
MINUTES OF SYMMES TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING

AUGUST 25, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Leis made a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. Motion passes.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Contract – Ms. Leis asked Ms. Lapensee to summarize the request at hand.

Ms. Lapensee stated that she was contacted by the Sheriff’s Office at the end of June letting us know that the Sheriff’s Office was audited by the State for 2016 and that we owed \$53,595.09 because they under-billed us for services in 2015. She stated that she asked for documentation from the Sheriff’s Office and State Auditor which stated that we owed that \$53,595.09 amount. She said that the only documentation that was received was a cover letter from the Fiscal Officer with copies of billing for March through December of 2015. The amount under billed each month was \$5,955.01. Ms. Lapensee stated that the old contract stipulated that we pay for 12 officers at \$87,054.01 per deputy. However, the township was billed at the old rate of \$81,099.00 per deputy. Ms. Lapensee stated that the Sheriff’s Office could not provide the document from the Auditor’s Office because the Auditor would not release the report until the billing matter is cleared up.

Mr. Bryant asked if the Sheriff’s Office provided 12 officers as stated in the contract. Ms. Lapensee stated that she asked for a roster of sheriff’s office employees and 12 were not listed as assigned to Symmes Township – only 10 at the most were assigned to Symmes. He asked what would happen if we overpaid in 2015 for 12 deputies but never received them. He stated that we have a new contract in 2016-2017 that we are now under. He said that the new contract is a cap and we are currently about \$46,000 under that cap. He said that he would like for the Sheriff’s Office to provide a letter stating that they understand it’s a cap and not an absolute amount. Mr. Bryant stated that the old contract contracted for 12 officers and the new contract is for 10.4 deputies which are billed now per hour that it takes to operate that vehicle versus the number of deputies it takes to fill the car.

Ms. Sims asked about the overpayment in 2016? Ms. Lapensee stated that she sent an email to Mr. Horn asking about the overpayment that may have occurred in 2016 for January through March. She stated that he responded back by saying that Symmes Township caught the mistake and they revised their invoice to the correct amount.

Ms. Leis stated that we should pay this bill and move forward and keep in mind not to make this same mistake again.

Mr. Beck wanted to know if the pay was accurate. Ms. Lapensee stated yes. The contract in 2015 stipulated 12 officers and we would pay \$87,054.01 per officer. Mr. Beck wanted to know if we

got what we are paying for. Ms. Lapensee stated that she still has not been able to verify what we actually received in 2015.

Mr. McDonough stated that he spoke with Kevin Horn from the Sheriff's office about the billing error and he said that Mr. Horn said that if we don't pay the bill, it will be held against the township on the township's audit for 2015. He stated that we owe the fee for the deputies per the contract and we should pay it.

Ms. Leis moved for approval of Resolution G2017-53, authorizing the payment of under-billed fees in the amount of \$53,595.09 to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for the time period of April 2015 through December 2015. Mr. Beck seconded the motion.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

Mrs. Leis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis- 'aye'.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Approved:

Jodie Leis, Board President

Carol Sims, Fiscal Officer