



3038 Boston Mills Road, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

## **RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **Regular Meeting and Public Hearing August 5, 2021**

The Board of Trustees met for a Regular Meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

#### **Roll Call:**

Jeff Shupe, Trustee Chairperson  
Robert Luther, Trustee Vice Chairperson  
Janet Jankura, Trustee

#### **Also in Attendance:**

Mike Swanson, Chief, Village of Richfield Police Department  
George Seifert, Chief, Richfield Fire Department  
Ray Hartsough, Assistant Summit County Prosecuting Attorney  
Laurie Pinney, Fiscal Officer  
Mindy Remec, Administrator  
Patricia Ryan, Zoning Inspector  
11 additional residents/attendees

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to Open the Public Hearing

**MOTION PASSED: Luther (yea), Shupe (yea), Jankura (yea)**

Mr. Shupe asked Ms. Ryan to introduce the proposed amendments for the Light-Industrial Office (LI-O) district. Ms. Ryan said that the Zoning Commission has asked trustees to not approve the proposed amendments at this time to allow for further revisions.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to Close the Public Hearing

**MOTION PASSED: Luther (yea), Shupe (yea), Jankura (yea)**

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to accept the Zoning Commission recommendation to disapprove the amendments

**MOTION PASSED: Luther (yea), Shupe (yea), Jankura (yea)**

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

**June 24, 2021 Rescheduled Regular Meeting**

Dispensing with the reading of the minutes, Mr. Shupe requested comments from Trustees Luther and Jankura, who had no corrections or changes.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to approve the June 24, 2021 Minutes as presented.

**MOTION PASSED: Luther (yea), Shupe (yea), Jankura (yea)**

#### **Department Head Reports:**

##### **Police:**

Chief Swanson provided a written report. He updated trustees on the purchase of additional radar speed signs, blood drive efforts, other equipment purchases, and a contract with Nixle for emergency alerts.

**Fire:**

Chief Seifert submitted a written report. He updated trustees on personnel changes, equipment purchases, community health program efforts including blood pressure checks at the Senior Center, and statistics on calls broken down by age and gender. Chief Seifert also updated trustees on inspections at the new Best Buy Distribution Center and plans for Community Day.

**Zoning:**

Ms. Ryan provided a written report for trustees and provided highlights on permits issued, zoning board meetings. She request a trustee motion to accept the final road dedication plat for Allega Way in the LI-O.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to accept the Final Road Dedication Plat for Allega Way in the LI-O District.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Jankura asked for additional information. Ms. Ryan said that this is the extension Allega Way, a new township roadway that connects Colombia Road and comes back out the Brecksville Road. The county reviews the new road, and it will be built to county specifications, then turned over to the township for maintenance when completed.

**MOTION PASSED: Shupe (yea), Luther (yea), Jankura (yea)**

Mr. Hartsough provided additional information on the road dedication process.

Ms. Jankura announced that a tour was provided for a sneak peek of the Best Buy facility and to meet the facility manager of the building. Ms. Jankura described the wall and lighting. She said it was wonderful to see.

Resident Mr. Jim Vocaire expressed a concern for construction noise and an interest in touring the facility.

**Fiscal:**

Ms. Pinney provided trustees fiscal documents including the Alternative Tax Budget that had been submitted to the county, the amended Certificate of Estimated Resources, to include anticipated American Rescue Plan Act funds, and Supplemental Appropriations. Ms. Pinney provided detailed explanations for changes in funds.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to request the Summit County Budget Commission to make changes to the 2021 Certificate of Estimated Resources to include anticipated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in the amount of \$131,148.32 to be recorded to the 14C ARPA Coronavirus Local Recovery Fund.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Jankura asked for information on uses for ARPA funds. Ms. Pinney said that she and Ms. Remec are attending webinars to learn about potential uses, one of which is a broadband expansion project. She said that the township has to the end of 2024 to appropriate and 2026 to expend the funds which will allow trustees the time to make thoughtful decisions for the community. Mr. Shupe clarified that ARPA money would go into a separate fund for use and tracking.

**MOTION PASSED: Luther (yea), Shupe (yea), Jankura (yea)**

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to approve Supplemental Appropriations in the amount of \$204,968.90 as presented.

