
MINUTES OF SYMMES TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 10, 2017

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

Also present: Kevin McDonough - Township Law Director; Bill Pitman - Director of Public Works; Lt. Chris Kettelman - Hamilton County Sheriff's Department; Chief Otter Huber - Loveland Symmes Fire Department.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

MS. SIMS asked for nominations for President of the Board and noted that a second would not be required.

MR. BRYANT moved to appoint Jodie Leis as President of the Board. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

MS. LEIS asked for nominations for Vice-President of the Board and noted that a second would not be required.

MRS. LEIS moved to appoint Ken Bryant as Vice President. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

MS. LEIS announced that Trustee meetings for 2017 will continue to be held on the first Tuesday each month at 7:00 p.m. with Special meetings scheduled as needed.

Ms. Leis announced that the 2017 salary for the Township Trustees elected before September 28, 2015 will be paid \$20,568.00 per year and Trustees elected after September 29, 2015 will be paid \$22,676.00 per year with such salaries to be paid in monthly installments. The 2017 salary for the Township Fiscal Officer will be \$31,064.00 per year, paid in monthly installments.

Ms. Leis announced that members of the Township Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals will receive \$50.00 per meeting.

Ms. Leis announced that the Employee Personnel Policy will remain the same and that the Holiday schedule will remain as outlined in the Employee Personnel Policy.

Ms. Leis announced the Township will continue its contract with the Loveland Symmes Fire Department at an annual fee of \$2,332,867.00 for 2017 and its contract with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Patrol at an estimated cost of \$1,173,033.13 for 2017.

Ms. Leis announced that the Township will need to have a contract amendment with the Loveland Symmes Fire Department to provide increased staffing at the Symmes Township Safety Center to include the addition of two (2) peek time firefighters that total eighty (80) hours per week at times determined by the Fire Chief to supplement staffing during the heavy volumes time at an annual fee at \$72,000.00 in 2017.

Ms. Leis announced that the Township will continue employee reimbursement for cell phones in the amount of \$700.00 to employees who use their own phone/service and in the amount of \$550.00 to employees who use a Township phone with personal calls.

The following appointments were made by the Board:

Carol Sims as the Board Representative to Finance & Audit Committee;
Ken Bryant as the Board Representative to the Ad Hoc Community Reinvestment Area Committee;
Phil Beck as the Board Representative and Carol Sims as the Alternate to C.L.O.U.T.;
Jodie Leis as the Board Representative to Hamilton County Planning Partnership;
Jodie Leis as the Board Representative to Hamilton County General Health District Advisory Council;
Ken Bryant as the Township Representative to ICRC;
Phil Beck as the Township Representative to the Hamilton County Township Association;
Phil Beck as the Township Representative to the Hamilton County Tax Incentive Review Council;
Bill Pitman as the Township Representative to Hamilton County Township Road Superintendents Association; and
Bill Pitman as the Township Representative to the Hamilton County Storm Water District.
Jodie Leis as the Township Representative to the Little Miami River Chamber Alliance.

PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Leis presented to the Sycamore High School Boys Football Team a Certificate of Recognition for the Historic Playoff Run advanced to the Division One Regional Finals for the First Time in High School History in 2016.

Ms. Leis present to the Loveland High School Girls Volleyball Team a Certificate of Recognition for the Division One Sectional Champs, Division One District Champs and competing in the Reginal Semi-Finals Match in 2016.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

Ms. Leis made a motion to approve Receipts 68710 – 68845 totaling \$854,646.48.
Mr. Bryant seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis ‘aye’;
Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant ‘aye’.

REPORTS

LAW DIRECTOR

None

POLICE

LIEUTENANT CHRIS KETTEMAN stated that the monthly report will be out next week. Police had over 898 incidents in Symmes Township for the month of December. There has been an increase in thief’s from vehicles and burglaries. Symmes Township is not the only area that these are occurring. He wants the residents to call if they see anything suspicious in the neighborhood.

FIRE

CHIEF OTTO HUBER stated to the Board that they have his written report. Chief Huber asked the Trustees to look over their calendars in the next couple of weeks so sometime on a Saturday in March they can get together and go over the Township Emergency Operations Plan.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

None

COMMITTEES

None

OTHER

Mr. Bryant stated that he received an e-mail from the Knights of the Golden Trail stating that for ten (10) years they have held an event at the Castle on the third Saturday of the month, starting April thru August, hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. They are asking to extended the time from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. They want to know what they need to do to facilitate this change.

Chief Huber advised the Board that what the Castle can and cannot be used for was set by the Courts. The Township was sued several years ago over a zoning issue with that. Those times and dates have been set by the Court and he is not sure that those can be changed without possibly going back through the Board of Zoning Appeal or the Common Pleas Court. The Castle is not built for a place of public assembly. It does not have any emergency equipment, emergency lighting or anything it needs to meet that Code.

