

The Chester Township Board of Trustees met in regular session **Thursday, January 26, 2023** in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 6:00 P.M. Chairman Craig Richter presided.

Roll Call: All Trustees, the Fiscal Officer and Township Administrator were present.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Board led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Executive Session

2023-25. Mr. Richter moved to enter into executive session at 6:01 P.M. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G) (4) preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Richter, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, yes. Motion passed.

Administrator Mark Purchase, Fiscal Officer Patricia Jarrett and Chief William Shaw were invited into the executive session. The Board reentered public session at 6:25 PM. Chief Shaw left at 6:10 PM.

2023-26. Resolved, by the Board of Trustees of Chester Township, Geauga County, Ohio thereto concurring that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the benefit of the Chester Township Fire Department and their operating expenses, pursuant to ORC. 5705.19 (I). Mr. Mazzurco seconded. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Richter, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, yes. Motion passed.

2023-27. Mr. Richter moved to terminate the employment of part-time PM/FF Allen Stuller effective 1/27/23. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

Public Comments/Questions

Dal Lanese is requesting documentation showing that certain people are grandfathered in that live in areas in the Township. Mr. Purchase shared that you would have to go through individual addresses pertaining to zoning.

Department Business – Fire

The swearing in of Lt. Martin Neary took place as well as the swearing in of PM/FF Nick Angie.

2023-28. Mr. Richter moved to approve 112 hours sick leave plus five (5) work shifts of vacation for PM/FF Nick Angie. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

Tyler Hoberg and Gary Neola spoke regarding additional MEP Relocation – Contingency Funds / RFCO #16. They are currently seeking an additional \$14, 626.34. A general conversation took place including how and where money was spent regarding the Fire Department.

2023-29. Mr. Richter moved to approve after the fact \$14,626.34 to Millstone Management Group to complete the Fire Station remodel additional expenses. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Mr. Richter, yes, Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, abstain; motion passed.

Department Business – Zoning

Sergey Kats shared his gratitude with the Trustees participation in getting the Resolution for the accessory buildings passed. He stated that he would like funding to advertise and get the public involved at the beginning of future discussions rather than at the end. Mr. Radtke’s suggestion was to ask the liaison each time since Trustees have \$1,000 spending authority. Signage is the next big thing Zoning will be focusing on.

Department Business – Police

A discussion took place about Increased Evidence & Laboratory Expenses / Court Fines. Chief Young would like to have the funds that are going into the general fund allocated to the department so he can utilize the money for outside expenses (crime lab/toxicology, etc.). Mr. Purchase suggested money from 2021 and 2022.

2023-30. Mr. Richter to approve \$209,197.00 payable to Chagrin Valley Paving Inc. for payment of the second invoice relating to the 2022 road project as listed below, as recommended by the Geauga County Engineer. This is not the final invoice. Mr. Mazzurco seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Richter, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, yes. Motion passed.

Project	Amount	Payable to	Payable from
RC-CHE-V-2022 Reconstruction	\$209,197.00	Chagrin Valley Paving Inc.	PO 28-2023

2023-31. Mr. Richter moved to approve and sign the 2022 Township Highway System Mileage Certification as approved by the Road Superintendent and return an original to the County Engineer’s office. Mr. Mazzurco seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Richter, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, yes. Motion passed.

2023-32. Mr. Richter moved to approve an after the fact PO for Cerni Motors in the amount of \$ 3,300.00 to repair fender wells and the prewet system using account number 2031-330-323-0074 Repairs and Maintenance (Outsourced Work). Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-33. Mr. Richter moved to approve and sign the Resolution of Convenience & Necessity for the improvement of Hillcrest Lane in Chester Township. Mr. Mazzurco seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Richter, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, yes. Motion passed.

Department Business – Police

2023-34. Mr. Richter moved to approve after the fact \$1,690.02 payable to Bob’s Garage & Towing for repairs to the SRO police cruiser (2016 Ford Explorer) from 2081-210-323-0301 Repairs & Maintenance/Motor Vehicles. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-35. Mr. Richter moved to approve and accept the resignation of Officer Sean Pitrelli from the Chester Township Police Department. Officer Pitrelli’s last day of employment is February 3, 2023. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

New Business

2023-36. Mr. Richter moved to approve the use of the Town Hall parking lot by the West Geauga Girl Scouts for drive-through cookie booths on March 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 and 26, 2023 from 10 AM to 6 PM. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-37. Mr. Richter moved to approve and enter into an agreement between the law firm of Stefanik, Iosue & Associates, LLC (109 Carnegie Ave Floor 2, Cleveland, OH 44115) and the Chester Township Board of Trustees for purposes of providing the Township with labor relations, human resources, and other legal counseling services. The proposed contract shall become effective Thursday / January 26th, 2023, at an established hourly rate of \$175.00 and an initial limit of \$5,000.00. Mr. Mazzurco seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Richter, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, yes. Motion passed.

