
MINUTES OF SYMMES TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 6, 2018

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

Also present: Kevin McDonough - Township Law Director; Kim Lapensee - Administrator; Chief Otto Huber - LSFD; Lt. Tory Smith - Hamilton County Sheriff's Department.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting for February 6, 2018. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - 'abstain', and Ms. Leis - 'aye'.

FISCAL OFFICERS REPORT

Ms. Sims handout out the monthly report for February.

PRESENTATIONS

Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance - Rob McCracken. Mr. McCracken presented information to the Board concerning their new residential energy savings program. Efficiency Partners Program is a way for municipalities to offer residents a home energy assessment and access to affordable, long-term financing for energy efficiency. Mr. McCracken stated that they are asking local governments to partner with them and promote the program. Mr. McCracken stated that they also offer free solar assessments with discount pricing and quality equipment. They work with qualified installers and have completed 3180 solar assessments and installed 103 solar systems across Cincinnati.

Mr. Beck asked what the typical system costs to install. Mr. McCracken stated around \$15,000 for a 6 KW system (avg size system). Mr. Beck asked if that included the battery storage. Mr. McCracken stated no. Mr. Beck asked what the rate of return would be. Mr. McCracken stated about 8 to 10 years to start to see a return. Mr. Beck asked for examples of other communities they have worked with. Mr. McCracken stated that they have worked with the City of Cincinnati.

Ms. Leis asked if this program will serve only residents or will small businesses be included. Mr. McCracken stated that the program will be open to both. She asked how they could promote the program. Mr. McCracken stated that it would be acceptable to promote through Facebook, the website, newsletter, newsprint, etc. Ms. Leis asked how the program would be funded. Mr. McCracken stated that it would be funded through a grant that Duke energy set aside through the PACE funding program.

Ms. Sims asked if he could get more than just one quote. Mr. McCracken said yes. They have a non-exclusive MOU with several vendors.

Mr. Bryant asked if they were a broker or a consultant. Mr. McCracken stated that they are more of a consultant that gives homeowners a road map for next steps once they complete the on-line assessment.

Mr. Beck asked if the solar panels could withstand hail. Mr. McCracken stated yes and they are also covered for 25 years under warranty and they would be covered under the homeowner's policy since they would be attached to their house.

Mr. Bryant stated that he is willing to endorse the program on any of their literature but does not want to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

The Board wanted Mr. McCracken to work with the Administrator more about this program.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Bryant opened the public hearing. Mrs. Lapensee stated that there is a mistake in the zoning resolution that pertains to Sections 62.1, 66.1, 70.1, 74.1, 78.1, 82.1 and 92.1 use regulations. She stated that the code reads in all of these sections that there are setbacks for agricultural uses for lots "over" 5 acres in size. She stated that we cannot regulate agricultural uses for properties over 5 acres in size and that the code section should read "under" 5 acres in size. She stated that this was heard by the Regional Planning Commission at their January meeting and the Symmes Township Zoning Commission at their January meeting.

Mr. Bryant asked if anyone else had any other comments or would like to speak for or against the code changes. There were none. Mr. Bryant closed the public hearing.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

Receipts 71693 - 71945 totaling \$562,065.40 were read and approved for payment by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Beck. Motion passes.

REPORTS

KEVIN MCDONOUGH, LAW DIRECTOR had no report at this time.

LIEUTENANT TORY SMITH had no report at this time. Mr. Smith stated that he would forward the February stats to Mrs. Lapensee when he received them.

CHIEF OTT HUBER stated that it is time again to renew and adopt the new version of the Ohio Fire Code. Chief Huber stated that their office has completed the accreditation process and they have planned a strategic planning session for March 21st asking for input on their plan from the community and the trustees. Chief Huber stated that Sam's Club was purchased by Home Décor and they went over their fire suppression system with the new buyers and worked with BUSTER to remove their underground tanks. Chief Huber also reported that he and his staff met with the Administrator and Director of Public Works to talk about security for the parks and all of the township buildings. He stated that they also practiced their Point of Distribution for drug dispensing during an emergency. Chief Huber stated that he has also been working on signage for emergency personnel and the community that would alert drivers to the address range on Montgomery Road. The signs have the address and logo for the township on them. They would be installed at every intersection and the mid-block. He stated that the cost will be around \$4,900.00. He stated that we could also do more signage on Loveland Madeira Road and Fields Ertel Road. Chief Huber reported that they are working on an automatic mutual aid agreement with the Madeira Indian Hill Fire Department for those properties that are owned by Indian Hill that are located in Symmes Township (i.e. Grand Valley, skating rink and shooting range).