**MOTION PASSED: Jankura (yea), Shupe (yea), Luther (yea)**

Ms. Pinney explained that the accounting software the township has been using for many years will no longer be supported and will be obsolete. Ninety percent of townships in the state use Ohio Auditor of State Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) software and asked for trustee approval to start the transfer process to the new system.

Mr. Shupe asked about other accounting system options for townships. Ms. Pinney said that we are not required to use a software system but UAN is economical, and is commonly used. Drawbacks are that it is not cloud based yet and that the township would not own the software.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to accept the Ohio Auditor of State Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) Participation Agreement at an annual cost of \$3,660 payable from the General Fund contingent on legal counsel review of the agreement.

**MOTION PASSED: Shupe (yea), Luther (yea), Jankura (yea)**

**Parks and Recreation:**

Mr. Luther reported that Cleveland Metroparks has suggested that outdated playground equipment in Rising Valley Park be removed, and that service department staff will be working on this.

**Roads:**

Mr. Luther said that service department crew has been working on Hawkins Road ditches that have been washing out. He reported that extensive repairs are needed to one of the trucks and proposed a motion to approve.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Luther and seconded by Ms. Jankura to approve payment of \$5,778.78 to Valley Ford Truck from the Road and Bridge Fund for repairs to the 2014 F550

**MOTION PASSED: Luther (yea), Shupe, (yea), Jankura (yea)**

Mr. Luther reported that a culvert pipe repair is needed on Kiowa Road that may damage the road and is backing up onto residents' properties.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Luther and seconded by Ms. Jankura to approve the Culvert Pipe Repair on Kiowa Road at an amount not to exceed \$7,700 payable to Cardinal Asphalt Company Inc. from the Road and Bridge Fund

**MOTION PASSED: Jankura (yea), Shupe, (yea), Luther (yea)**

**Administration:**

Ms. Remec reported the bid for road salt received from ODOT. Cargill was awarded the bid at \$39.23 per ton for salt, which is down from \$55.91 last year. Ms. Remec requested a motion to approve payments on an invoice from Brouse McDowell.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther approval payment of \$4,080 to Brouse McDowell from the general fund.

**MOTION PASSED: Shupe (yea), Luther, (yea), Jankura (yea)**

Ms. Remec said the township is required to register to receive the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act by September 4, 2021. To complete this, the township must designate the Authorized Representative for acceptance of the funds on behalf of the township and also the Grant Contact for administrative purposes.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to authorize Administrator Mindy Remec as the Grant Contact, and Fiscal Officer Laurie Pinney as the Authorized Representative to accept American Rescue Plan Act Local Fiscal Recovery Funds on behalf of Richfield Township.

**MOTION PASSED: Shupe (yea), Jankura, (yea), Luther (yea)**

Ms. Remec provided information from initial meetings on use of the ARPA funds and potential uses including the broadband expansion project by Summit County.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Announcements:**

Ms. Remec said that the Richfield Joint Recreation District (RJRD) has asked for some consideration from the township for sub-granting ARPA funds to RJRD because of loss of revenue due to COVID-19.

Trustees concurred to continue to explore this possibility. Mr. Shupe said the village also received this same request.

**Citizens Forum:**

Mr. Don Faulhaber, Mr. Paul Caruso, and Mr. Jim Vocaire spoke about concerns with development in the LI-O specifically citing lighting, construction noise, and protection of the surrounding residential area.

Mr. Hamid Homaee asked for consideration for fiber optic lines due to internet connectivity issues with Spectrum for his neighborhood. Ms. Remec and Ms. Pinney provided more information on Summit County's broadband expansion program.

Mr. Don Laubacher asked Ms. Remec about restrictions on ARPA use funds and whether they are still being defined. He requested budget documents be provided.

**MOTION by:** Mr. Shupe and seconded by Mr. Luther to enter into Executive Session for the Discussion of Certain Personnel Matters to consider the appointment of a public employee or official per ORC 121.22(g)(1) at 8:03 p.m.

**MOTION PASSED: Luther (yea), Shupe, (yea), Jankura (yea)**

Trustees exited executive session immediately 8:03 p.m. because applicant to be interviewed had to leave the meeting.

**Township Corner Article:** Mr. Shupe will write the article for September.

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION by:** Mr. Luther and seconded by Ms. Jankura to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

**MOTION PASSED: Jankura (yea), Luther (yea), Shupe (yea)**

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Trustee

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Secretary