

Minutes  
LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, May 15, 2017

**Meeting called to order:** 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Trustee Lynda Bowers, Trustee Michael Costello, Trustee Martin Warchola, Fiscal Officer Shirley Bailey.

**Mr. Costello moved to approve the minutes of Special Meeting of April 11, 2017, Regular Meeting of April 17, 2017. Ms. Bowers seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

**Financial Report:** Ms. Bailey reported:  
Fund Balance: \$2,395,448.43  
Pooled Investments: \$2,148,135.14  
Available Checking Balance: \$247,313.29

Ms. Bailey reported there are no requisitions or purchase orders this evening.

Ms. Bailey questioned the status of the Lexipol contract. Mr. Costello is uncertain the Lexipol system has been used to its full capacity over the past year. Not many policies have been produced and he isn't convinced it is cost effective. Ms. Bowers suggested having Law Director Bill Thorne assist with the policies opposed to paying for Lexipol. Chief Hall said the timing issues of producing the policies were due in part to the lengthy review of the prosecutor's office but confirms they are now reviewing the new policies much faster.

Mr. Savetski stated he wrote some of the policies and feels that Lexipol offers the department the ability to send policies to personnel electronically and have the employees' electronic signatures. A list is then kept in the department of who acknowledged, understood and signed the policies which is time saving. He feels this also helps with personnel accountability. Ms. Bowers inquired about personnel acknowledgements regarding the policies that have been sent out, the department was unsure and will run a report to confirm. Ms. Bailey stated she needs to have signed copies of the policies in each employees file in the Administration Building. Chief Hall agreed to forward them to her as they are signed. Ms. Bowers said if it helps keep employee accountability and with having Mr. Thorne as Lafayette Law Director she is willing to sign for the system for another year. Mr. Costello confirmed policies have been sent out however, they are not being enforced. Ms. Bowers explained if there is a policy and *all* policies are not being enforced, you can't enforce any. The trustees will have additional conversation with the chief at a later date.

**Ms. Bowers moved to approve the Lexipol contract for an additional year at the contracted rate of \$1,623.00. Mr. Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

Ms. Bailey received a notice from the Attorney General's Office informing they are going to stop collecting for EMS. Life Force turns over Lafayette Townships unpaid collections to the Attorney Generals Office and has requested their clients contact government officials letting them know the importance the Attorney General's Office plays in recouping funds. Without the assistance of the Attorney General's Office, Ms. Bailey said we will be losing a lot of money. Ms. Bowers has sent communication to several offices voicing our concern and recommends the fire department attempt to obtain identification at every call to help prevent fraud.

**Service Department:**

Mr. Evans reported:

- Debris cleaned out of culverts after heavy rain
- Mowing of road sides started today
- Preconstruction meeting with County and Melway regarding Deerview Lane project- set to start May 22<sup>nd</sup> providing CSX receives confirmation of Melways insurance- road to be closed for 75 days- road closed signs have been installed
- Assisted Westfield Twp. with ditching
- Ditching on the following roads: Coon Club, Lance, Carlton, Carsten & Ballash
- Replaced drive culverts on Egypt & Carsten
- Mowing, weeding and landscaping- trimmed pine trees at the baseball field
- Removed Snow Ban signs- one sign missing- will need replaced
- Trucks & equipment washed, polished and regular maintenance
- Sharpened mower blades
- Asked trustee permission to get rid of the following equipment parts no longer in use: Snow Dog snow plow (F-550), snow plow- Case Backhoe, backhoe attachment for skid steer
- Replaced lights & bulbs at Memorial Commons & replaced light on backside of administration building
- Replaced flags on complex & Memorial Commons- ordered the flags for the Veteran's at the cemetery and purchased a new flag pole for Waltz Cemetery that will be installed tomorrow. There are headstones that need to be reset and he will accomplish that as time allows
- Kept town hall clean
- Swept the parking lot
- Cleaned & removed downed tree limbs at Lions Park
- Backflow testing is scheduled for Wednesday, May 31st

Mr. Evans reviewed a quote in the amount of \$2,795.00 from the Painting Pros for the preparation and painting of the gazebo at Memorial Commons.

Mr. Evans spoke with Mr. Dan Wilhoy regarding the sinkhole issues on Wagon Trail and Mr. Wilhoy told the homeowner it is the Township's responsibility to fix the problem. Ms. Bowers spoke with Mr. Thorne and was informed the township can fix the sink holes but the property owner is responsible for the cost and having Lafayette make the repair is more expensive for the owner because of the process we must follow. If the owners do not make the necessary repairs within the time frame stated the township will have to take the necessary steps to repair the sinkholes, send an invoice and if the invoice goes unpaid we would assess the property owner's taxes. Ms. Bowers hopes that is not the process in which we will need to take. Ms. Bowers will contact Bill Thorne to draft a letter drawn to send to the residents informing them it is a homeowner's responsibility. She requested Mr. Evans forward Ms. Buell the addresses and the letters will go out from Mr. Thorne.