Township Park

- Town Hall to serve as pick-up/drop off point for WG Commons maintenance bids

2023-38. Mr. Richter moved to approve the West Geauga Baseball Federation’s use of the fields at the Chester School property beginning April 24, 2023 through July 8, 2023, Monday through Friday from 5:00 PM until 9:00 PM and Saturdays 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Games will not be scheduled on Chester Clean-Up Day. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

Financial Items

2023-39. Mr. Richter moved to approve the financial transactions below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

INTRA-FUND TRANSFERS				
Fund	Amount	From Account	To Account	Purpose
Road	10,000.00	2031-760-730-0000	2031-330-323-0074	Per Onyshko

PURCHASE ORDERS					
Dept	PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
Road	92-2023	Reg	41.99	BWC	BWC True Up
Fire	92-2023	Reg	79.00	BWC	BWC True Up
Road	93-2023	T/N	3,300.00	Cerni Motors Sales Inc	Repair Fender Wells & Prewet System
Police	94-2023	T/N	1,690.02	Bob’s Garage & Towing Service	Repair 2016 For Explorer

CHECKS		
Date	Starting No.	Ending No.
1/31/23	86236	86243
1/26/23	86244	86249
1/31/23	86250	86251
1/26/23	86252	86282
Fiscal Officer’s note: the last check number used on 1/12/23 was 86235		

EFT DIRECT DEPOSITS			
Date	Starting No.	Ending No.	Description

1/31/23	144-2023	158-2023	Reg Payroll/Vac-Hol Payout
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VOUCHERS & WITHHOLDINGS				
Voucher	Payee	Amount	Dated	Description
232-2023	First National Bank EFTPS	26,507.25	1/31/23	Employee & employer withholding – Federal
160-2023	FNB Commercial Credit Card	1,521.65	1/18/23	12/30/22 visa end date
161-2023	Bureau of Workers' Compensation	211.00	1/26/23	Invoice # 2022 BWC True Up

Fiscal Officer's Report

Fiscal Officer Jarrett noted that we received our opioid money. It is possible that we may get more money since Wal-Mart settled. Still working on closing. The bank reconciliation is done but can't submit since still waiting on one account. At that time the township will know what the carry-overs are. Mr. Radtke inquired if the opioid money could be used for drug testing. Mrs. Jarrett is confident it is to be used for education. Outstanding construction job PO's were closed due to vendor changes. Current system is set up not allowing her to use that PO because it is made out to a different vendor.

Donations Received		
Received from	Amount	Description
Edward Bruss	100.00	Pickleball Donation
Lynn Roman	100.00	Pickleball Donation

Open/Ongoing Items

Reserve Study – Mr. Purchase shared his recommendation would be to work on building structures first. Mrs. Jarrett shared there is a procedure to create the reserve funds.

Henry House – Mr. Radtke shared general information.

Property Consolidation – Mr. Radtke shared details regarding the deed at Fire Station No. 2.

Upcoming Items/Deadlines

Department Head Reviews – still active

Metzenbaum Center Superintendent guest speaker Don Rice – will share date availability

West Geauga Chamber of Commerce is having a luncheon this Tuesday at 11:30 AM at the Brown Barn and Chief Young will be speaking. Trustee Mazzurco noted he would attend.

Mr. Radtke met with Lynn Roman, Bud Kinney, Barry Leven and Jerry Kaminski regarding Pickleball. Barry Leven compiled a list as to where we are at and it appears we need approximately \$24,000. Mr. Kinney is looking to see if other ways we can try to save some money. There will be a raffle where there will be a 50/50 that Mr. Leven is coordinating hoping to generate \$10,000. Mr. Kinney and Mr. Leven would like to speak to the Board of Trustees at the next meeting. A package was set to Rich Piraino (real estate agent) to see if we could obtain money from the Ohio League of Realtors.

Discussions

Government Update: K-1/26, C-2/9, J-2/23

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Radtke adjourned the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jarrett, Fiscal Officer

February 2, 2023 motion # 2023-40
Approval Date

Craig Richter, Chairman

Joseph C. Mazzurco, Vice-Chairman

Ken Radtke, Jr., Trustee