

Liberty Township, Porter County
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2021
6:00 PM

Present were board members Terry Dunn, Jackie Sterling and Tim Cole. Also, in attendance were Matt Keiser, Township Trustee, Michele Bollinger, Township Clerk, and Assistant Chief Michael Wineland from LTVFD.

Meeting Minutes:

Jackie made a motion to accept the March 12, 2021, minutes conditional on additional information being added to reflect who made the motion and seconded the motion for the passage of the Resolution 2021-02. Terry seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Fire Department Report:

Michael shared that they had responded to approximately 108 calls in February. There were 78 calls in March along with 6 mutual aid calls. The department is still actively recruiting new members and are planning an open house event.

Trustee's Report:

HB 1476- Matt shared that the bill had been defeated.

Fire Station – Matt shared with the board that there had been some confusion regarding the ownership of the fire station. Liberty Township Volunteer Fire Department believed that they owned the building, and the Township owned the property. After much research, no evidence could be found that the building was owned by LTVFD, therefore, it is the Township's position that both the building and the property are owned by the Township and not by LTVFD. As part of the contractual

agreement with the fire department, they are given use of the building, and they are to maintain it as well.

Matt went on to say that the septic and water line to fire department are in desperate need of attention. Matt is researching the option of extending the sewer and tying into Indiana American Water. Although the plan is to build a new fire station, there is value in getting this done whether the Township keeps the building or sells it.

Matt explained that there had been a meeting with the LTVFD to discuss the idea of a Fire Territory. Matt had reached out to the Jackson Township Trustee to see if there was any interest in exploring this option. The Trustee had responded that much research would need to be done, but she did not commit to a meeting to discuss.

New Business:

None

Public Comment:

Tim shared that the County has rejuvenated their Redevelopment Commission. He went on to say that he believes that the County is exploring the idea of creating a TIF district which includes Route 6 in Liberty Township and South Haven. Tim is concerned that the revenue generated from the portion of Liberty Township in the TIF will not be used in Liberty Township but rather to revitalize South Haven.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tim; Jackie seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Terry Dunn

Terry Dunn, Township, Board President

ATTEST:

Jacquelyn M. Sterling
Jacquelyn M. Sterling, Township Board

Matt Keiser

Matt Keiser, Township Trustee

Timothy Cole

Timothy Cole, Township Board