

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

Etna Township Trustees Regular Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held _____ April 19, _____ 20 _____ 2022

The Etna Township Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 in the Etna Township Administration Building for the purpose of conducting a regular meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Trustee Evans. Jeff Johnson led the invocation and Mark Evans led The Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call showed Trustees Jeff Johnson, Mark Evans, Rozland McKee-Flax, and Fiscal Officer Julie Varian present.

Trustee Evans moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Trustee McKee requested to amend the agenda to add under Old Business item f. Board Appointments for President and item g. Agreement for Professional Local Government Resources (Mr. Vance's Contract) and to move Pike Street that is under Old Business to item a. for Mr. Lozier and move the Comprehensive Plan down to item c. Mr. Lozier needs to leave. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans asked for input on the agenda and requests the items be submitted prior to the agenda being posted for the public to be aware of the agenda items. The roll call was Johnson, yes; Evans, no; and McKee, yes; the motion passed 2-1.

Trustee Evans moved to adopt the meeting minutes from March 15, 2022, the Special Meeting only. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The Trustees have reviewed the minutes. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Public Comments –

Linda Corniola of 59 Trails East welcomed the new members and discussed the hiring of an administrator and what the deliverables are to hire Mr. Vance. Linda Corniola discussed the new environment in her neighborhood and feels she is being targeted by her neighbors and does not feel safe in her neighborhood.

Theresa Ogershok of 484 Trail East discussed the hiring of an administrator and the duties that will be assigned to this position. Theresa Ogershok discussed disaster training and the Trustees receiving FEMA Disaster Training and if Etna Township has a Disaster Plan. Trustee Johnson discussed the West Licking Joint Fire District having disaster plans. Trustee Evans discussed the township having one also.

Tom Cooper of 9752 Lynns Road discussed the bad attitude in this building in a months' time and feels we should all be ashamed acting like juveniles when we are full grown adults. The reason he was at the meeting this evening was to discuss the noise and lights from the Federal Express building along with the buildings being demolished across the street. Trustee Evans is working with the developer. The Trustees discussed his concerns and what could be done to help the residents on Lynns Road.

Alesia Zacher of 79 Trail East discussed her public records request and the video recordings of the township meetings. Mrs. Zacher discussed Vanessa Niekamp's and Bill Vance's backgrounds along with the divisive behavior from the board. Trustee Evans stated Public Records Request are for documents and records not to answer questions.

Mike Wallace of 8961 Smoke Road is disappointed in this board, specifically Trustees McKee and Johnson and discussed what this new board is trying to accomplish. Trustee McKee defended herself.

Steven Paul of 76 Nantucket Avenue discussed the actions from the previous Board of Trustees and the meeting on March 29, 2022, regarding removing John Carlisle and Walter Rogers from the boards.

Steve Perkins of 7352 Palmer Road stated that the township meeting needs to be a reality show and recommended that the board call the National Association of Parliamentarians regarding Roberts Rules of Order and stated it is not good for members of their own board serving as parliamentarians. Mr. Perkins feels as long as there are term limits having an administrator is better than not having one; he did do research on Mr. Vance also. Mr. Perkins stated to make their case, put it to the public, and then vote on it. Mr. Perkins is tired of hearing about the previous board. This board ultimately represents the residents.

Tom Attard of 64 Gala Avenue discussed the bickering and the amending of the agenda. Mr. Attard would like to know what Mr. Vance will bring to the table, whether he will be interviewed, and his rates versus a full-time administrator. Mr. Attard addressed all three Trustees regarding the meetings and wants the board to work together.

Judy Cafmeyer of 29 Roma Court discussed being invited to be on the Comprehensive Planning Committee as a Citizen Advisor and she is still up for that volunteer position. She feels a full-time administrator is needed and also discussed SB52 regarding Solar Farms. She also discussed the Trustees working together and listening to the residents' concerns.

Abdul Ammar of 101 Tollgate Road discussed the noise from FedEx. Mr. Ammar has concerns with Mr. Vance being considered and discussed what he has read on his previous conduct. Mr. Ammar feels Mr. Burkholder is a great candidate and he is also a resident of the township.

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Chuck Bundy of 1025 Tollgate Road discussed FedEx and stated nothing has been done. Mr. Bundy feels this forum is supposed to be for the comments from the residents and not the Trustees. Mr. Bundy stated Mrs. McKee ran on a platform of change and does not feel he has seen any change from her. He would like the board to work together.

Jeff Hall of 79 Roma Road discussed the administration position and stated they need a very good legal background because he is going to bury them in legal expense if they don't get it together. The Trustees represent them and not themselves.

John Kennard of 10785 Palmer Road stated he has been on-line trying to find a job description for Township Trustee and has not been able to find it. He has found the duties for a township administrator. Mr. Kennard feels the Trustees should not be permitted to serve more than two terms. He feels Trustee Johnson should have been the President of the Board because he has been around. Mr. Kennard feels the residents should vote on who is the President and Vice-President of the Board. He feels that one person is the commander in chief and its his way or the highway. The Trustees can't change the past and can only change the future. Mr. Kennard discussed the Trustees salary and the health benefits that they receive.

