The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Meeting on February 4, 2019 at 6:30p.m. for the purpose of conducting the business of the township. Chairman Fee called the meeting to order with a full board present.

Minutes were approved as amended.

G2019-14 Trustee Bugos made a motion to approve the previously submitted draft Credit Card policy, noting that the Discipline section will be replaced by the Progressive Discipline policy when the Trustees pass that resolution. The Credit Card policy needed to be updated in order to comply with new laws applicable to political subdivisions on November 2, 2018. Townships were required to pass the updated policies or discontinue use of Credit Cards. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Z2019-15 Trustee Emerine made a motion to approve the Township Zoning Boards, Zoning Inspector and Trustees to attend the Township Zoning Seminar to be held at the Southington Town Hall on February 20, 2019 from 5:00-8:00pm, at a cost not to exceed $250.00 total for all Champion attendees. The actual cost is $500.00 for Attorney Mark Finamore to present and Southington will divide that cost per attendee. The event is expected to be well attended. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-16 Trustee Bugos made a motion at the request of Fiscal Officer Hatt to approve the Valuation and Resource sheet provided by the Trumbull County Auditor, totaling $2,142,285.88. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-17 Trustee Emerine made a motion at the request of Fiscal Officer Hatt to approve the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources dated December 26, 2018, totaling $2,929,670.19, noting that this does not include carry over amounts as they had not been determined as of the date of this certificate. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-18 Trustee Bugos made a motion to approve the Permanent Appropriations, totaling $2,929,670.19. This again, does not include the appropriation of any carryover amounts. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-19 Trustee Emerine made a motion to accept the OTARMA Capital Distribution Check in the amount of $1,863.61. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

 F2019-20 Trustee Bugos made a motion at the request of Fire Chief Hickey to allow Chief Hickey to attend the Ohio Fire Chiefs Winter Symposium and Legislative Conference in Columbus, March 5-6. Total cost to include conference and overnight hotel stay is $263.00, with no mileage reimbursement due to use of Township’s Fire Chief’s vehicle. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

F2019-21 Trustee Emerine made a motion at the request of Fire Chief Hickey to accept the BWC grant check in the amount of $14,730.00, awarded for the Vehicle Exhaust Retrofit for the Fire Station Bays. Total cost for the project is $17,676.28 and the award amount was funded through the Firefighter Exposure to Environmental Elements Grant (FEEEG) Program. The local share for the department will be $2,946.28. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

G2019-22 trustee Bugos made a motion to accept the Township Departmental Inventories submitted to the Fiscal Officer by January 31, 2019. These previously were forwarded to the Trumbull county Engineer’s Office but now are kept in the Fiscal Office for inspection. With this change in process, Trustee Emerine questioned how the Township department heads accounted for inventory items removed from service. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Chairman Fee announced that the Board of Champion Township Trustees, department heads and all employees wanted to recognize and thank Devon Parsons and Nathan Novicki upon their return from active duty in Southwest Asia with the 910th AW for their service to our Country and our Community. These gentlemen serve as reserves for our Champion Township Fire Department. The Fire Chief gave an update on their return to active status on his roster.

Z2019-23 Trustee Emerine made a motion to set the dates of May 2-May 5, 2019 as the community Garage Sale dates. There have been many inquiries into this topic. The permit fee is waived during these dates. The Champion Community Calendar will again be helping to advertise. Discussion was made with regard to how the garage sale and the Champion Clean Up Day were coordinated. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Fiscal Officer Hatt and Chairman Fee jointly presented the Zoning report due to absence of the Zoning Inspector due to illness. The other department heads presented their respective reports.

Road Supervisor Connelly indicated concern that the County Health Department had indicated that they were not applying for the Mosquito Control Grant this summer. The grant could be applied for by Champion alone, but Road Supervisor Connelly believed changes were slim to receiving the grant. Trustees authorized Road Supervisor Connelly to apply for the grant himself after further investigation about collection and testing of Mosquitoes as required by the grant. Chairman Fee expressed concern about Mosquito Spraying due to the West Nile Virus having been found in Champion Township and other areas of the County last year. He also expressed concern about the number of bee keepers in Champion who were also potentially affected. The Champion Clean Up Day was proposed and tentatively set as April 20, 2019. Chairman Fee will confirm and discuss with Rotarian Sisler and Zoning Inspector Fonce and it will be officially set at the next monthly meeting.

