

The Board of Perry Township Trustees met in Special Session on Tuesday, July 29, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Room in East Liberty. Roll Call; John Brose, present, John (JD) Gibson, present, Kenny Rosebrook, present and Cindy Stalling, present. Also present was Jessica Gibson, Larry Wellington and Dan Coats.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Fire Chief's wife submitting an application to the Fire Department.

All stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

The 3 Captains from the Fire Department, Jessica Gibson, Larry Wellington and Dan Coats along with the Fire Chief do the interviewing of the applicants for the Fire Department. But, with this being the Fire Chief's wife, the Fire Chief has to abstain, and the captains would like to have the input from the Board of Perry Township Trustees as to whether we interview her or not? This could become a conflict of interest and the captains would like for the trustees to have the final say.

Larry went over the references that Ann McElfresh (Chief's wife) had on her application. Larry called all the references that were on her application and talked to them about her.

Dan gave an update on 1 reference. Dan was wondering why she didn't list any of her jobs on her job history, as to working as an EMT or a Firefighter. All job history was working through Ohio Health at Hardin Memorial hospital, as a patient support assistant.

The Captain's wanted to know if the Trustees would conduct the interview or not? The Captain's doesn't want put in the middle, as they have to work with her and also the Chief.

Jessica said basically Ann just wants to come in and cover when we don't have a crew at the station.

It was brought up about nepotism. Kenny suggested that maybe we should make a new policy and include nepotism in it.

Dan did report that one of the gentlemen he talked to stated that he had worked with her years ago at the Marysville Fire Department, and he said that Ann was the 1st woman FF that Marysville Fire Department ever hired. And said that she held her ground very well around all the guys.

John said he was fine with giving her an interview. JD was fine with giving her an interview. Kenny was fine with giving her an interview.

So, the Captain's would like for the Trustees to conduct the interview along with the Captains. All can bring and ask questions. But the final decision being made by the Trustees.

Ann is an FF/EMT-A. So, she can start IV's.

Kenny stated that whether we hire her or not, he would like to see an amendment made in the SOP's and SOG's for future physical standards.

Kenny made a motion to interview Ann McElfresh, seconded by John. John, yes, JD, yes and Kenny, yes

We will do the interview on Friday, August 1, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

John made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kenny. John, yes, JD, yes and Kenny, yes.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cindy Stalling, fiscal officer

Accepted by Perry Township Trustees:

John Brose

John (JD) Gibson

Kenny Rosebrook