BILL PITMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS was absent.

COMMITTEE - OTHER - Finance Committee. Ms. Sims reported that she went over the year-end report for 2017 and the appropriations for 2018. She went over future expenses for 2018 and 2019 with the committee. Ms. Leis asked Ms. Sims to mail her packets to her home in the future when the committee meets.

HEARING FROM RESIDENTS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

See Attached.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- Annual TIF Meeting – Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.
- The Great Symmes Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 11:30 HOB.
- Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting – Monday, April 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
- Regular Trustees Meeting – Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve the reappointment of David Kapor to the Loveland Symmes Fire Board of Directors with the term of April 1, 2018 through December 31, 2021. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to dispose of the surplus equipment and sell the workout equipment to Stonelick Township for \$1.00. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Mr. Bryant asked the Board to set a date for the work session to discuss multiple items and the proposed road levy. Mr. Beck suggested March 19 at 5:00 p.m. and again on March 26 at 7:00 p.m. The Board agreed.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to allow the Township Administrator to sign the certification form for CareWorksComp to secure group rating through the Ohio Township Association and pay the related fees. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to allow staff to advertise for the 2018 paving program for March 17th and 24th with a bid opening on March 29th. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to accept the resignation of Bill Pitman from the District 2 Integrating Committee. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to appoint two representatives to the Tax Incentive Review Council – Phil Beck and Carol Sims. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Mr. Bryant asked for discussion concerning the interpretive signs for Camp Dennison. Mrs. Lapensee stated that she received an email from Harvey Olff asking that their group be allowed to install interpretive signs in the Camp Dennison area. She stated that these signs would represent locations of historic events or buildings from when the camp was still located in the area. She stated that she passed on the email received from Harvey of the locations and what the signs would look like. Ms. Leis suggested that we send this information to the Civic League and let them be the judge of what they want to see in Camp Dennison. The Board instructed the Administrator to make contact with the Civic League to see if they were interested in Harvey putting up the signs around their area.

Mr. Bryant asked for discussion concerning sidewalks on Union Cemetery Road. Mrs. Lapensee stated that she had received an email from a resident that lives off Union Cemetery Road asking the Board to install sidewalks on Union Cemetery from where the sidewalk ends now at Royal Field up to Montgomery Road so they could safely walk down Union Cemetery Road to access the parks and the business district. The Board stated that they would like to talk more about this in the work session planned.

Mr. Bryant asked for discussion concerning solid waste pick-up. Mrs. Lapensee stated that she and Bill met with Rumpke to discuss lowering the rates for the residents who are already Rumpke customers and for anyone who would like to switch. She stated that they are willing to drop their prices down to \$18.55 per month and that would include recycling. She stated that recycling would be every other week and the resident could pick from the three sizes they have available for containers. She asked if the Board would be willing to go with the new prices that Rumpke has offered in lieu of going out for bids for trash removal. The Board stated that they would like to talk more about this in the work session planned.

Mr. Bryant asked for discussion for a request to show support for Autism Awareness. Mrs. Lapensee stated that we received an email asking that we show support for Autism Awareness by lighting all of our landmarks with blue lights during the month of April or just on April 2nd. The Board agreed to support the awareness by lighting up the administration building with blue lights during the month of April.

