
MINUTES OF SYMMES TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 4, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Elected officials present were: Mr. Phil Beck, Mr. Kenneth Bryant, Ms. Jodie Leis, and Ms. Carol Sims

Also present: Kevin McDonough - Township Law Director; Kim Lapensee - Administrator; Major Chris Kettelman - Hamilton County Sheriff's Department; Chief Otter Huber – Loveland Symmes Fire Department.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MS. LEIS made a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

FISCAL OFFICERS REPORT

None

PRESENTATIONS

None

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

Ms. Leis made a motion to approve Receipts 69212 - 69435 totaling \$508,829.55. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant 'aye'.

REPORTS

KEVIN MCDONOUGH stated that he has been working on the Board of Zoning Appeals matter regarding the cell tower. The Board of Zoning Appeal has denied the applicant for the cell tower. The BZA approved the minutes and the Resolution denying the appeal. The next step will be to mail the Resolution to the applicant and then it will be up to the applicant on what they want to do.

Mr. McDonough stated that he is still working on the adult entertainment regulations update.

MAJOR CHRIS KETTEMAN stated that he would like to bring to the Boards attention reference to the homicide that we had last year on Red Cloud Court. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Investigation Section handled that and brought it to a successful conclusion as far as Donald L. Dawson-Duregan was sentenced to life in prison.

Major Kettelman stated that the monthly reports will be out next week. They have had 865 calls for service and/or incidents in the Township. They are still asking the Residents if they see something suspicious to call 677-7000.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

None

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

None

COMMITTEE

None

OTHER

Ms. Leis advised that the intersection at Lebanon and Fields Ertel Road is closed. Everybody is going through the subdivisions, so please drive slow and carefully because the kids are outside playing.

Ms. Leis stated that she attended the Public Health Department meeting and they brought up the Property Maintenance Code. They are for the Property Maintenance Code, so she just wanted the Board to know where the Health Department stood on this matter.

HEARING FROM RESIDENTS

MIKE & SALLY LOGAN 11924 Lebanon Road, Green House of Loveland stated that they are having a problem with the road construction on Lebanon Road. It is especially bad for them because they are a new business just struggling to get a foot hold and the closure is making it hard for the customers to get to their green house. Last fall they closed a month early because a road sign stated that they would be starting construction in the fall, so they thought that they could make it up in the spring. Shortly after they closed the road work was put off until the spring which is their peak season, so now they are pretty much at the point where they can hardly open at all because half of their business is drive-by's and everyone is avoiding the area. They are now faced with not being able to recoup their funds that they have invested and they were wondering if anybody had any ideas on what they can do at this point to try to salvage what they have.

Ms. Leis asked Bill Pitman if there were anyway that a sign at Lebanon and Union Cemetery Road could be put up saying that the Green House is still opened for business.

BILL PITMAN stated that he would talk to the Hamilton County Engineer to see what can be done.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

EVENTS/MEETINGS

- a. The next BZA Meeting will be held on Monday, April 3, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
- b. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. in Home of the Brave Park.
- c. The Trustees Work Session will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room.
- d. The next Zoning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
- e. Shred Day will be held by Little Miami Rivers Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at Loveland Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. with ten (10) box limit.

KEN BRYANT stated that he would love to have a shred event placed on the Township's annual calendar.

Ms. Lapensee asked what if they included it with their next clean-up date in August.

Mr. Bryant stated that he is all for an annual event if somebody else is sponsoring it.

OLD BUSINESS

PHIL BECK stated that he knows that it has been several months since they had their last discussion on the Property Maintenance Code. He just wants to make sure that they are continuing to discuss this so they can advance this issue and be prepared for their next hearing.

Ms. Lapensee stated that she had prepared a whole section and added it to the code because right now there is not any enforcement or penalties.

Ms. Leis stated that this is going to be on their next work session.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Leis moved for approval Resolution G2017 -11 authorizing the Township Administrator to sign the contract with OTARMA/purchase risk insurance in the amount of seventy-four thousand two hundred thirty-six dollars and one cent (\$74,236.01). Mr. Bryant seconded the motion.

CAROL SIMS stated she wanted clarification to make sure that this is how the Board wants this split out. In the 2017 Budget, the Board did approve eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) out of the General Fund. This is less than what was budgeted.

Mr. Bryant asked Ms. Lapensee if they would get a refund after they submit it.

Ms. Lapensee stated that they will receive a four thousand six hundred twenty-three dollars (\$4,623) refund.

