

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

Etna Township Trustees Regular Meeting

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

Held _____ August 1, _____ 20 _____ 2023

The Etna Township Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, August 1, 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, and Rozland McKee-Flax present. F/O Julie Varian was excused.

Trustee McKee moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans discussed items he requested for the agenda. 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 July 18, 2023 meeting 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.

Public Comments -

Ron Sabatino of Cumberland Trail Golf Club is the statutory developer that formed the New Community Authority (NCA) for the purpose of generating revenue from the industrial buildings for the township and the TID. Mr. Sabatino has also been a board member from the time the board was created. During a recent meeting there was a discussion about the excess in lawyer bills while forming the NCA and having the lawyer serve as the secretary to the NCA. It was discussed using the Township Administrator to reduce the cost of legal bills and Mr. Sabatino along with other members support this idea.

Ryan Davis of 8807 Watkins Road is the President of the New Community Authority (NCA) Board. There were discussions about possibly considering Mrs. Hanson for that position. At that time Mrs. Hanson had a lot on her plate and the board moved to continue having Kip Wahlers, the NCA Attorney, serve as the secretary. Mr. Davis reported money is starting to be collected and there will be money coming into the NCA.

Alesia Zacher of 79 Trail West discussed Kip Wahlers. Trustee Evans reported Mr. Wahlers is being paid five hundred and ninety dollars an hour. Mrs. Zacher feels we should have someone else serve instead of paying him. Mrs. Zacher inquired on why the invoices for the police cruisers were paid late and feels law enforcement should be supported. Mrs. Zacher questioned why Mr. Evans does not use the township vehicles and why she is paying for his mileage reimbursement. Trustee Evans stated it is standard practice for meetings outside of Etna Township to be reimbursed mileage and he does not use township vehicles. Mrs. Zacher reported that the reimbursement for one hundred and fifty dollars does not show starting mileage, ending mileage, where it was to, and what vehicle he used. Trustee Evans reported that he drove his vehicle.

Teresa Ogershok of 484 Trail West discussed the attorney registration being paid and when she worked as a nurse her fees were never paid. Ms. Ogershok discussed the Solar Farm Exclusionary Zone Resolution and when it will be voted on.

Gary Burkholder of 254 Trail East reported it has been one year on the Scannell violations filed by the Licking County Planning Commission and the Zoning Violations. Mr. Burkholder discussed Solar Farm Exclusionary Zones and concerns with them. Mr. Burkholder thanked the Zoning Commission for the text amendment regarding solar. Mr. Burkholder requests the resolution be presented and forwarded to the County.

Judy Cafemyer of 29 Roma Court discussed the presentation by Dale Arnold regarding solar farms. Ms. Cafemyer attended the Zoning Commission meeting and appreciates their work regarding solar farms. Ms. Cafemyer would like more frequent reports from Trent Stepp regarding Southwest Licking Water and Sewer District and his re-appointment to the board. Ms. Cafemyer discussed paying for Mrs. Hanson's license.

Ashley King of 75 Trail East does not understand the concern with paying for Mrs. Hanson's license.

Reports – Township Administrator

Township Administrator Nita Hanson provided an oral report regarding several township items and community events. The Licking County Health Department has confirmed a case of West Nile Virus on Royalty Drive and the area was sprayed the same evening. Scannell continues to work with Licking County Commissioners regarding the storm water drainage and the other remediation issues and their progress. Etna Township issued a violation to Scannell regarding mowing their properties and it has been remediated. The Township received the second quarter payments from the Joint Economic Development Districts (JEDD) with JEDD1 \$32,988.19, JEDD2 \$211,675.79, JEDD3 \$9,337.42, JEDD4 \$9,028.19, and JEDD7 \$21,346.83 for a total of \$284,376.42. The West Licking CIC Board will meet on August 13th, 2023 at Township Hall.

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Township Administrator Nita Hanson wanted to address that she does not establish the agenda for the Board meetings, and she does not instruct the Board of Trustees of what business they want to discuss. Mrs. Hanson's role is to implement the work that the board wants to do.

Trustee Evans requested a copy of Mrs. Hanson's report. Mrs. Hanson explained that there is not a written report. She has notes for the oral presentation. The Board of Trustees has not requested a written Township Administrator's Report. Trustee McKee discussed the way Trustee Evans has treated Mrs. Hason with the emails that degrade her, calling her names, and bullying her, who would want to work with you. Trustee McKee feels Mrs. Hanson is doing her job and doing a really good job for the township. Trustee Johnson echo's Trustee McKee's comments and does not understand Trustee Evan's emails or his tone.

