



TRUSTEES: Don Barto, Sr. 517.581.6871  
Kellie Schlachter 419.350.2945  
Mark Schuster 419.466.9884

FISCAL OFFICER: Michele Nowakowski 419.410.8304

2469 Shoreland Avenue, Toledo, OH 43611, 419.726.6621, Fax 419.727.9833 <http://www.washington-twp.com>

# REGULAR MEETING MAY 24, 2022

Mr. Barto called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Mr. Barto yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes, Mr. Schuster yes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for school shooting.

## **Fiscal Officer**

Michele Nowakowski

## **Department Heads Present**

Chief Kay - Fire

Chief Kaiser - Police

Leo Britton – Zoning

Rick Phillips – Roads Manager

## **MOTION: APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING May 10, 2022.**

Mr. Barto moved; Mr. Schuster seconded.

Trustee Schlachter wanted to make some clarification regarding remarks from the last meeting that took place when she had to leave it early. We try and type the minutes as spoken so she wanted some clarification regarding a few things that were said.

Trustee Schlachter states that at the time when the policies were approved, they were approved by all three trustees at the time was Leo, Mark and herself which was at the meeting last meeting of 2020. Trustee Barto interrupts and asks Trustee Schlachter and ask her if she approves the meeting minutes as they were written or not? She states she just wants some clarification. Trustee Barto ask again do you approve the minutes or not? She states no I do not. Trustee Barto ask ok then go on with the roll call please.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster yes,

Mrs. Schlachter states she wants to finish her statement. The minutes that she read need clarification. The policies were approved by Mark, Leo and myself at the last meeting of 2021. Also, I am not on the township insurance, I don't know why that was said and that saves the township around \$8,000.00 a year. Also, Shelly has always had administration rights to the website to post so I am not sure why it was said that she couldn't. Trustee Schuster replies I am sorry Kellie what are you referring to? Trustee Schlachter replies when I read the meeting minutes that Kim sent out for us to read there was three things in there that I needed to clarify. One was about the policies they were approved by myself, you and Leo at the last meeting of 2021. Also, you mentioned Mark that I was on the township health insurance, which I am not. Then Shelly mentioned about admin rights and posting on the website. Shelly stated she couldn't post her stuff but that's now true she always was able to post and it didn't need approved. So, I am not sure why this stuff was said. I just wanted to clarify these items because they were not true and I was unable to clarify it at the time because I had to leave the meeting early. Mark states ok I remember now. Trustee Barto says Mark when the Lexipol policy was put in place you had stated at the last meeting that you voted no on putting Lexipol in place but you did vote yes. Trustee Schlachter states Mark when we were working on the polices in Lexipol last year and Leo sent the general one and gave us a couple weeks to review them and asked if we had any changes or questions to get back to him and then at the last meeting in December, we approved those after they came back from John and we all three approved those. **Roll called continued.**

Trustee Schlachter abstain, Mr. Barto yes.

## **Trustee Barto REPORTS**

Trustee and department heads reports can be found online at Washington-twp.com

### **Shelly Nowakowski – Fiscal Officer**

Shelly states she was under the assumption that I needed the approval for posting because I was told to put it in a draft and send it. I remember in a meeting that one trustee had to approve. Trustee Schachter replies no you always had admin rights. I think I told you to go ahead and post. I was the lead at first and Leo but then you were ok to. It's just a misunderstanding.

### **Credit Card Processing Policy/Shelter Park Contract Forms**

I revised the shelter park contract and sent to John, our Prosecuting Attorney, for review. Once he gives his reply a resolution will be drawn for both the policy and contract. I also gave him the credit card processing to review.

The ECOM piece of the project, for payments on our website, will need a merchant account to process. Huntington Rep is working with their finance dept. to eliminate an additional monthly fee. This additional account will process all fund's website payments for shelter/tow lot & permits.

### **Resolution**

#### 1) Request to Create New Fund for Special Assessments on Energy Improvement Project

The resolutions that were given by Josh Strickland to pass the Special Energy Improvement Projects, have been submitted. These resolutions state the amount the home owner requesting this assistance, will be assessed. The Township will receive the assessed amount directly from the County and an invoice will be received to pay. A new fund is needed to receipt in this semiannual assessment. We must have a resolution to request this fund from the State Auditor's office.

## **Blessing Roof**

At our last meeting, it was asked that I look for ways to pay for a new roof on Blessing. OPWC 0% interest loans are not given for roofs. I checked with the prosecuting attorney to see if ARPA money could be used as long as we follow the Uniformed Guidance standards.

He responded stating that he does not advise us to use any township money, including ARPA if the Blessing building is not completely the Township's. It comes back to having the Blessings' sign off on this building. I encouraged Trustees to meet with the Blessing family again to discuss this. If the Blessing building is sentimental to the Blessings, I am sure they would not want to see the building deteriorate either.

