

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

Etna Township Trustees Regular Meeting

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

Held March 7, 20 2023

The Etna Township Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 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 McKee. Jeff Johnson led the invocation and Rozland McKee led The Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call showed Trustees Jeff Johnson, Mark Evans, Rozland McKee-Flax, and Fiscal Officer Julie Varian present.

Trustee McKee moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans discussed minutes, updates on issues, reports, Union, Road Crew hiring, and aggregators. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to set a limit of not more than one speech of three minutes length on the same question on the same day for each Trustee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans would like to remove the limitation on one speech on the same question on the same day. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Public Comments -

Brenda Fargo with NOPEC Energy provided a packet of information on aggregation and provided an overview of their company. NOPEC is run by their members. This is different than what the township is currently participating in.

Jay Sell and John Theibert with Aspen Energy offered their services to the township and requested an opportunity to present what they can offer. Their fees are transparent and currently are fifty cents.

Teresa Ogershok of 484 Trail, West read scripture from Proverbs.

Steve Perkins of 7352 Palmer Road encouraged there be more discussion regarding the aggregation issues. Mr. Perkins feels this should be an opt in program versus an opt out, the communication to the public should come on their letterhead, should go to all residents in the township, current status with the aggregator, provide correspondence forty-five days prior to requirement to opt out and how to opt out.

Steve Slyh of 1372 Londonale Parkway regarding item number three be permanent so it doesn't have to be approved every meeting, discussed public records requests, and providing information to the Trustee members prior to meetings.

Judy Newman of 9630 Lynns Road requested a status update on Scannell.

Gary Burkholder of 254 Trail East does not support the Trebel contract, requested an update on Scannell and requested Trustee Johnson to respond.

Ashley King of 75 Trail East inquired on the bids for the aggregator, administrator resumes, live streaming, discussed the aggregation programs, discussed posts on Facebook, and curbs along with sidewalks that need repaired in Cumberland Trail.

Mark Evans of 91 Olde North Church discussed the records request compliance and transparency. Mr. Johnson removing the lock box and locking areas of the township from him and hiding records. Mr. Evans stated he has to make public records requests as a resident to get information and is still not provided it. One request is to Trebel and the township, the same Trebel that Mrs. McKee appears to once again plan to shove thru with the new contract. He has requested documentation regarding the fees that Trebel has received since they are contractually limited to an exact fee. Mrs. McKee and Mr. Johnson have stonewalled the request of those documents and accused them of helping Trebel hide. He has had to take action and filed claims in court against Etna Township and Trebel LLC as agent for Etna Township to produce these records. If the residents were over charged they are due a refund. This is ensuring what is being done is done for the benefit of the residents and not for Trebel at the expense of the residents. They claim that there are no records when there are. There will be more claims coming if this isn't rectified immediately.

Trustee McKee explained the reason the meeting was not adjourned is because there is business of the township on the agenda that needs handled. She feels Trustee Evans is out of order standing up at the podium as a resident when he is a Trustee, he cannot wear two hats.

Alesia Zacher of 79 Trail East inquired if Trustee Evans has a temporary restraining order against him. Mrs. Zacher inquired if Trustee Evans allegedly assaulted someone. Trustee Evans stated "He was assaulted and he pressed charges." Mrs. Zacher has a case number for the alleged assault. She feels Mr. Evans embarrasses the township and spoke of the stuff he puts on Facebook.

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New Business –

Trustee Johnson explained that John Singleton is out on leave. Freddie Latella is working part-time in the Zoning Office and in lieu of bonding him per O.R.C. the Fiscal Officer is permitted to sign the permits until John Singleton returns.

Trustee Johnson moved to appoint Fiscal Officer Julie Varian as an Interim Zoning Inspector per O.R.C. 519.16 Enforcement of Zoning Regulations. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. Discussion: Trustee Johnson explained that the Zoning Permits will be completed and all she would have to do is sign them. F/O Varian stated, "She is highly unqualified for that job." The Trustees discussed the process and how it would work. F/O Varian was concerned that no one asked her if she was willing to do this. F/O Varian is concerned with the liability for her signing the permits. It was discussed whether this was cleared with the insurance company. F/O Varian stated that Steven Shaloo is still on the insurance and recommended that the Trustees add Freddie Latella. Trustee Evans discussed an email from F/O Varian declining signing the Zoning Permits. Freddie Latella stated he is not taking any money or signing any permits. Trustee McKee verified that Laura Brown discussed this with F/O Varian when she was in the office. F/O Varian agreed that Laura Brown talked to her about it, but she thought someone would reach out to her. Trustee Johnson was willing to withdraw the motion. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, no; and McKee, no; failed 3-0.