Ms. Leis stated in the past they have taken it out of the General Fund, so Ms. Lapensee is now asking to take it out of different funds to keep the General Fund healthier.

Mr. Bryant stated that the bill needs to be paid, so what does Ms. Sims suggest.

Ms. Sims stated that it should be paid out of the General Fund and if they want a split, she wants an opinion from the Law Director that Fund 11 can actually be used to pay the insurance.

Ms. Leis stated that she knows we have taken it out of the General Fund in the past but they have also talked about moving things out the General Fund and putting it into other funds.

Ms. Leis asked Ms. Sims why she is recommending to keep taking it out of the General Fund.

Ms. Sims stated that if they are going to split it between the different funds then they should actually be doing it like they have in the past. Look at the amount of the bill and say this much is for Police equipment and this much is for Road equipment.

Ms. Leis move to table Resolution G2017 -11 to next month's meeting. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval Resolution G2017 -13 authorizing the Township Administrator to sign a contract with Rozzi to purchase fireworks for the Firecracker Festival in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). This will be taken from the general fund (#01). Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval Resolution G2017 -14 authorizing the Township Administrator to sign a community event license agreement with the Little Miami River Chamber Alliance for use of Symmes and Home of the Brave Parks for the Firecracker Festival. Mr. Beck seconded the motion.

Mr. Bryant stated that the Chamber is using Township Property, we are paying our dues to be members and we are providing the fireworks. Where does it end? They paid us back for our man power and materials last year, so what is the problem.

Ms. Lapensee stated that she just thinks we should be good stewards. The in-kind contribution is in the contract.

Mr. Beck stated that we should sit on this to see if they ask for it.

Ms. Sims stated that they could just go back to the way the contract was written before where the Chamber is responsible and then at the end of the event you will know what the cost figures are you could wave the those charges.

Mr. Bryant moved to table Resolution G2017-14. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of Resolution G2017-15 authorizing the Township Administrator to purchase a portable radar sign from Kleem Inc. in the amount of three thousand two hundred seventy-six dollars and fifty cents (\$3,276.50). Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of Resolution G2017-16 authorizing the Township Administrator to purchase a new lawn mower for the Parks Department. The cost will be six thousand eight hundred sixty-two dollars and seventy-three cents (\$6,862.73). Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of Resolution G2017-17 authorizing the Township Administrator to enter into an agreement with Freeze Underground to remove the remains of a house located at 12135 Birch Drive in the amount of six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500.00). Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of Resolution G2017-18 authorizing the Township Director of Public Works to conduct the necessary sidewalk repairs throughout the Township not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval Resolution G2017-19 authorizing the Township Administrator to enter into an agreement with VO Builders Inc. to regrade an existing ballfield at Symmes Park in the amount of four thousand eight hundred dollars (\$4,800.00). Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of Resolution G2017-20 authorizing the Township Administrator to sign a contract with Cantrell Fencing Company to make necessary repairs and replace certain sections of fence as necessary at Symmes Park in the amount of One Thousand Nine Hundred dollars (\$1,900.00). Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of Resolution G2017-21 authorizing the Township Administrator to enter into agreement with Haddix Tree Service Inc. to remove a tree in the right-of-way on Munson Street in the amount of two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$2,800.00). Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of Resolution P2017-01 approving pay adjustment for Township Employees for the fiscal year 2017. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion.

Ms. Lapensee asked the Trustee if they could go into Executive Session to discuss this Resolution.

Mr. Bryant moved to table Resolution P2017-01. Ms. Leis seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval Resolution P2017-02 resolution approving the modified of uniform policy. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to allow the Director of Public Works to apply for OPWC monies to replace a box culvert on Blong Road. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to allow staff to advertise for sidewalk installation on Lebanon Road along the frontage of Symmes Park to the entrance. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved for approval 1500 hours of Part-time work a year for each Part-time Parks Employee. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to appoint Kim Lapensee as an additional person to the Hamilton County Tax Incentive Review Council to represent Symmes Township. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis asked if anyone had questions or concerns about the Liquor License Transfer – Fuji Cincinnati Inc. dba Fuji Buffet, 12140 Royal Pointe Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45249. No one had questions so it will be forwarded to the State with a request for no hearing.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of expenditures in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for EMS supplies. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Leis moved that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss ORC Section 121.22 (G) (1) to consider the compensation and employment of a public employee or official. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

The meeting adjourned for Executive Session at 8:01 p.m.

The meeting reconvened from Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

No further action was taken and the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Approved:

Jodie Leis, Board President

Carol Sims, Fiscal Officer