

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

Etna Township Trustees Regular Meeting

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

Held May 2, 20 2023

The Etna Township Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, May 2, 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 Mark Evans, Jeff Johnson, Rozland McKee-Flax, and Fiscal Officer Julie Varian present.

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 does not support the limit of one speech and would like the agenda and materials earlier. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans stated he did not have any input in this agenda and discussed items he wanted addressed. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to adopt the minutes from the February 28, 2023, March 7, 2023, and March 28, 2023 meetings as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans does not feel the minutes reflect the actions of the board. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Reports – Township Administrator Nita Hanson

Township Administrator Nita Hanson provided an oral report regarding several township items. The Fred Bragg Memorial dedication ceremony sponsored by the Bragg Family is on May 29, 2023. Mrs. Hanson provided reports on the JEDD distributions, possible community events, the issue with the pond on Smoke Road, acknowledge the great job the Road Department is doing, the help from the longtime office staff, a meeting with ODOT and COTA regarding transit routes to connect workers with their jobs in Etna Township, spoke with a Deputy regarding the increase of enforcement and the Deputy supports the speed signs, highlighted Zoning Department activities, and the OTARMA Insurance renewal. Mrs. Hanson worked with Fiscal Officer Varian regarding the rates on the renewal. Mrs. Hanson recommends the Trustees make a motion to approve the annual anniversary contribution of thirty thousand five hundred and fifty-three dollars and authorize Mrs. Varian to sign the anniversary information acknowledgement.

OTARMA Renewal

Trustee McKee moved to pay the anniversary payment in the amount of thirty thousand five hundred and fifty-three dollars and to sign the check outside of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans discussed the emails regarding OTARMA Insurance and having time to review the document. The information was provided to the Trustees on April 16th by F/O Varian. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to authorize Fiscal Officer Julie Varian to sign the Anniversary Information Acknowledgement. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans has not had time to properly review the document. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Public Comments -

Ryan Davis of 8807 Watkins Road appreciates the updates. Mr. Davis, a member of the NCA Board, inquired on the master plan for the park and how we can plan a park when everything is not finalized.

Adam Kelley of 8990 Smoke Road discussed the pond next to his house and options the township has regarding the pond.

Teresa Ogershok of 484 Trail West suggested amending the agenda instead of doing items under reports.

Judy Cafmeyer of 29 Roma Court is pleased that exclusionary zones are being discussed later in the meeting and discussed Solar Farms.

John Kennard of 10785 Palmer Road discussed farmers land in Etna Township and the farmers rights.

Gary Burkholder of 254 Trail East discussed the delay in minutes, his request for draft minutes, the pond on Smoke Road, issues with the Scannell Property, and township liability regarding ponds.

New Business –

Trustee McKee moved to approve the Park Master Plan for Etna Township Community Park with EMH&T not to exceed forty-nine thousand eight hundred dollars and to authorize Rozland McKee to sign the contract. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: This is to hire EMH&T to start the process of designing a park for Etna Township. EMH&T has worked with Licking County on parks, is on the list for State Bidding, and parks are one of their specialties.

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Trustee Evans discussed the park becoming a major part of the township, whether the township should go out for bids, and having a parks committee. The roll call on the motion was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to authorize the expenditure of up to seven thousand dollars for two radar speed signs and to authorize Rozland McKee to pick the vendor and sign the contract. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans inquired about borrowing the machine from Licking County. Trustee McKee explained the two machines that Licking County owns are not working. The proposed speed signs can be placed in different locations and can provide a report to monitor speeding in the township. Trustee Evans recommends speaking with the Licking County Commissioners regarding the cost and tax money that goes to the county to provide services in Etna Township. Trustee McKee feels this is supporting our community and is a tool to provide safety to our residents. Trustee McKee and Nita Hanson visited Hebron for information on the radar speed signs and they are working good for them. Trustee Johnson has heard from many residents through the years requesting ways to slow the speeders down and feels adding the deputies helped and this is a great idea to have. With the reports the township can go to the Sheriff and use it as another tool to control speeders in the township and the revenue from the warehouses can be used to pay for the radar signs. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Trustee McKee moved to appoint Nita Hanson as the primary point of contact with the Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: This is to be the liaison and to work with the township representative Trent Stepp. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee McKee moved to authorize Nita Hanson to access the township emails to fill public records request only. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: This would be to access everyone's emails to fulfill public records request only. This will replace the authorization given to Laura Brown. Nita Hanson will be the point person for filling public records request. F/O Varian turned this over to the Board of Trustees on April 18, 2023. F/O Varian discussed her office being a separate office and under her control. There are records that are not permitted to be released and F/O Varian is happy to give the records from her email when requested. F/O Varian stated, "She sought the advice of the prosecutor (Office) and he said there is no access to my records." Trustee McKee stated, "She will have full access as long as the Board votes it." The Trustees discussed whether it was the duty of the Fiscal Office regarding public records request. Nita Hanson and Julie Varian will work together on the outstanding public records request. The roll call on the motion was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Old Business - Solar Farms