Steve Fordyce of 10568 Lynns Road stated he is not on Facebook and that he and his wife have been coming to these meetings since January and discussed issues he has with Trustee McKee and what she ran on. Mr. Fordyce would like the Trustees to work together and asked if the Trustees listen to the residents. Trustee McKee stated she does listen to the residents. Mr. Fordyce does not know Trustee Johnson and just met Trustees Evans and McKee prior to the election. Mr. Fordyce has only lived in the township the past two years. Mr. Fordyce does not care about Facebook. Trustee McKee noted for the record that Mr. Evans is not representing the township on Facebook or her. Mr. Fordyce feels Social Media is one of the worst things that has happened to this country and it will be our downfall and does not feel that is the place for the business of the township. These meetings are where the residents come to express their thoughts and concerns to the Trustees. The residents voted to put them in their seats as Trustees. Mr. Fordyce feels the township needs a full-time administrator and does not feel it should be Mr. Vance.

Allen Albrecht of 78 Trail East discussed the Trustees not getting along and feels they are trying to work things out. Mr. Albrecht discussed bringing on more deputies and what Licking County is required to provide from the taxes he is already paying and the calls for service do not warrant additional funding and the township using the ARPA Funds for the deputies. Trustee Evans explained the deputies are allowed expenditures from the ARPA Funds. F/O Varian will have to get him the specific section of the ARPA funds that will be used. Mr. Albrecht inquired if any vetting was done on Mrs. Neikamp prior to hiring her. Trustee Evans spoke with her along with others regarding her. Mr. Albrecht asked if he was aware of the court case against her and that she altered documents. Trustee Evans is not aware of what he is referring to and Mr. Albrecht stated he will send it to him.

Deb Hughes of 129 Pebble Creek Drive discussed the administrator position and feels they were not working together to interview and now they are hiring Mr. Vance. Mr. Evans did not interview Mr. Vance. Deb Hughes has concerns with handling township business this way and it is not for the good of this township.

Announcements and Trustee Comments –

Trustee McKee reported on a burial in the cemetery on Friday.

Trustee Evans discussed Cell Phone Policy, Interviews from administrator, supporting F/O Varian, dangerous curve on Lynns Road, Storm Water Protection Plan, Policy and Procedures, and Park Activities.

Old Business -

Pike Street – Project Discussion

Bill Lozier representing the Transportation Improvement District (TID) provided an update on the Pike Street Project. The project was to reconstruct the pavement, provide curbs and gutters, on the east side of pike street to the stream and then a similar distance on the west. Phase one will be the east side and phase two will be the west side. The township is paying for the design, the TID is managing the project, and there has never been a plan to pay for construction. Bill Lozier has been working with Trustee McKee on finding sources to pay for the construction and they have met with MORPC. When Mr. Lozier previously applied for funds with MORPC he was told that Pike Street was not on the list for Federal Funds although Pike Street was on the list years ago and they are not sure when it was removed.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Etna Township Trustees Regular Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

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When the improvements were made to SR310 and Columbus Street was closed at SR310 and the traffic signal install at Pike Street it made it more important. After it is placed back on the list for Federal Funds the next step would be to apply. The training for this application is in May with a deadline to apply in July with final application in September. This would provide 80% funding from the Federal Government. There is a desire to make it bicycle accessible to get the funding. Mr. Lozier discussed having a meeting with public involvement. The cost of the project was discussed. The TID did provide money for this project with most of it being the excess funds from the SR310 Project for Pike Street. Mr. Lozier believes this phase was initially estimated at 1.2 million. The cost and design of the project was discussed. At this time the project will not require purchasing any road right-of-way. This is a beautification project that will provide new payment, curbs, sidewalks, lighting, and retail. The High Point Development was discussed.

Announcements and Trustee Comments - Continued

Trustee Evans discussed the Reynoldsburg Annexation, installing a concrete pad by the bulletin board at the township Hall, and the park land lot splits.

Comprehensive Plan – Citizen Advisory Committee, Use Trash Flier to Disseminate Information

Trustee Evans provided an overview of the meeting he had with Jim Lenner. Residents interested in serving on this committee would need to return the application by May 2nd with the first meeting being on May 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The Trustees discussed having non-resident representation that would be non-voting members from the school districts, along with Southwest Licking Water and Sewer District and the Fire District. This can be sent in the trash bills, placed on the township website, and emailed to the distribution list. The applications will be turned into Trustee Evans.

Administrator - Discussion Regarding Interviews and Process

The Trustees discussed the applicants that have applied for the administrator position and interviewing any of them.

IT Services & Needs – Password Master List, Response & Performance

The Trustees discussed the IT needs in the township and who should be provided the administrator passwords. Trustee McKee met with Darren Richards of Dynamic Networks.

