
MINUTES OF SYMMES TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 29, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Elected officials present were: Mr. Phil Beck, Ms. Jodie Leis, and Ms. Carol Sims.

Also present: Kim Lapensee – Administrator.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Beck made a motion to approve Resolution G2018-86 – Resolution Authorizing the Township Administrator to sign an agreement with the University of Cincinnati Institute of Crime Science for professional services for a police staffing analysis in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Mrs. Lapensee stated that the township has been put on notice that rates for the Sheriff’s Office will be increasing in 2020 when the next contract will be negotiated. She stated that the billing will be handled differently and will be one rate for the 10.4 officers that are assigned to our community instead of billing us for actual rates of the officers and what they earn working for the Sheriff’s Office for that particular year. She stated that this number will be approximately \$200,000.00 dollars higher than what we are paying now. She stated that she would like for the township to participate in this study with Sycamore Township and the City of Silverton which will also look at the costs of running our own department and what a joint district between the three entities may look like, the cost and if there are any savings to be had by running a district together instead of having three separate entities. She stated that she has asked for information from the Sheriff’s Office to determine what the actual costs to the Sheriff have been and what those actual costs are going forward. She stated over the last few years, the budgeted amount of the contract increases has been 4.3% (16 to 17), 4.4% (17 to 18), and 4.5% (18 to 19) but the actual billed costs are around a 1% increase (16 to 17). She stated that our budgeted contract amount for 2019 is \$1,224,293.06 and the actual costs to the Sheriff for those assigned personnel to Symmes for District 3 is 1,113,017.77. The average hourly rate (including benefits) in 2018 is around 49 dollars an hour. The Sheriff would like that rate to increase to \$58.1048 per hour per officer no matter the rank or experience level by 2020. She stated that the actual projected costs in 2020 will be around \$55.2064. She stated that she would like to have the information that will be generated from the study to use as a comparison so that we can make an informed decision before signing any new contracts. She stated that we can also use this information if needed in the future for the Safety Services Levy and to determine how much money we will need to plan for those future increases. She stated that this levy renewal will be coming up in the spring of 2020 so we will need to start planning in 2019.

Mr. Beck stated that he likes the Sheriff and we get what we pay for. He stated that it will help us look at all of our options versus what we currently have. He stated that he would like to continue and feels that it is worth \$10k to study it.

Ms. Leis stated that she would like to wait for Mr. Bryant so that he is able to hear all of this information before we vote.

Mr. Beck made a motion to table this resolution. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

Roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye', Ms. Leis – 'aye'".

Mr. Beck made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and have a conference with the law director concerning pending or imminent court action. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Beck - 'aye', Ms. Leis – 'aye'".

Mr. Beck made a motion to return from executive session. Ms. Leis seconded the motion. Motion carries. No further action was taken.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Approved:

Kenneth Bryant, President

Philip Beck, Vice-President

Jodie Leis, Trustee