

TWIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO
MINUTES OF MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13, 2023
MEETING LOCATION: 11474 KERAN ST., BOURNEVILLE, OHIO

President Michael Whitt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Officials present at roll call were: President Michael Whitt, Vice-President Michael Darbyshire, Trustee Bryan Bethel and Fiscal Officer William Jones. Also present was Fire Chief Marty Johnson, and Kim Litter, Fiscal Officer-Elect.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was waived.

RESOLUTION 2023-11-13-01: Motion was made by Mr. Whitt and seconded by Mr. Darbyshire to approve the minutes as presented and also the agenda as presented. All voted yes. Motion passed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Trustees and Fiscal Officer congratulated and welcomed Kim Litter as the newly elected Fiscal Officer for Twin Township scheduled to take office on April 1, 2024.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION

Mr. Whitt reported a resident on Owl Creek asked him about purchasing a reflective house number sign to put at his residence. These signs were sold by the Fire Department years ago as a fund raising project. No one present knew who made those signs or how to get them at this time. The Ross County Engineers office will be contacted.

Mr. Bethel reported and showed a picture to the other Trustees of a tree infringing on the right-of-way on Storms Road. The tree is to be removed by township employees. There are also trees on Schleagel Road that the Trustees will inspect and see if any are encroaching on the right-of-way and need removed.

Mr. Darbyshire reported on paving being conducted on Poplar Ridge Road, and he said more work needs to be done there.

The Trustees discussed the paving being done by the county on township roads. Mr. Darbyshire suggested that McGuire and Murphy Roads be chip and sealed next year.

A security light is needed at the township salt barn. The Fiscal Officer will contact AEP to see how to proceed. The New Holland tractor for the township needs repaired. **Motion** by Mr. Bethel and second by Mr. Darbyshire to repair the tractor. All voted yes. Motion passed. Township road employee Chad Miller was present, and he is to contact the proper facility for repair.

FINANCIAL

RESOLUTION 2023-11-13-02:

Motion by Mr. Whitt and second by Mr. Darbyshire to approve:

- a) payment of bills as presented
- b) Purchase Orders and blanket certificates as presented
- c) supplemental appropriations as presented
- d) opening a "sweep" account with the township's bank, LCNB National Bank

All voted yes. Motion passed.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

The Fire report was given by Fire Chief Marty Johnson. He said there is still an issue of the Twin Fire Department not being "toned out" by the Ross County Sheriff when there is a motor vehicle accident in the township.

The street light overlooking the fire department parking lot is not working. There is an issue about whether or not this is a community light or a private light. The Fiscal Officer will contact AEP for clarification.

OLD BUSINESS

none

Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and seconded by Mr. Whitt to enter into Executive Session for personnel issues. Remaining in Executive Session with the Trustees was the Fiscal Officer and the Fiscal Officer-Elect. Executive Session began at 6:37 p.m. and ended at 6:57 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2023-11-13-03:

Motion by Mr. Whitt and second by Mr. Darbyshire to set the following dates for full-time road employees to be permitted to work 4 10-hour days per week during the weeks between Memorial Day and Labor Day. During the other weeks of the year, the regular work week shall be Monday through Friday, 8 hours per day. All voted yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-11-13-04:

Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and second by Mr. Bethel to remove Caleb Swepston as a member of the Twin Township Volunteer Fire Department. During discussion, the Trustees said this action was a result of Mr. Swepston's conduct at the Trustee meeting held February 7, 2023, and the fact that he did not appear before the Trustees when asked to regarding this conduct, and did not give a reason for his non-appearance. The Fire Chief is directed to notify Mr. Swepston that he has been removed from the department and is to return all township issued equipment. Upon call for vote, all voted yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-11-13-05:

Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and second by Mr. Bethel that a pre-disciplinary hearing is to be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting, December 11, 2023. The hearing shall be held in Executive Session. The hearing is to evaluate actions taken or not taken by the Fire Chief regarding Caleb Swepston since the February 7, 2023 incident at the Trustees meeting, and decide if disciplinary action regarding the Fire Chief is warranted. The Fire Chief is to be present at the Executive Session for the hearing. Upon call for vote: Mr. Darbyshire: yes, Mr. Bethel: yes, Mr. Whitt: abstain. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-11-13-06:

Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and second by Mr. Bethel that the 2017 Emergency Squad be sold to Scioto Township Trustees in January, 2024 at a price of \$110,000. Included with the sale will be the power cot, Lucas Device and AED that are currently on board. All voted yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-11-13-07:

Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and second by Mr. Bethel that the Twin Township Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines be changed whereby the Fire Chief shall be voted on annually by the members of the department, and that recommendation be presented to the Trustees for consideration for approval. The selection by the members shall be made in the month of December, and action to consider for approval by the Trustees shall be at the January meeting. All voted yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-11-13-08:

Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and second by Mr. Bethel that, effective immediately, when a sheriff's tone is dropped for 911 response to an accident in Twin Township that requires the assistance of the Fire Department, the agency first responding and at the location shall be in charge of the scene in terms of controlling traffic and making the scene safe for the EMS to perform their duties. It does not mean the Fire Department is in control of medical decisions; that is the responsibility of the Emergency Medical team at the scene. As an example, if Bainbridge EMS is toned out for an auto accident in Twin Township and they respond and are on the scene with their Fire Department first, then the Bainbridge Fire Department will be in control of the scene. If the Twin Fire Department is toned out and is on the scene first, then they will be in control of the scene. Transfer of scene control among Fire Departments may occur if the EMS Commander at the scene decides it is in the best interest of safety to do so. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and seconded by Mr. Whitt to adjourn the current meeting. All voted yes. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.