Resolution 22-04-19-01: Trustee McKee moved resolution approve “Dynamic Networks Management Service Agreement” as presented in Exhibit A. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The Trustees discussed the passwords and who would be provided the passwords. The quoted charges were discussed and whether more quotes were needed. The needs of the township were discussed. The contract has a ninety day termination clause. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote. Trustee McKee will work with Dynamic Networks.

New Business

Sheriff Deputies – Fleet Vehicle Wash & Business Cards, Update on Additional Deputies

Trustees Evans has checked with Moo Moo Car Wash on providing the Etna Deputies with a Fleet Vehicle Wash account.

Trustee Evans moved to approve opening a fleet account with Moo Moo Car Wash for the purpose of washing the deputies’ vehicles. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: This item could not be added to the contract with the Licking County Sheriff’s Office. This is for our township vehicles. The closest car wash is located in Newark but the deputies are by it. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee Evans discussed ordering the deputies business cards.

Trustee Evans moved to pay for or reimburse the cost of the deputies’ business cards up to one hundred and twenty-five dollars per year each. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The design of the cards was discussed and whether they should have Licking County Sheriff and Etna Township on the cards. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

ODOT Salt Contract Resolution

Trustee Evans presented the information for the ODOT Salt Contract.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

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Etna Township Trustees Regular Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held April 19, 20 2022

Resolution 22-04-19-02: Trustee Evans moved “Resolution Authorizing Participation in the ODOT Road Salt Contracts Awarded in 2022”. The motion was seconded by Johnson. Discussion: This will be for 1,000 ton. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Subgrant Agreement with West Licking Joint Fire District – Resolution

F/O Varian explained that this is needed for the funds that went to the West Licking Joint Fire District. This needs to be done by April 30, 2022.

Use the Sheriff’s Contract for ARPA Funds – Resolution

Resolution 22-04-19-03: Trustee Evans moved Resolution “Authorizing Expenditure from American Rescue Plan Act Funds”. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. Discussion: This is required to formalize the funds being used for the sheriff contract and general government administration. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Move Money from General Fund 1000 to 3901 for 310 Project Bond Payments - Resolution

Resolution 22-04-19-04: Trustee Evans moved transfer of funds from 1000 General to fund 3901 for 310 Project Bond Payment in the amount of \$100,000.00. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Motion to Pay the Bills and approve Purchase Orders

F/O Varian presented the resolution for the purchase orders and the bills.

Resolution 22-04-19-05: Trustee Evans moved to approve to pay the bills and approve the purchase orders. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee and passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Agreement for Professional Local Government Resources (Mr. Vance’s Contract)

The Trustees discussed the William Vance Contract.

Resolution 22-04-19-06: Trustee McKee moved “Resolution to approve agreement for Professional Services with WMV Local Government Management Resources, LLC (WMV)” as presented in Exhibit A. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Exhibit A is the contract and it was reviewed by the Licking County Prosecutor’s Office. Trustee Evans discussed the contractor’s participation in training required by OTARMA Risk Assessment. The roll call on the motion was as follows: Johnson, yes; Evans, no; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1. Mr. Vance will report to the Board of Trustees.

Old Business - Continued

Township Business Cards – Design & Ordering

Trustee Evans discussed the design of the business cards and ordering cards for the new board. The cards designed by Trustee Evans were discussed with the larger logo. The Trustees discussed the cards being consistent.

Trustee Johnson moved to facilitate things better we remove Mr. Evans as President and install Mrs. McKee as president. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. Discussion: Trustee McKee discussed the way the board has been run and the constant badgering from Trustee Evans along with the emails being sent. The elected officials are all equal and should be working together as a board to move forward as a township. Trustee Evans stated has fought for change in the township, discussed the improper administration, policy and procedures and all he has been doing. The roll call on the motion was as follows: Johnson, yes; Evans, no, and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to appoint Trustee Johnson as the Vice-President of the Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The Trustees discussed taking on more responsibility and concerns in the township. The roll call on the motion was as follows: Johnson, yes; Evan, no; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Subgrant Agreement with West Licking Joint Fire District – Resolution Continued

F/O Varian presented the resolution for the subgrant agreement.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

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Etna Township Trustees Regular Meeting

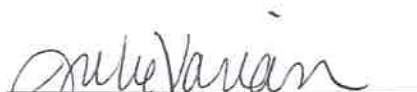
GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held April 19, 20 2022

Resolution 22-04-19-07: Trustee Johnson moved to approve the Subgrant CARES Act funding to West Licking Fire District in the amount of \$309,888.36. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. Discussion: They use this money for overtime when they were running the extra Covid Squad. The township would have to send it back. The Fire District will take care of the part of the paperwork. How the funds could be used was discussed. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Trustee McKee moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson and passed by unanimous affirmative vote.


Rozland McKee, President


Julie Varian, Fiscal Officer

All the resolutions as presented are on file with the Fiscal Officer.