Mr. Evans complimented his service department staff and gave credit to how hard they work.

Ms. Bowers requested a list of unused, unwanted, equipment no longer needed for public purpose from the Service, Police & Fire Departments before the next meeting. The trustees will take the proper, necessary steps to either sell or dispose of the equipment listed.

Ms. Bowers inquired about the community service people and Mr. Evans said it is difficult because after scheduling they are no call no shows.

**Fire Department Report:** Chief Hall reported a total of 47 runs for the month April (4-Fire, 34-EMS to Lafayette Township, 0- Fire, 3-EMS to Village of Chippewa Lake, 0- Fire, 2-EMS to Gloria Glens, 3-Fire, 1-EMS Mutual Aid, 0- Mobile Integrated Health reported). Fuel Usage: 354.9 gallons of fuel, 2,131 miles were logged on all vehicles.

Chief Hall confirmed the Mobile Integrated Healthcare is still an active program. Lieutenant Blair reaches out to residents but there just hasn't been an interest and that's why the numbers are as low as they have been. Ms. Bowers stated on May 2<sup>nd</sup> during voting they spoke to a number of residents that weren't aware of the program and recommends advertising the program again and getting the information to residents who could really benefit from the program.

**Resolution 12-2017 Ms. Bowers made a motion to approve a resolution supporting the national EMS week May 21st through May 27, 2017 with a theme of "EMS STRONG ALWAYS IN SERVICE" and proclaiming May 21<sup>st</sup> through May 27<sup>th</sup> as Emergency Medical Services week in Lafayette Township, Medina County, Ohio. Mr. Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

Lieutenant Wilfong contacted Ms. Bowers regarding hiring staff that are currently employed by other departments. Ms. Bowers & Chief Hall do not have any issues hiring staff from other departments. Mr. Costello does not have any issues as long as training percentages and night calls are being met with Lafayette Township. Chief Hall agreed with Mr. Costello and stated if training occurs on the same night for both departments that could be an issue. In the past Chief Hall has contacted the chief from the other department to resolve any potential issues ahead of time. Ms. Bowers questioned if there are currently any staffing issues and Chief Hall responded the calls are getting covered but sometimes weekends can be a challenge.

**Police Report:**

Deputy Harhay reported a total of 392 dispatch calls for the month of April. He mentioned the higher priority calls. He informed the trustees the radar detector for car 11 has been received and will be installed over the next few days. A resident on Coon Club Road has requested sheriff department presence on Coon Club road to monitor speeding.

Mr. Costello explained Lafayette Townships early weather sirens are dated and not compatible with the equipment the Sheriff's Department has. When the sheriff's department sends a signal to alarm the siren, these sirens do not report back therefore the Sheriff's office can't confirm if Lafayette's sirens are sounded. The sirens are approximately \$25,000.00. While attending a presentation presented by a siren company it was suggested to include sirens in zoning for developments of 100 or more homes or for every so many miles of pipeline being installed. Ms. Strogin questioned enforcing the developers who already have design phases approved. Ms. Bowers explained we can enforce it if a plan lapses or if they need an extension. Resident, Mr. Savetski recommended a two tone siren to cover both severe weather and bio hazard warnings. The trustees thanked Mr. Savetski and will look into the two tone sirens.

**Zoning:**

**Resolution 13-2017 Mr. Costello made a motion to approve a resolution asking the Zoning Commission to consider recommendations to amend the Lafayette Township Zoning Resolution to require developers to install severe weather warning sirens as part of the infrastructure necessary to receive approval of a new subdivision. Mr. Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

**Ms. Bowers made a motion for the Lafayette Township Board of Trustees hereby request the Lafayette Township Zoning Commission consider recommendations to amend section 307.4 of the Lafayette Township Zoning Resolution setting yard standards for Innovation Park. Mr. Costello**

**seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

Ms. Strogan reported so far for 2017 the estimated value is \$6,364,275.00, fees- \$12,946.00. Ms. Strogan stated last year was a record year and at the rate we are going we may surpass last year's record.