New Business –

New Community Authority Secretary

Trustee McKee moved to allow Nita Hanson to serve as the secretary for the New Community Authority, which is the NCA Board. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Nita Hanson clarified that it is approval from the Board of Trustees should the NCA Board decide to appoint her to secretary. Nita Hanson explained that when she was asked by the NCA Board she had just started with the township and was learning the role of Township Administrator. The Board of Trustees does not appoint a secretary to the NCA Board this is to permit Nita Hanson to serve in that roll. The Trustees discussed the legal cost for the setting up of the NCA Board. Ron Sabatino explained that it was discussed at the NCA meeting and that the Board of Trustees would have to approve Nita Hanson to serve in that role. Ryan Davis explained that the NCA Board has not had much to do and now that the NCA is starting to receive money they will have more to do. The secretary will take notes. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Old Business –

ODOT Grant Payment Distribution

Trustee Evans wanted to discuss the distribution agreement and the developer is only expecting fifty thousand dollars of the one hundred thousand dollars. This would satisfy Ashley Furniture and the improved landscaping around the building. Trustee Evans also referenced covering the Township's legal fees.

Nita Hanson explained from her research there is no agreement for the developer to participate in the hundred thousand dollars ODOT Grant. There is an agreement for the developer to participate in the 629 Grant. The participation in the legal fees would come from the 629 Grant Funds and she is working with Fiscal Officer Varian to determine the total of the legal fees and proof of payment. Trustee Evans would be supportive of the fifty thousand to Ashley Furniture for the landscaping. The township can keep the full amount. The Trustees discussed needed road work to tie into Refugee Road and other landscaping, beautification needs. Trustee Johnson stated that Ashley Furniture is not in that building anymore and it should be used to work with the new developer.

2023 Road Bids

Trustee McKee moved to put Palmer Road, Etna Parkway, and Heritage Drive out for competitive bidding and to authorize Trustee Johnson to coordinate with Nita Hanson on the Notice to Contractors. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans. Discussion: The Engineer's office provided the estimate with all three roads together and it will be requested for Palmer Road to be broken out. Nita Hanson explained the process and once the township knows the cost then it will be presented to the JEDZ Board for reimbursement from the BIA Account. The board discussed the area of turn lane that was recently paved. The Trustees will authorize Nita Hanson to proceed and if the Trustees need to take formal action a Special Meeting will be called. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Park Committee

Trustee McKee moved to appoint Roger Hubbell, Peyman Majidi, Craig Zacher, Paige Hobbs, Barb Langel, and Debbie Calovini to the Etna Township Park Committee serving at the will of board. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans did not have the opportunity to speak with any of these individuals and there was an individual from Ballman Road that was passionate about serving that is not on the list. Nita Hanson explained the role of the Parks Committee will be to give ideas to the design engineer. The group is diverse. EMH&T recommended a six-member committee. This committee is not a decision-making committee. Trustee Evans recommended Adam Kelley and Sarah Ferguson be added to the committee. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

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Fiscal Officer Report

Resolution 23-08-01-01: Trustee McKee moved to approve the purchase orders as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans did not see any purchase orders to be approved. F/O Varian provided the purchase orders in the folder. Trustee Johnson and Trustee McKee reviewed them prior to the meeting. Trustee Evans recommended using other people instead of Mr. Hagy to transport equipment. 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: Trustee Evans is concerned with the increasing invoices from Ice Miller and being reimbursed by the NCA Board for the legal bills. Trustee McKee explained that is one of the reasons that it was recommended to have Nita Hanson be the secretary to help lower the bills. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Ryan Davis explained that the NCA Board is working with Ice Miller and if the township would like to explore finding new counsel that is up to the township. Trustee McKee has communicated with Ron Sabatino about finding legal counsel for a lower rate, but it was recommended to keep the current counsel until the final documents were completed.

Announcement and Trustee Comments -

Trustee Evans discussed the security cameras at the township hall and when they will be installed, the West Licking CIC has the Hinkle Reports due, and the road flooding in Lakeland Hills.

Trustee Johnson is aware of the issues in Lakeland Hills and he was present at the meeting because he knows the history and has been involved in these issues. Trustee Johnson lives in this development.

Trustee McKee cares about Etna Township and is in the township hall and available for the residents. Trustee McKee sets the agenda with action items and is not here to argue over everything.

Nita Hanson explained that the auditor has given the delay with the Hinkle Reports for the West Licking CIC and will take care of those issues. Nita Hanson explained that Trustee Evans requested she get involved with the issues at Lakeland Hills and there is a site visit scheduled.

Trustee McKee moved to adjourn at 7:22 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.