

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

Etna Township Trustees Regular Meeting

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

Held

September 5,

20

2023

The Etna Township Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, September 5, 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. A moment of silence to recognize former Zoning Inspector Dallas Maynard was observed. 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 were present.

Trustee McKee moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: Trustee Evans requested a discussion on the use codes which will be done under the Township Administrator's Report. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee McKee moved to adopt the minutes from the August 15, 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. Trustee Evans stated "Additionally, and this is very concerning, they contain Mrs. McKee's slanderous statement and I would highly caution this being perpetuated in the minutes, and written down which would be liable, it should be removed, and retracted to avoid any potential liable or slander suit," Trustee Evans requested the minutes be tabled for proper correction to be made. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Public Comments –

Steve Perkins of 7352 Palmer Road discussed the extreme heat and the possibility of using the township hall for a cooling center and being aware of people who might have heat stress.

Theresa Ogershok of 484 Trail West does not find an issue with parking on Trail West and requested if the township is going to limit parking to limit it to the south side. Ms. Ogershok discussed Trent Stepp and the Southwest Licking Community Water & Sewer District.

Judy Cafmeyer of 29 Roma Court was disappointed and dismayed by the two to one vote on the solar exclusionary zone resolution to be sent to the Licking County Commissioners and invited people to attend meetings regarding solar. Ms. Cafmeyer inquired on who is paying for the proposed water and sewer plant at Mink Street and US40 and discussed property tax increases.

Gary Burkholder of 254 Trail East discussed trip hazards at township hall and how the Water & Sewer District will be funding the Wagram Plant.

John Kennard of 10785 Palmer Road feels that development is not wanted in Etna Township, discussed keeping Etna Rural, and not wanting farmers to develop land.

Ryan Davis of 8807 Watkins Road wanted to make it clear that he is a candidate for Etna Township Trustees. Mr. Davis felt the fireworks display was a great time and it was one of the best displays.

Reports –

Southwest Licking Water & Sewer District – Trent Stepp

Trent Stepp submits written reports to the Trustees via email to be transparent. The district has extended an offer of employment to Jim Roberts for Executive Director starting October. Mr. Stepp feels this will be a benefit for Etna Township. Mr. Stepp thanked the Board of Trustees and explained that his re-appointment was instrumental to Mr. Roberts' employment by having the support of board members with two and three years remaining on their terms with the district. Trent Stepp requested time on the next Trustee Agenda to discuss options for payment of the debt that incurs adding capacity for development.

Trent Stepp thanked the township for the fireworks display and the Etna Township shopping bag. Mr. Stepp presented a book, "Stick Together" by Jon Gordon along with sticks for a teamwork building exercise. It is important to stick together and work as a team, as opposed to working against each other.

Trustee Evans inquired if the hiring of Jim Roberts would release Rob Platte and feels there are conflicts with Rob Platte. Trent Stepp stated "no". Trustee Evans discussed funding, TIF's, shifting the cost of school expansion and funding onto the residents. Trustee Evans stated "up until now all we have heard is the Board has no idea how they are going to pay for it and that's concerning." Trent Stepp feels that is a statement and not a question and does not feel it is a true statement. The district has many ideas how to pay for expansion, the board has not presented a plan to Mr. Evans. Trustee Evans said, "It has been stated in the meetings that there is not a plan, they don't know how". Trent Stepp said, "That is incorrect and false." Funding options will be presented to the Trustees at their next meeting.

Township Administrator

Township Administrator Nita Hanson provided an oral report regarding several township items and community events. The Etna Community Days and Fireworks was a great event. The township thanks the corporate sponsors which are Cumberland Trail Golf course who hosted the event along with Uline, Sheetz, Duchess, McDonalds, Southgate Corporation, WinWaste, Licking County Development Group,

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Majestic View Farms Yenkin family, and McGuire Graphics who all participated in some way to the event. Nita Hanson thanked Don Copley and the Road Crew for all they do for the township. The bids were opened for the 2023 paving with Shelly's bid being \$961,439.65 and Kokosing's being \$977,950.67. The bids are both below the Engineer's estimate. The Licking County Auditor's Office accesses the property values. On August 25, 2023, Nita Hanson met with Rob Platte and Trent Stepp to discuss ideas for funding of the needed financing and will be forth coming at the next Trustees meeting. Combined the five JEDD Boards have made two quarterly payments to the township totaling \$653,348.31 and a payment in the first two quarters of this year to Southwest Licking Schools totaling \$527,446.45. There are also distributions to the Licking County Commissioners, Licking County TID, the JEDD BIA accounts, CTEC, and West Licking Joint Fire District. The total of the JEDD BIA Accounts is \$95,018.93. Mrs. Hanson's understanding is that the tax incentives apply only to the improvements and not to the land. The JEDZ Board reimbursement to the township for paving Heritage Drive and Etna Parkway was approved for up to \$650,000 for the 2023 Road Paving. The entire cost for resurfacing these roads will be paid for by the JEDZ Board. The JEDZ Board is working on a process for eligible reimbursements. The Zoning Commission is working on revisions to Article 10 and Article 2. The Zoning Inspector is inspecting the township weekly with the goal of inspecting the entire township monthly. There is a training event on Stormwater on September 21, 2023 for a cost of \$50 dollars a person and Mrs. Hanson would like to attend along with Don Copley and John Singleton. Some of the Licking County Soil and Water staff will also be attending.