Mr. Bryant stated he appreciated that input.

Chief Huber stated he would research that and send the information to the office.

Mr. Bryant stated that he received another e-mail on January 4th from a Sibcy Cline Real Estate Agent who represents a person interested in buying a property on Snider Road. The total land is three (3) acres, two (2) separate parcels, one of the parcels is a three quarter ($\frac{3}{4}$) acre parcel along Snider Road. This potential buyer is curious whether the Township would allow him to donate the three quarter ($\frac{3}{4}$) acre parcel along Snider Road to the Township as a green space for a tax credit similar to what they do in Anderson Township and Indian Hill.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was any interest on the Board of Trustees to entertain this consideration?

Ms. Leis stated she is curious to learn more about it. She would like a little more information on the parcel, like the parcel number and location of it. It would have to make sense to the Township before they would accept it.

HEARING FROM RESIDENTS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ZONING AND PLANNING

None

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Leis moved to adopt Resolution G2017-01, Resolution to Establish an Ad Hoc Beautification Committee. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Sims does the Board wish to appoint a Township Representative?

Ms. Leis stated that she would like to do it if possible. Mr. Beck seconded and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to replace the BLS vehicle for Station 61 in the amount of \$39,165.11 for the purchase of the vehicle and necessary equipment for the Loveland Symmes Fire Department. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Leis moved to adopt Resolution G2017-02, Resolution Appointing Kevin C. McDonough and the firm of Wood & Lamping, LLP as Law Director Pursuant to R.C. 504.15 and Dispensing with the Second Reading. Mr. Bryant seconded and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to adopt Resolution G2017-03, Resolution Authorizing and Directing Temporary Advance of Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000.00) Dollars from the General Fund to the Lighting Assessment Fund. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to adopt Resolution G2017-04, Resolution Requesting County Auditor to make advance payment of taxes. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to approve a one year supplement contract by the Loveland Symmes Fire Department for the Camp Dennison area at \$500.00 per month effective January 1, 2017. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to approve replacing police cruiser in the amount of \$34,000.00 for the purchase of the vehicle and necessary equipment for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department. Mr. Bryant seconded and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to authorize the Board President to sign agreement and approval of expenditure in amount of \$1,308.00 for Workers Comp Program. Mr. Bryant seconded and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to establish the 2017 Special Events for the Great Symmes Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April, 8, the Symmes Honors Veterans, Friday, May 26, Fall for Symmes, Friday, October 6, and Operation Santa, Saturday, December 2. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to approve a one year Employee Agreement with Mike Howell to serve as part-time custodian for the Camp Dennison Nature Trail at \$75.00 per month. Mr. Bryant seconded and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to approve a one year contract with Lawn Systems in the amount of \$10,800.00 for Yard Waste Drop Off Program. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to approve to get construction pricing for Home of the Brave Phase II from McGill Smith Punshon Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to authorize the Fiscal Officer and Assistant to Fiscal Officer to attend Local Government Conference on April 12 and 13 in Columbus. Mr. Bryant seconded and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Mrs. Leis - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved to authorize Bill Pitman to attend the Ohio Commercial Pesticide Conference in Dayton on February 10. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

Ms. Leis moved approval of:

- a. Expenditure in the amount of \$23,000.00 for special events in 2017.
- b. Expenditure in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Cleanup Days in 2017.
- c. Expenditure (Then & Now) in the amount of \$1,407.33 to repair leaking hydraulic cylinder in backhoe.
- d. Expenditure (Then & Now) in the amount of \$1,926.00 for membership in Hamilton County Planning Partnership.
- e. Expenditure (Then & Now) in the amount of \$36.84 for additional services related to the Home of the Brave Park waterline improvement.
- f. Expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00 for large dumpster at Administration building.
- g. Expenditure in the amount of \$2,600.00 for slip resistant coating for the restroom floor at Seven Gables Park.
- h. Expenditure in the amount of \$17,500.00 to restock ambulance for 2017.
- i. Expenditure in the amount of \$18,000.00 for the purchase of various turnout gear.
- j. Expenditure (Then & Now) in the amount of \$5,613.10 for repairs to the transmission of the backhoe.
- k. Expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$2,239.00 for annual dispatch support fees (1/2 fee).

Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'aye'.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MS. LEIS made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of Public Employee, discussion of employment of a Public Employee and discussion of compensation of a Public Employee. Mr. Beck seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Bryant - 'aye'; Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Beck - 'aye'.

No further action was taken and the meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Approved:

Jodie Leis, Board President

Carol Sims, Fiscal Officer