Ms. Bowers announced Lafayette Township's police levy expires this year. She explained Lafayette has a policy not to collect any more money than needed. Ms. Bowers said when first passing a levy, it is set to collect a certain amount of money and if it is renewed its supposed to be set not to collect more than it was initially passed. We have reduced it since it was initially passed so this levy could go back to what the voted amount was and because we have had so much new construction in the past few years, the collection is up. Ms. Bowers explained we need to send for certification from the County Auditor's Office finding out what a certain millage will raise based on our valuation and we have to declare whether it is a renewal, renewal with an addition, renewal with reductions or a new levy. Ms. Bowers will request certification on a 2.4 mil, 2.3 mil, 2.2 mil and a 2 mil levy. We have to have a certification on the number we choose, and recommends requesting certification on all four.

Mr. Savetski questioned why Lafayette Township police cruiser are permitted out of the township. Ms. Bowers stated they are not supposed to unless it is for a backup and the trustees have had concerns the policy hasn't been being enforced as tight as it should be and the trustees have taken the necessary steps to help remedy the issue. The issue has not gone unnoticed or unattended to, said Ms. Bowers.

**Resolution 14-2017 Ms. Bowers made a motion to approve a resolution requesting the County Auditor prepare a certificate of estimated property tax revenue for a straight renewal at 2.4 mils. Directing the Fiscal Officer to request the County Auditor certify the current tax valuation of Lafayette Township Police District and the amount of revenue that would be produced by the renewal of a 2.4 mil levy to levy a tax outside the 10 mil limitation for contracted police services pursuant to 5705.19J of the Ohio Revised Code to be placed on the ballot of the November 7, 2017 election. The levy type is a renewal. Mr. Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

**Resolution 15-2017 Ms. Bowers made a motion to approve a resolution requesting the County Auditor prepare a certificate of estimated property tax revenue for a straight renewal with a reduction at 2 mils. Directing the Fiscal Officer to request the County Auditor certify the current tax valuation of Lafayette Township Police District and the amount of revenue that would be produced by a renewal with a reduction of a 2 mil levy to levy a tax outside the 10 mil limitation for contracted police services pursuant to 5705.19J of the Ohio Revised Code to be placed on the ballot of the November 7, 2017 election. The levy type is a renewal. Mr. Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

**Resolution 16-2017 Ms. Bowers made a motion to approve a resolution requesting the County Auditor prepare a certificate of estimated property tax revenue for a straight renewal with a reduction at 2.2 mils. Directing the Fiscal Officer to request the County Auditor certify the current tax valuation of Lafayette Township Police District and the amount of revenue that would be produced by a renewal with a reduction of a 2.2 mil levy to levy a tax outside the 10 mil limitation for contracted police services pursuant to 5705.19J of the Ohio Revised Code to be placed on the ballot of the November 7, 2017 election. The levy type is a renewal. Mr. Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

**Resolution 17-2017 Ms. Bowers made a motion to approve a resolution requesting the County Auditor prepare a certificate of estimated property tax revenue for a straight renewal with a reduction at 2.3 mils. Directing the Fiscal Officer to request the County Auditor certify the current tax valuation of Lafayette Township Police District and the amount of revenue that would be produced by a renewal with a reduction of a 2.3 mil levy to levy a tax outside the 10 mil limitation for**

**contracted police services pursuant to 5705.19J of the Ohio Revised Code to be placed on the ballot of the November 7, 2017 election. The levy type is a renewal. Mr. Warchola seconded the motion. All voting in favor.**

**New Business:**

Ms. Buell informed the trustees while attending last month's Medina County Safety Council meeting it was recommended that all employees be sent for a complete annual physicals.

Ms. Bowers announced there will be a free outdoor community movie night, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00pm at Point Park, Chippewa Lake with a rain date of June 17<sup>th</sup>. No tax dollars will be used for this event.

**Old Business:**

Mr. Costello spoke with Mr. Nick Arters, recommended by Mr. Mark Albrecht, regarding website design. Mr. Arters sent links of a few of the websites he has designed along with a wide price range from \$3,500 to \$7,500.00. Mr. Costello said the websites he has designed are very easy to navigate and discussed having a single website for the entire township along with a standard format for e-mail addresses. Ms. Bowers said the website should have the basic information and easy to navigate for the residents. He recommends before the final decision is made to have the three trustees, Ms. Buell, and a fire department representative meet with Mr. Arters and lay out all expectations for the new site. This should help ensure a quality website.

**Public Participation:**

None

Cake and refreshments were served to celebrate EMS week.

Ms. Bowers moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Costello.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Lynda Bowers, Trustee

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Michael Costello, Trustee

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Martin Warchola, Trustee

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Shirley Bailey, Fiscal Officer