In the meantime, the inside of the building is showing how bad a new roof is needed. If we proceed (without the Blessings' signing), using township's money, we could be held personally liable for paying it back. If they sign an agreement to give up all ownership interests in the building, we may proceed. It would not need to go on the election ballot for a vote, since it is not currently used as the township hall. Our other options are to file to "quiet the title" or give it back to the Blessing family. (Quieting the title means to determine exactly who has what rights with respect to a given piece of property). If we were to file, the courts would determine. This could be costly and it could be held up for months for courts to determine.

Trustee Barto states he has been in contact with the Blessing Family. I spoke to Becky and her brother. I had a phone conversation with them. They feel pretty much like we do regarding the building. They are going to send out a survey to their other family members that are involved and get back with me. They feel confident that they can come to an agreement so we can move forward.

## **Storm Water Utility Fund Reimbursement**

Invoice has been submitted for last year's expenses. I received confirmation from the County and they will process our reimbursement. Missy from Lucas County will need signed agreement for this year's reimbursements if not yet submitted. Received a list from Matt from the County of things that can be reimbursed.

Shelly created a spread sheet that her and Rick can keep track of things that come up through the year that can be reimbursed.

They have to be submitted to the County at the end of the year for us to get reimbursed. Trustee Barto states yes, we have to keep track of the things we can get reimbursed for.

The last two years that I know of we missed out on a lot of money because it was not kept track of and turned in. Shelly said she asked Lucas County who normally keeps track of them and turns it in and they said it could be a variety of people who does it. Whoever we make responsible. Could be anyone from Road Superintendent, Fiscal Officer, or even a Trustee. Shelly would like to make it consistent and noted who should do it so we can make sure it gets done every year. She would like her and Rick to keep track of it between the two of them. Trustee Barto wants Rick to have the street sweeper go through township again.

Shelly spoke to Ruth from Lucas County and she found out that there are 31 home owners that are delinquent in paying their taxes in Washington Township.

#### **RESOLUTION #24:22 FOR NEW FUND APPROVAL FOR SPECIAL ENERGY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.**

**Mr. Barto moved; Mrs. Schlachter seconded.**

**Roll Call: Mr. Schuster yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes, Mr. Barto yes.**

#### **MOTION: ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ORC Section 121.22 (A)(1) To discuss the promotion and compensation of a public employee.**

Trustee Barto moved; no second

Trustee Schuster states he would like to do away with executive sessions. He wants the people to be able to hear what is being talked about. So, he will not second. Trustee Schlachter replies I am with fine with that.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Update on various road pavement issues.**

Trustee Barto has a call in to Monroe Asphalt asking them for estimates. They still haven't got them done yet. Rick states maybe we can look around and get someone else.

### **Update on cul-de-sac and Republic garbage trucks**

Trustee Schlachter spoke to Eric at Republic and he was going to put a request into their insurance company for us to be able to get it fixed. Sent an email to Rick to get quotes from some landscape companies.

Once Rick gets us a few quotes we can send it to them to send into their insurance company. We want to make sure it doesn't keep happening. Republic is going to look into that so it doesn't keep happening. Rick said he got top soil, Trustee Schlachter states but it needs more than that. Rick to get a few quotes to be done right.

### **Omar and Andover**

Trustee Barto asks Trustee Schuster what the status is on this. Trustee Schuster said he went over and talked to the resident that owns the two houses that go all the way back she owns two homes and a parcel to the right of it and she owns three parcels across the street. Then there is another individual that owns a parcel and Toledo Edison owns a parcel. She does not want that gifted to her at all. She said if I own this and it becomes my driveway how am I going to plow this. It is like 800 to 1000 feet. I do not want it. Trustee Schuster stated if we go along with gifting this road to the resident, which she does not want, we are land locking the other parcels. The other one that's a paper road it used to come all around and connect. But a while ago they just stopped maintaining the one altogether. Trustee Schuster said he walked the property with the resident showing him what everyone owned. After I saw all the different parcels owned by different people, they would all have to use what is gifted to her. Trustee Schuster said it doesn't make sense. Trustee Schlachter replied so we don't have to make a resolution or vacate it right? Trustee Schuster says no.

Trustee Barto would like a special note made in the minutes that trustees are not willing to go against one of our residents to have that gifted. If the county wants to pursue that another way, they are more than welcome to.

### **Discuss Records Retention**

Shelly wants to get started right away would like to set up a date with Trustee Barto and herself to get together to go over and then needs to be sent to Ohio history then to auditor. Should be done already.

Meeting set for Tuesday, June 14 Special Meeting 5:30, Records Retention Meeting.

### **Discuss renewal levies**

Chief Kay talks about wanting to make fires levy permanent like police has and what it would mean to the fire department.