Trustee Evans reported that a resolution has been prepared to present to the Licking County Commissioners to request Etna Township be declared an Exclusionary Zone for wind and solar above fifty megawatts. The township has received a letter from the Licking County Commissioners explaining the commissioners would likely wait until a project was actually being considered and then seek the township's position on the specific project before proceeding with formalizing any restrictions. The Trustees discussed how to proceed regarding solar and wind farms.

Trustee McKee moved to table the resolution for the solar farms and to hold several work sessions with the community. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans. Discussion: The Trustees discussed holding the work session for discussion on the solar and wind farms. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

New Copier

The township received quotes from Gordon Flesch and Mid Ohio Strategic Technologies. The quote from Mid Ohio Strategic Technologies is for a Toshiba with a purchase price of nine thousand five hundred and eighty-six dollars. The township has used Gordon Flesch for the past nineteen years. The current copier was installed over eight years ago on December 9th of 2014. The service man has concerns with the availability of parts with the age of the machine. The quote from Gordon Flesch for purchase outright of Three thousand seven hundred and eighty-one dollars and eighty-six cents without the inner finisher for stapling and four thousand six hundred and one dollar and thirty six cents with the finisher for stapling.

Trustee McKee moved to authorize the expenditure to purchase the Canon copier from Gordon Flesch not to exceed four thousand dollars without the finisher and to authorize Rozland McKee to sign the contract including the Imagecare maintenance agreement that includes labor, parts, and toner. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans.

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Discussion: The Trustees discussed whether to include the finisher. The finisher units can create maintenance issues. The maintenance contract is the same as in previous years. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Pond

Township Administrator Nita Hanson provided an update during her report. There is a meeting scheduled on March 25th, 2023 with Fish and Wildlife regarding the pond. Trustee Evans discussed the pond clinic held by Licking County Soil and Water and evaluating options before moving forward.

Trustee Evans moved to have a work session on the park pond and invite (Licking County) Soil and Water and any other agencies that are relevant. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee.

Discussion: This for the pond on the Smoke Road property. This area is not a pond but a wetland. Nita Hanson has a meeting with the US Fish and Wildlife Engineer to address the issue of it being a wetland. The township will continue to work with Licking County Soil and Water on this issue. The roll call was as follows: Evans, yes; Johnson, no; and McKee, no; The motion died 2-1.

State Security

Trustee McKee moved to authorize Rozland McKee to sign the agreements with State Security for the proposals as approved in the January 7th and February 21st 2023 meetings. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The funds were previously approved. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Zoning Commission Appointments

Mr. Hayes passed away and Josh DiYanni resigned.

Trustee McKee moved to appoint Adam Kelley to finish the unexpired term of Roger Hayes which started on January 1st, 2019 ending December 31st, 2023. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans recommends Executive Sessions to interview candidates. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee McKee moved to appoint Shelly Marie Ipacs to finish the unexpired term of Josh DiYanni which started on January 1st, 2022 ending December 31st, 2026. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans again recommends Executive Session to interview candidates. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Fiscal Officer Report

Trustee McKee moved to transfer one thousand dollars from other expenses 1000-110-599-0000 to Cell Phone – Administrator 1000-330-341-000. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans. Discussion: It will be one bill for the two cell phones but will be tracked under two appropriate codes. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Resolution 23-05-02-01: Trustee McKee moved to approve the purchase orders as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The Trustees discussed the reimbursement under the indigent funds. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

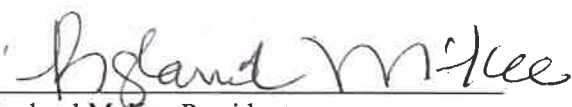
Trustee McKee moved to ratify the payment for the bills as shown on the payment listing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The legal bills were discussed. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

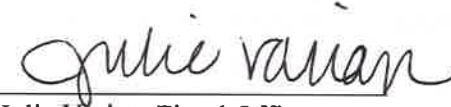
F/O Varian let the Trustees know that the account has been completed for the Special Duty Officer.

Announcement and Trustee Comments -

Trustee Evans discussed the Bragg Memorial event for the park regarding an Honor Guard and farmers rights. Trustee Evans requested the staff and Trustees to work together.

Trustee McKee moved to adjourn at 7:37 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.