



3038 Boston Mills Road, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 29, 2022

The Board of Trustees met for a Rescheduled Regular Meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. This meeting was held remotely via Microsoft Teams software.

Roll Call:

Janet Jankura
Robert Luther
Don Laubacher

Also in Attendance:

Paul Fister, Assistant Chief, Village of Richfield Police Department
Laurie Pinney, Fiscal Officer
Mindy Lott, Township Administrator
Patricia Ryan, Zoning Inspector
1 additional residents/attendees

Approval of Minutes:

May 5, 2022 Regular Meeting

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

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther to approve the May 5, 2022, Minutes as presented.

MOTION PASSED: Laubacher (yea), Jankura (yea), Luther (yea)

Department Head Reports:

Police:

Assistant Police Chief Fister reported on behalf of Chief Swanson. He informed trustees about Safety Town, National Police Week held May 11-16, policy and procedure reviews, and new fireworks legislation

Fire:

Assistant Police Chief Fister reported on behalf of Chief Seifert. He updated trustees on personnel promotions and additions, trainings, and equipment updates. He announced launching a new department Facebook page, Richfield Fire Department Summit County Ohio, programs at Revere Schools, and calls for service.

Zoning:

Ms. Ryan provided a written report for trustees and updated them on permits issued in May and June. She also informed trustees that the Zoning Commission is working on text amendments that will be forwarded to the Summit County Planning Commission. She updated trustees on ongoing Board of Zoning Appeals cases.

Fiscal:

Ms. Pinney requested payment approval for a state audit invoice. The audit was filed, and we are waiting for the state auditor's acceptance and comments.

Ms. Pinney reviewed the 2023 Alternative Tax Budget with Trustees. She thanked residents for supporting the Road and Bridge Levy. Ms. Pinney spoke about known expenses as well as likely

increases in costs due to inflation and medical insurance. She said that the township typically uses the CPI-W index for cost-of-living increases, which is currently at 8.6 percent.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther approve payment of \$2,560 to Charles Harris and Associates, Inc. from the general fund for the 2020-2021 audit.

MOTION PASSED: Jankura (yea), Laubacher (yea), Luther (yea)

Ms. Jankura asked how a gas tax holiday would impact the budget. Ms. Pinney spoke about the proposals for federal and state gas tax holidays. The township receives between \$130,000 and \$140,000 annually from the state gas tax. A 90-day tax holiday would impact the township by losing between \$32,000 and \$35,000. These funds are used for many things including road salt. Governor DeWine has said he is not in support of the tax holiday.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther approve the 2023 Richfield Township Alternative Tax Budget.

MOTION PASSED: Laubacher (yea), Luther (yea), Jankura (yea)

Parks:

Mr. Laubacher said that the Richfield Heritage Preserve had a successful open house on June 12 that he and Ms. Jankura attended. A second open house is planned for September. These events are a part of developing their strategic plan. The survey for the strategic plan can be found on the Richfield Heritage Preserve website.

Roads:

Mr. Luther said regular mowing and maintenance is being completed. He spoke about the parking issues on Columbia Road.

Ms. Lott spoke about the options for dealing with the parking issue which include passing legislation to allow our police department to enforce a no parking area on Columbia Road. The second option would be to place a barrier along the roadway to prevent trucks parking. Police Chief Swanson is in support of passing legislation to prohibit parking along the entirety of the township's portion of Columbia Road in the Joint Economic Development District. Trustees concurred support of legislation and directed Ms. Lott to draft a resolution for the next meeting.

Administration:

Ms. Lott reported that paving was completed in Kings Forest. The contractor came back out to fix a low spot that was observed by Service Department Foreman Jerry Schall. Ms. Lott requested a motion to approve payment of the first invoice received.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther approve payment of \$197,725.00 from Purchase Order 20033 to Barbicas Construction Co., Inc. for the 2022 paving maintenance program.

MOTION PASSED: Luther (yea), Jankura (yea), Laubacher (yea)

Ms. Lott reported Cardinal Asphalt completed the parking lot paving maintenance. She also reported repairs needed to township equipment and requested a motion to approve the payment.

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther to approve payment of \$2,836.94 to Imperial Truck Service from the roads funds as a then and now certificate for repair and maintenance of the backhoe and the Freightliner truck.

MOTION PASSED: Jankura (yea), Laubacher (yea), Luther (yea)

Old Business: None

New Business:

Ms. Jankura introduced discussion on medical insurance renewal and asked Ms. Lott for a summary. Ms. Lott detailed the options for renewal and the reasoning behind the increases in premium. The option that had the least expensive premium, while maintaining the current coverage, would be to increase the deductible to \$10,000 for a family and \$5,000 for an individual. The township covers the cost of the deductible through the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA).

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther approve the Medical Mutual health insurance plan renewal with a change in deductible to \$5,000 individual / \$10,000 family, with Burnham and Flowers as the administrators of the plan.

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

MOTION PASSED: Jankura (yea), Laubacher (yea), Luther (yea)

Ms. Jankura introduced discussion on the Waste Hauling Contract. Ms. Lott reported on the bids received for the contract. There were three options for waste haulers to bid on. The first option was for the current serve with weekly trash and recycling pickup with the waste hauler providing the 65-gallon recycling containers. The second and third options were for fully automated service which included 95-gallon trash receptacles. The fully automated service costs came in considerably higher than anticipated. Ms. Lott said that in conversation with village officials they have indicated they are leaning towards keeping the service as is. The only company to bid on this option is Rumpke, which is the current waste hauler. Ms. Lott detailed the cost per home per month which would increase from \$14.26 to \$16.75 in 2023, \$17.42 in 2024, and \$18.12 in 2025. Ms. Lott also spoke about the Waste Hauling Levy which expires this year with collection ending in 2023.

Trustees concurred that they are also leaning towards option one for the same service with Rumpke. They directed Ms. Lott to confirm this with the Village of Richfield and to place the topic on the August meeting agenda for further discussion and action.

Announcements:

Ms. Lott announced chipping is next week starting on July 5, 2022, the regular July trustee meeting will be cancelled, and the August meeting will be rescheduled for Tuesday, August 2, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Requests:

Mr. Laubacher asked about timing for placing the Waste Hauling Levy on the ballot. Trustees concurred to place at the earliest opportunity in 2023.

Township Corner Article: Mr. Laubacher is scheduled to write the article for August.

Adjournment:

MOTION by: Ms. Jankura and seconded by Mr. Luther to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

MOTION PASSED: Jankura (yea), Luther (yea), Laubacher (yea)

Trustee

Secretary