There would be no tax increase just would become permanent this will allow them to be able to make a better road map for the future needs for the fire department much easier for equipment and staffing needs. Trustee Schlachter states what residents need to understand that God forbid we lost our fire or police department and had to outsource we will still have to pay for the fire or police. Residents will still be responsible for paying to someone. Having a permanent levy will be substantially less than having to outsource. We would be a more community-oriented service. They won't provide some of the services we provide.

### **MOTION: TO PUT ON THE BALLOT IN NOVEMBER 2022 FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO HAVE A PERMANENT LEVY.**

Mrs. Schlachter moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Mrs. Schlachter yes, Mr. Barto yes, Mr. Schuster abstain.

Trustee Schuster is going to abstain because he is worried that switching to permanent is not going to go favorable. I think residents would go for temporary. I feel permanent won't pass then that would really hurt us. I hope I am wrong. I would like to see the fire department get a permanent levy. Chief Kay and Trustee Schlachter agree it's just getting out there and talking to residents and getting out there and making them understand levies.

Discussion with audience regarding levies and needs of fire department.

### **Police and Fire Radios**

Chief Kaiser states this is a great opportunity to get a good price to go in with other departments when their order is placed. We won't get this price again. Trustee Schuster ask do we have a quote from another brand we can check into? Chief Kay states no because these are the radios that the other departments are getting. We are getting a large group purchase. Saving almost half. We are on a county wide system.

We can't go and get any radio we want. They are designed to go into high heat and fire, they have special encryption that the police need so others can't listen in.

Mark, you said it in meetings before when you told Bryon, when it comes to supporting our job and getting whatever, we need to do our job effectively and safely, well this is what Chris and I's need are right now.

**MOTION/RESOLUTION #25:22: APPROVE POLICE TO ORDER 12 MOTOROLA RADIOS AND FIRE TO ORDER 13 THROUGH P & R COMMUNICATIONS, TOTAL PURCHASE NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000.00 OF ARP FUNDS.**

Mrs. Schlachter moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mrs. Schlachter yes, Mr. Barto yes, Mr. Schuster, abstain.

Trustee Schlachter ask status on BMV Reports. Trustee Barto to follow up on BMV Reports.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Discuss Washington Local Schools donation to Washington Township of the playground equipment from Shoreland School.**

**MOTION: ACCEPT QUICK CLAIM BILL OF SALE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR \$1.00 FROM WASHINGTON LOCAL SCHOOL.**

Mr. Barto moved; Mrs. Schlachter seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes. Mr. Barto yes.

**Discuss Roads Department personnel changes and compensation.**

**MOTION: HIRE HARRY THOMAN AS GROUNDS KEEPER AND ANY OTHER JOBS AS NEEDED AT A RATE OF PAY OF \$14.00 PER HOUR, PART TIME POSITION, WILL BE PAID OUT OF PARK FUND. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**

Mr. Barto moved; Mrs. Schlachter seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes, Mr. Barto yes.

Rick would like to request pay increases for roads, part time employees.



He would like to suggest increase from \$14.00 to \$18.00 an hour and increase the snow and leaf pickup pay to \$20.00 an hour.

Trustee Schlachter ask Rick how many hours do you and your guys spend on cutting grass in a week and how many people do you have cutting.

Rick replies it takes us 4 ½ - 5 hours to cut Shoreland Park a week unless it is growing a lot then we cut it twice. Villamar Park area about 3 hours. All other areas about 8 to 10 hours. Trustee Schlachter ask what are we supposed to be cutting and what are we cutting that were not supposed to be cutting. We are cutting across from Rudy's, Urbanski's property and were not supposed to.

Rick replies we tried not to cut those kinds of properties for like 3 weeks and you would not believe how bad it gets and all the trash it accumulates.

Trustee Schlachter replies I get it but it's not ours to cut. So, we are paying you guys to cut it and it's not township property. That's why we have zoning get involved they can do a blight notice and that way if they don't

keep up on their property then you guys can go in and cut it and then we can put it on their taxes and we get reimbursed. Rick replies we just cut areas so it looks nice. Trustee Schlachter replies that's what I mean we are paying you guys, using township gas and township equipment to take care of property that is not ours. We have to hold people responsible for their own properties. Trustee Schlachter ask how much time would you say a week you spend on other properties that aren't ours. Rick replies about 8 to 10 hours a week. Trustee Schlachter states when you guys go in and cut it on your own, we don't get paid but if we go through blight process through Leo, we can at least get reimbursed for cutting it verses you guys just keep taking care of it for free. Resident expresses how it is important we keep up and cut the township. Trustee Schlachter agrees but also says we can't keep doing it for free. It's costing us as tax payers' money to do this. Rick went over areas that are township and what are not. Trustee Schlachter ask Rick to send her the list and she will work with county on them. Rick states reason why we cut these areas for the county is because the county gives us salt. Trustee Schlachter ask ok well where is that written. Rick says it's always just been a gentleman's agreement. There is no agreement. Trustee Schlachter ask how many employees do you have right now. Rick replies there is three employees right now one is on medical leave. Trustee Schlachter ask Rick where did you come up with going from \$14.00 an hour to \$18.00. Rick states a Walmart Greeter makes \$20.00 an hour. Trustee Schlachter says in Toledo? Rick said he asked the Joe and John, how does \$18.00 an hour sound, and they said