Mr. Bryant asked for discussion concerning Zoning Commission and Beautification committee appointments. Mrs. Lapensee asked the Board what they wanted to do next for committee appointments. They have received three applications to date. The Board agreed to interview the candidates at the next meeting in April.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution F2018-01 – Resolution Approving Permanent Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2018. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

Mr. Bryant asked if the appropriations had increased from temporary appropriations. Ms. Sims stated that the new amount will be \$10,461,182.00 which is up a bit from the temporary amount.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Ms. Leis - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution Z2018-02 – Resolution to Amend Section 62.1, 66.1, 70.1, 74.1, 78.1, 82.1 and 92.1 Use Regulations of the Symmes Township Zoning Resolution and Dispensing with the Second Reading. Ms. Leis seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Ms. Leis - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution G2018-27 – Resolution Authorizing the Township Administrator to Sign a Community Event License Agreement with the Little Miami River Chamber Alliance for use of Symmes Park and Home of the Brave Park for the Firecracker Festival for June 30th 2018. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

Mrs. Lapensee stated that this is their annual agreement with the Chamber of Commerce to use Symmes Park and Home of the Brave Park for the firecracker festival. She stated that this will be the third year for this event and it will be held on June 30th from 3:00 until 11:00 p.m.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Ms. Leis - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution G2018-28 – Resolution Authorizing the Township Administrator to Sign a Community Event License Agreement with Nest Community Learning Center for Use of Symmes Park and Home of the Brave Park for the Nest Kids Ninja Challenge for October 13th 2018. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

Mrs. Lapensee stated that this will be the second event for NEST in Symmes Park and this agreement will authorize them to use the park once again for their event which will be held on October 13th.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Ms. Leis - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution G2018-29 - Resolution Rescinding Resolution G2018-05 and Appointing Bill Pitman Cemetery Sexton and Dispensing with the Second Reading. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Ms. Leis - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution G2018-30 – Revising Resolution G2018-19 Authorizing the Township Administrator to Purchase a Ford Explorer and Accessories from Lebanon Ford for the Police Department in the Amount of \$30,656.45. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

Mrs. Lapensee stated that this new resolution reflects the trade-in value (\$1,400.00) of the old car for the new police vehicle that the township will be buying.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Ms. Leis - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution G2018-31 – Resolution Authorizing the Township Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to Maintain Certain State Rights-of-Way Located within Symmes Township. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

Mrs. Lapensee stated that we have been mowing ODOT’s right-of-way for approximately 10 to 12 years along Montgomery Road, at the ramp to I-71 at Fields Ertel Road and the ramp for Loveland Madeira Road at I-275. She stated that we had called ODOT looking for the agreement and could not find one. She stated that this agreement will give us the authorization to continue to mow these areas.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Ms. Leis - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution G2018-32 – Resolution Authorizing the Township Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with LA Supply to Receive Yard Waste from Residents of Symmes Township in the amount of \$10,800.00. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

Mrs. Lapensee stated that this is our annual agreement with LA Supply to accept yard waste from our residents for the months of March thru November. She stated that Saturday hours will begin after April 15th.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Ms. Leis - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution G2018-33 - Resolution Authorizing the Township Administrator to sign a contract with Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) to purchase Risk Insurance in the amount of \$77,357.00. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

Ms. Leis stated last year at this time there was a discussion to take this out of different funds and now this year it is her understanding that is not the way it is going to happen.

Mr. Bryant stated that it is coming out of the different funds, it is just the question of the portions and how it was going to be done.

Mrs. Lapensee stated that there is a list in their packets that breaks it down.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to table this item until the payment of the bill from the different levy funds can be worked out. Mr. Beck seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - ‘aye’; Mr. Bryant -“aye”, and Mr. Beck - ‘aye’.

Mr. Bryant moved to approve the following expenditures and authorizes the Township Administrator to sign any necessary contracts, agreements or paperwork:

- a. Expenditure - \$3,540.00 KOI Precast Concrete Inc. to purchase 12 storm drain curb box lids.
- b. Expenditure - \$4,200.00 River Oaks Services LLC for insect control maintenance on township owned/maintained trees.
- c. Expenditure - \$2,500.00 Enzo’s Cleaning Solutions for a floor scrubber attachment.

- d. Then and Now - \$510.00 Advantage Signs for sign maintenance.

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

SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bryant made a motion to go into executive session per ORC Section 121.22(G) (1) to consider the compensation and employment of a public employee or official, and (3) to have a conference with the Law Director concerning pending or imminent court action at 8:57 p.m. Mr. Beck seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Leis - 'aye'; Mr. Bryant - "aye", and Mr. Beck - 'aye'.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Approved:

Kenneth Bryant, Board President

Carol Sims, Fiscal Officer