Police Chief White requested a MARCs radio expenditure from the Trustees. He received a late quote, so no motion was made. This will be addressed at the February workshop due to the need to order, program and place in service prior to the Trumbull County 9-1-1 Center going fully to MARCs radios.

Correspondence

Fiscal Officer Hatt announced the invitation from the Trumbull County Engineer’s office for the dinner held at DiVieste’s on April 24, 2019, which all Township employees are free to attend. Reservations are to be requested through the Fiscal Officer who will forward to the Engineer’s office. Any guest may also attend for $20.00 fee.

The Trumbull County Commissioners’ Application for the 2019 Community Block Development Grant was received. Application deadline is March 1, 2019. Chairman Fee will inquire with Julie Green, Grant Writer for the Commissioners Office on some potential projects. Road Supervisor Connelly also gave his input.

Old Business

Personnel policies were discussed in brief. They will be placed on the agenda for February workshop.

New Business

OPERS Compliance Officer who had come to do the training with Fiscal Officer Hatt provided information on two outdated OPERS Resolutions that OPERS would like the Trustees to amend, abolish or pass new in order to reconcile the plans. Trustees were given the information and will determine the action they wish to take at the next monthly meeting.

The Chairman requested Chief White and Road Supervisor Connelly to attend the February workshop scheduled for February 15, 2019 at 9:00am with Road Supervisor Connelly to discuss what road projects to do since the OPWC grant for 2019 was not awarded to Champion Township. Chief White will confirm quotes for the MARCs radios and present at the workshop. Personnel policies will be further discussed amongst the Board.

Trustee Emerine reviewed his financial reports and expressed concern about the fact that Zoning Inspector Fonce was completing administrative tasks within the Fiscal Office during her non-busy Zoning office hours when the Trustees had recently hired an Assistant to the Fiscal Office. He was concerned that there had been no motion to allow Zoning Inspector Fonce to perform these tass although she had expressed willingness to do so. He was also concerned because the full wages for Zoning Inspector Fonce had come out of the Zoning budget. Fiscal Officer Hatt responded that due to leave taken during this time by the Zoning Inspector, total time spent in filing and reconciling the gasoline bill had been minimal, and that all other tasks assigned to Zoning Inspector Fonce had been related to liens which were closely related to Zoning, in order to prevent any such conflicts. Fiscal Officer Hatt also reminded Trustee Emerine that the money currently in Zoning had been a transfer from the General Fund, which is the same fund from which the Fiscal Office Staff is appropriated. Trustee Emerine requested that Fiscal Officer Hatt not give Zoning Inspector Fonce any further duties until there was an official motion. Because Zoning Inspector Fonce was not present at this evening’s meeting, no motion was made to allow for her to help in the Fiscal Office. Fiscal Officer Hatt agreed to this on the condition that the Trustees relay this information to Zoning Inspector Fonce themselves and also emphasize that the Fiscal Officer appreciated her assistance and had not requested that Zoning Inspector Fonce no longer help out.

Public Comment

Zachary Allen, 5264 Alva Ave, questioned the status of the Old Middle School and Central properties.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in a Special Meeting on February 15, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. for the purpose of conducting the business of the township. The Chairman called the meeting to order with a full board present.

Trustee Bugos made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Fiscal Office/Zoning Inspector personnel staff. Trustee Emerine seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Trustees Emerine made a motion to exit Executive Session and invite Chief White to join the meeting. Trustee Bugos seconded. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

P2019-24 Trustee Emerine made a motion at the request of Police Chief White to approve an expenditure for Kenwood MARCs radios from Vasu Communications. Each radio (including test and tune service) will cost $2,056.00, along with a charging station for the Police Station at the cost of $504.00, and 4 additional batteries at a cost of $108.00 each, for a total appropriation of $17,384.00 from account code 2191-210-430, plus the monthly subscription fee from 2191-210-360. Trustee Bugos seconded. Be it noted that the subscription fee is currently set by the State at a cost of $10.00 per radio, per month. This motion takes into account that the rate is subject to change at the discretion of the State. Bugos yes, Emerine yes, Fee yes.

Hearing no further comment, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman

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Fiscal Officer