that sounds great. Trustee Schlachter ask Rick did you check with other townships our size to see what they pay for grass cutting. Rick replied no. Trustee Schlachter ask Chief Kaiser how much his officers make. He replied anywhere from \$20.00 an hour to \$28.00. Chief Kay said his firefighters make \$15.00 an hour.

Trustee Schlachter replies Rick I have a hard time accepting to pay \$18.00 an hour to your guys when our volunteer firefighters who put their life on the line every day or our police officers don't get paid enough. Rick said he went over the budget with Shelly. Trustee Schlachter says we are a whole organization, it's all the township and to be fair to all I just don't think its right to bump up our grass cutters, road department and not anybody else. Now is not the time we have to look at the budget for next year. I'm not saying people don't deserve a raise. We just can't look at the road department and bump them up \$4.00 an hour and then have fire who go into fires and save people's lives that still make \$15.00. It's not fair. It wouldn't be fair to police officers either. That's just my opinion. Whatever Mark and Don vote they vote. Trustee Barto ask Trustee Schuster what he thinks. I am thinking \$14.00 is too low but I can't disagree with Kelly either \$18.00 is too high. I am all for giving them a raise but I agree with Kelly on this one that \$18.00 is too high. What about bump them up to \$15.00. I would like to give Ron's guys more too but we can only do what we can do. Trustee Barto ask Rick would you be ok with bumping them up to \$15.00. Rick replied not really. These guys work hard for 6 hours a day. It's up to you guys though. Trustee Schlachter replies a dollar more is better than not a dollar more. I know we pay our grass cutters \$11.00 or \$12.00 an hour. \$15.00 gives your guys at least a dollar more for now. If you don't want that we won't make a motion. Rick said that's fine just go with \$15.00.

**MOTION: INCREASE PAY FROM \$14.00 TO \$15.00 FOR PART TIME EMPLOYEES FOR ROAD DEPARTMENT/GRASS CUTTING. INCREASE PAY FROM \$16.00 TO \$17.00 FOR SNOW. EFFECTIVE STARTING JUNE 13, 2022. PAYROLL PERIOD FOR MAY 30, 2022 TO JUNE 12, 2022.**

Mrs. Schlachter moved; Mr. Schuster seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Barto yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes, Mr. Schuster yes.

Discuss purchase of two new mowers for roads department.

Rick would like to go with Bobcat of Toledo and purchase two new mowers.

**MOTION/RESOLUTION #26:22:**

**PURCHASE TWO NEW MOWERS FROM BOB CAT OF TOLEDO. NOT TO EXCEED \$13,000.00 MONEY TO COME FROM ARP MONEY. REMAINDER TO BE PURCHASED OUT OF ROAD FUND THAT IS ALREADY ENCUMBERED.**

Trustee Schlachter moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Barto yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes, Mr. Schuster yes.

**Discuss Roads Department Credit Card**

Trustee Barto ask Shelly to get a Huntington Credit Card for Rick for the Road/Park Department.

**MOTION: TAKE OFFICER ANDREW WHITMORE OFF FROM PROBATIONARY STATUS EARLY. RATE OF PAY WILL BE \$22.00 AN HOUR. EFFECTIVE MAY 30, 2022 TO BE DETERMINED BY SHELLY.**

Mr. Barto moved; Mrs. Schlachter seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes, Mr. Barto yes.

**MOTION: APPROVE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS, BLANKET CERTIFICATES, PURCHASE ORDERS AND CHECKS NUMBERED 49519 to 49542 & ELECTRONIC PAYMENT NUMBERED 294 TO 320 TOTALING \$39,524.18.**

Mr. Barto moved; Mrs. Schlachter seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Barto yes, Mr. Schuster yes, Mrs. Schlachter

**AND \$18,864.63 FOR ACCOUNTING, AND \$20,659.55 FOR PAYROLL.**

Mr. Barto moved; Mrs. Schlachter seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Barto yes, Mr. Schuster yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes.

**MOTION: ADJOURN MEETING AT 8:16 P.M.**

Mr. Barto moved; Mrs. Schlachter seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster yes, Mr. Barto yes, Mrs. Schlachter yes.

Approved by:

  
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Don Barto

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Schuster

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kellie Schlachter

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Kay