Trustee McKee moved to authorize Nita Hanson, Don Copley, and John Singleton to attend the Stormwater Field Day for a cost of one hundred and fifty dollars per person not to exceed two hundred dollars. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: This would be for three employees to attend. Lunch is provided and they will go in a township vehicle. It was discussed whether there would be any parking fees and it was modified to up to two hundred dollars. The event is being held in Newport Kentucky on September 21, 2023. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee Evans discussed the Zoning Commission working on the NAICS Codes and the status of when they will be finishing the text amendment.

Nita Hanson provided an update on Scannell and the issues with Licking County are being addressed. There are no violations with the township at this time. The plantings along the wall will be completed after the drainage issues are resolved.

New Business –

Building Maintenance

Trustee Evans discussed some building maintenance issues at township hall, specifically the doors and railings. Whether Trustee Johnson was assigned to building maintenance was discussed.

Trustee McKee moved that Trustee Evans will get three quotes in regard to the rust on the doors as well as the railings. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans. Discussion: The Trustees discussed the areas that need addressed. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Public Records

Trustee Evans has concerns about public records not being addressed. Nita Hanson has addressed all of the public records that have come in since taking over as custodian of records on May 2nd, 2023 up to August 28th. There are sixty-six of them. There are two requests, that until yesterday, Mrs. Hanson thought Trustee Evans was going to handle. The old records request that existed prior to Mrs. Hanson taking them over would need to be restated for Mrs. Hanson to fill.

Nita Hanson Purchasing Authority

Trustee McKee moved to authorize the Township Administrator, Nita Hanson, a spending allowance of \$500 dollars per month for purchases between meetings. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans. Discussion: Trustee Evans proposed this when Mrs. Hanson was hired. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Resolution for No Parking on Trail West

Resolution 23-09-05-01: Trustee McKee moved to prohibit vehicle parking within the established right-of-way on Trail West in the Cumberland Trail Subdivision on the north side of Trail West from the intersection with Columbia Road and continuing on Trail West to house number 434 as shown in Exhibit A. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The Trustees discussed whether the residents that will be impacted were contacted. There is a safety concern with the golf carts in the community and residents would like to stay to the right when traveling on the road. If there is a special event the "no parking sign" can be covered to allow parking. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

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Old Business –

Purchase of two Sheriff Cruisers

At the April 18th, 2023 Trustee meeting the expenditure of \$140,214.34 were approved to purchase two Ford Explorer sheriff cruisers.

Trustee McKee moved to authorize the purchase of two 2023 Dodge Durango cruisers in place of the Ford Explorer cruisers not to exceed \$139,000. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: This will be the complete package for the cruiser and will replace the Ford Explorer approval. The bidding process was discussed, and these are purchased within the Licking County Sheriff's office. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Award 2023 Road Paving

Trustee McKee moved to award the 2023 Road Paving to The Shelly Company not to exceed Nine hundred sixty-one thousand four hundred and thirty-nine dollars and sixty-five cents and to authorize Township Administrator Nita Hanson to sign the contracts. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. Discussion: The Trustees discussed any repairs that need to be done prior to resurfacing. Don Copley will be working with them during the process to replace a culvert on Palmer Road. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

629 Fund Reimbursement Disbursements

Global Way

Trustee McKee moved to approve and authorize the payment of two hundred twenty-nine thousand three hundred dollars and thirty-eight cents in State roadwork grant funds to AHS Etna, LLC, and authorize the Township Administrator, Mrs. Hanson, to take all actions necessary to accomplish this payment. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans. Discussion: Nita Hanson explained the grant application process. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Schuster Road

Trustee McKee moved to approve and authorize the payment of nine hundred fifty thousand dollars in State roadwork grant funds to Etna Park 70, LLC, and authorize the Township Administrator, Mrs. Nita Hanson, to take all actions necessary to accomplish this payment. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans. Discussion: The grant process was discussed. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee McKee moved that in part of the resolution 23-09-05-01 that no parking will be in effective November 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. The roll call was as follows: Evans, no; Johnson, yes; and McKee, yes; passed 2-1.

Fiscal Officer Report

F/O Varian explained the auditor recommended the establishment of fund 2231 Permissive Fund.

Resolution 23-09-05-02: Trustee Evans moved the establishment of Fund 2231 Permissive Fund – MVL as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson and passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

F/O Varian explained the need to transfer funds and amend the 2023 appropriations. The one transfer is needed to pay off the Brandy Mill loan.

Resolution 23-09-05-03: Trustee Evans moved transfer of funds and amend the 2023 appropriations as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: The funds and classifications were discussed. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Resolution 23-09-05-04: Trustee Evans moved to approve the purchase orders as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson and passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee Evans moved approve the bank account reconciliations as presented for July. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Trustee Evans moved to ratify the payment for the bills as shown on the payment listing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Johnson. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Announcement and Trustee Comments -

Trustee Evans discussed payments for farming and programs available from Licking County and supports those programs. The cooling shelter is an item the township should research. The cameras are not installed in the township hall.

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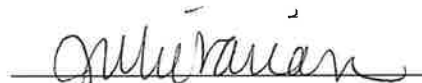
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Trustee Johnson explained when the building was being built using the building for emergencies was discussed. The Fire Department is used for emergencies. The Road Crew has helped during emergencies.

Trustee McKee thanked the Board of Trustees, Nita Hanson, Laura Brown, Road Crew, Township Residents, and Cumberland Trail Golf Course along with sponsors to make the Fireworks Community Day successful.

Trustee Johnson moved to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Evans 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.