sousa to join Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. for the purpose of property and casualty insurance coverage.

Roll call as follows: Mark Sousa Yes
 Joe Rozzi Yes

- Motion to Authorizing the Administrator to Sign a MOU for Salt Supply with the Village of Maineville

Mr. Wright explains that in recent years, the Township has sold excess road salt to the Village for snow treatment. We would like to continue this arrangement and propose a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to clarify our expectations. The Township will sell the salt at cost plus ten percent per ton, and we will work together to ensure the process runs smoothly for both parties.

Mr. Rozzi made a motion with a second from Mr. Sousa to authorize the township administrator to execute the Memorandum of Understanding with the Village of Maineville for the supplying and loading of road salt.

Roll call as follows: Mark Sousa Yes
Joe Rozzi Yes

- Motion to Approve the Hamilton Township roster as presented

Mr. Rozzi made a motion with a second from Mr. Sousa to approve the amendment of the Hamilton Township roster as presented.

Roll call as follows: Joe Rozzi Yes
Mark Sousa Yes

Public Comments

Mr. Rozzi opened the floor to public comments at 6:13 p.m., in which there were none.

Fiscal Officer Report

Ms. Leah Elliott: **September 2024 Fiscal Report**

As of the end of September, which marks 75% of the fiscal year, we have received 104% of our anticipated budgeted revenue and have spent about 60% of our budgeted appropriations. The total cash balance is \$24 million.

Additionally, she presented a revised format of the financial report provided to the Trustees, organized by color and department. She requested input from the Trustees on which funds they would like included in the report to provide a higher level of information for the public.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Wright provided the following updates for the Administrator's report:

- Trunk or treat Saturday October 19th from 1-3pm at Testerman Park
- Staff are working on installation of AEDs at Marr and Testerman Park
- Fire and Police participated in the active shooter drill at Kings Island
- Duke will be transporting a replacement transformer to the Butterworth substation on Sunday October 20th.

- Welcomed the Ohmer Family to Hamilton Township and thanked him for his service to the country. Thanked the Gary Sunesis Foundation and John Hill Homes for inviting them to the event and honoring the family with a new house in the Township.

Trustee Comments

Mr. Sousa encouraged residents to participate in the Spooktacular Contest and expressed his condolences to the Henson family for the loss of their son, a recent graduate of Little Miami High School. He invited anyone interested in supporting the family through the meal train and GoFundMe efforts to reach out to him.

Mr. Rozzi inquired with Captain Rector about the flashing blue light at the new Kroger property. Captain Rector explained that it is for surveillance protection of the equipment and crew working at the site. Mr. Rozzi also reminded residents that Blink 2024 will be taking place this coming weekend in Cincinnati.

Executive Session-

Mr. Rozzi made a motion with a second from Mr. Sousa to adjourn the executive session at 6:24 p.m. in accordance with ORC 121.22(G)(8a) to discuss economic development and ORC 121.22(G)(1) to discuss the appointment, employment and compensation of public employees.

Roll call as follows: Mark Sousa Yes
Joe Rozzi Yes

Mr. Rozzi made a motion with a second from Mr. Sousa to come out of Executive session at 7:32 p.m.

Roll call as follows: Joe Rozzi Yes
Mark Sousa Yes

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Rozzi made a motion, with a second from Mr. Sousa, to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.

Roll call as follows: Joe Rozzi Yes
Mark Sousa Yes