Trustee Johnson moved to appoint Shelly Marie Ipac as an alternate to the Zoning Commission. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. Discussion: Trustee Evans would like these to be put out for applications and accused the board of cronyism and hand picking the individuals that the board wants. The clerk of the Zoning Commission, Laura Brown, explained that Shelly Marie Ipac has been attending the Zoning Commission meetings for the past two years and has been very involved and Mrs. Brown spoke with Trustee Johnson and recommended this appointment. Trustee Johnson is the liaison to the Zoning Commission. Trustee Evans wanted to table the appointment to advertise the position. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to authorize the purchase of two laptops from Dynamic Networks not to exceed \$2,400.00. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The laptop will be for the new employee and an extra laptop for the township. These are not the same laptops as before. Trustee Evans discussed the need for the Fiscal Officer to purchase a laptop. Trustee McKee discussed the UAN providing the Fiscal Office with equipment. The desktop is what was provided by UAN. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes. The motion passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to add one cell phone to the township's plan with T-mobile not to exceed sixty-nine dollars per month. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans inquired on who the cell phone will be for. The phone will be for the Township Administrator when hired. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes. The motion passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to approve payment of required fees and necessary expenses for the Township Administrator to attend County, State, National, and MORPC training conferences, seminars, and conventions. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans stated a Township Administrator needs to be hired. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes. The motion passed.

Old Business -

Trebel

Trustee McKee moved to approve Trebel EMA with the LOA. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans does not support Trebel. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes. The motion passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to approve Archer Energy Natural Gas program at \$0.5990. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans does not support Trebel. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes. The motion passed.

Trustee McKee moved to approve Energy Harbor Electric renewal at \$0.0699 kWh. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Johnson confirmed the rates because the agenda is different than the motion. The rates were updated today. Trustee Johnson has read the contract and was verifying the rates changed. Trustee Evans does not support Trebel. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes. The motion passed.

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Trustee McKee moved to authorize Trustee McKee to sign the Trebel contracts. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans discussed signing the documents. The Trustees did not roll call the motion.

Trustee McKee discussed Bill Vance working with the township and after his nine months it was determined that a full time Township Administrator was needed. The Trustees have posted the position and have interviewed several people. Trustee Evans discussed the interview process and how it was determined who to interview.

Resolution 23-03-07-01: Trustee McKee moved resolution hiring and establishing the terms and conditions of employment for the Etna Township Administrator as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Johnson explained under the preamble the name is Nita Hanson for township administrator. Nita Hanson explained that she would need time to finish things with her current employer and is good with the state date of April 3rd. Nita Hanson interviewed in February. Nita Hanson is a resident and property owner in Etna Township and discussed her background. The Trustees agreed on the effective date is April 3rd to employ Nita Hanson and April 3rd under item 6 and item 8. Under item 18 the resolution shall become effective on or as of March 7th, 2023. The rate of pay in the resolution is one hundred and thirty thousand dollars per calendar year. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; motion passed 2-1.

Fiscal Officer Report -

Trustee McKee moved to approve the January 2023 bank reconciliation as submitted by the Fiscal Officer. The motion was seconded Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The Trustees reviewed what was submitted. The roll call was as follows: Evans, abstained; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; motion passed 2 yes and 1 abstained.

Resolution 23-03-07-02: Trustee Johnson moved to approve the purchase orders as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans. Discussion: F/O Varian confirmed that she is tracking the attorney fees. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the payments of bills as shown for March. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. Discussion: Trustee Evans questioned Bill Vance's payment and Trustee McKee and F/O Varian verified he gets paid on an hourly basis. The Trustees discussed the Brosius and Griggs invoice and they are not on this payment listing. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Announcement and Trustee Comments -

Trustee Johnson welcomed the new Township Administrator Nita Hanson.

Trustee Evans has concerns with the process of hiring Nita Hanson and wishes her luck and requests that she follows the laws. The Schuster's Way dedication is moving forward. The 629 Grant Reports have been filed. Trustee Evans reported that as a resident he has filed in court.

The DVR from the garage was discussed and Trustee Evans confirmed it was given to F/O Varian.

Trustee McKee moved to adjourn at 7:48 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.