

December 5, 2023

The Board of Trustees of Marion Township, Marion County, Ohio met in a regular meeting. Ms. McCleary called the meeting to order 5:30 pm with the following members and visitors present:

Ms. Karen McCleary	Present	Mr. Larry Ballinger	Present
Mr. Ben Creasap	Present	Ms. Sheila Perin	Present

EMPLOYEES: Chief Meddles, Mark McCleary, Ron Phillips,

GUESTS: Deb Pierron, Mike Yost, Barb Pyles

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Deb Pierron was in attendance to discuss the Kaufman ditch project. The township has no knowledge of this ditch project and encouraged her to attend the December 21 meeting with the County Commissioners.

Mike Yost was in attendance to find out the results of the adverse possession he spoke of last month. It is a dedicated street and has plotted lots so the township cannot do anything about this.

CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence received.

Mr. Ballinger made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from November 7, 2023. Mr. Creasap seconded. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

New Business

A list of streets was presented to the Board for the 2024s paving schedule.

Request for “No Engine Brake” sign placement on St. Rt. 309 east and Pole Lane Rd. A resident from 2015 Harding Highway E. contacted Mr. Creasap about placing a sign for this problem.

A resolution was read for fire house fee proposal from Omness Design.

**MARION TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION
NO. 2023 - 1205**

IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF MARION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH OMNESS DESIGN, INC. ARCHITECTURE~PLANNING, 140 FAIRFAX RD., MARION, OH 43302, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PRELIMINARY DESIGN SERVICES TO BUILD A NEW FIRE STATION.

WHEREAS, the board plans to proceed with construction of a new Fire Station for Marion Township Fire Department (MTFD) on a 4.5 acre parcel they already own, which will be known as 1765 Harding Highway East, bordered on the north by (State Route 309), the west by New Park Drive and the east by US 23 southbound exit ramp from SR 309.

WHEREAS, the Trustees have been entrusted with providing a safe and effective work environment for Marion Township Fire Department (MTFD) employees and staff. Since the inception, MTFD has been operating out of a converted gas station at 762 East Center Street, Marion, Ohio, which has in recent years proved challenging to house larger, modern-day fire and medic trucks or to meet adequate living quarters for 24-hour staffing, workout rooms, training rooms and offices.

WHEREAS, preliminary design results would allow Marion Township residents to understand the Trustees’ priority plans to improve community fire protection, maintain transparency, to finally allow fire service buildings to be located within the Marion Township Fire District, be geographically closer to residences, thus improving response times and help lower home insurance premiums via higher “Insurance Services Offices” (ISO) ratings.

WHEREAS, architect will provide a description of design services which will include the primary components of programming; compiling a list of proposed spaces within the building walls (as well as any necessary exterior spaces); assigning square footage to them, defining critical adjacencies, listing any specific furniture or equipment that might be contained within each room. The square footage can be totaled to know the target building size. The program can then be used to develop plans; schematic design of using the program, develop and use/room block diagram type plans to vet for conformance with the program and any further input, preliminary plan to expand/refine block diagram to flesh it out in greater detail showing rooms, room sizes, and special relationships.

WHEREAS, architect will place the building footprint on the site and develop a site plan showing drives, parking, street access, and stormwater management.

WHEREAS, soil boring tests will be outsourced (architect recommends using GCI)

WHEREAS, sources will need to be determined and methods for connecting utilities and a need for further stormwater management as outsourced by the Township with Makeever and Associates whom Omness Design, Inc. works with regularly.

WHEREAS, architect will design exterior elevations, meet with the Trustees to flesh out particulars and make any refinements, prepare renderings, develop preliminary project budget estimates, thus all information gathered/gleaned in this phase saves work in subsequent design phases.

WHEREAS, Omness Design, Inc. has included a fee proposal for an hourly budget estimate of \$12,500 and possible additional fees for GCI soil borings, and potential fees from Makeover, if the project needs civil engineering input.

WHEREAS, the estimated current project cost is probably in excess of \$4 million, with design fees topping \$200K, this initial design would represent a significant step toward the goal in defining the project and estimate costs.

IT WAS MOVED BY Karen McCleary, seconded by Larry Ballinger to authorize the board of Marion Township Trustees to enter into a contract with Omness Design, Inc., Paul Omness, for the purpose of providing preliminary design services to build a new fire station for MTFD.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the Chairman of the board of Marion Township Trustees, Ms. Karen McCleary is hereby authorized, on behalf of the board, to enter into contract with Omness Designs, Inc, for preliminary design services as described above and that Ben Meddles, MTFD Fire Chief will be the contact person for this project.

Vote on motion: Ms. McCleary, yes; Mr. Ballinger, yes; Mr. Creasap, yes.

WHEREUPON the resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of December, 2023

A resolution was read to declare an impending “Solar Eclipse Emergency” for April 5 through April 11, 2024 for MTFD staffing in preparation for the April 8, 2024 Total Solar Eclipse for the Marion Community.

MARION TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 1205-B

IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF MARION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES TO DECLARE A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREPARING FOR THE IMPENDING “TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE”, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 8TH, 2024.

WHEREAS, Marion Township has declared a State of Emergency due to the impending Total Solar Eclipse, predicted for April 8th, 2024. Marion, Ohio is predicted to be in the path of totality which could last over 2 hours, affecting emergency services due to communication challenges and crowded roadways from an influx of onlookers. This Emergency declaration will remain in effect beginning on Friday, April 5th, 2024, through Thursday, April 11th, 2024.

WHEREAS, the purpose of this declaration is to position the Township for possible emergency reimbursement of state and federal government funding during the emergency. Expenses could

include but are not limited to overtime staffing of employees and provides Marion Township the ability to make needed purchases on an emergency basis, in the likely event this is necessary.

WHEREAS, this declaration is a precautionary measure.

IT WAS MOVED BY, Trustee Larry Ballinger, seconded by Trustee Ben Creasap to authorize the board of Marion Township Trustees to declare this emergency as stated above.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MTFD Fire Chief, Ben Meddles is hereby authorized to oversee this emergency declaration and will be the point person for this event.

Vote on motion: Mr. Ballinger – yes; Mrs. McCleary - yes; Mr. Creasap – yes.

WHEREUPON, the resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of December 2023.

Committee Reports

Zoning

December 2023	
Laura Underwood	1945 Matheny
	\$50.00
	Shed
Sarah Garrett	Vance Lot #81
	\$50.00
	Deck
James Persinger	1166 Greenlea Dr.
	\$50.00
	<u>Shed</u>
Total	\$150.00

Road Department

Closed down Quarry Park
Worked on Brush hog mower
Changed oil in all mowers
Pot hole patched Lindberg, Lehner, and Parkview Dr.
Cleaned gutters on Phoenix and Eastlawn Dr.
Fixed signs on Hickory, Colorado, Drexel, and Eustic Ave.
Cleaned catch basins all Township (leaves)
Swept intersections at Kentucky and Waterworks Rd.
Catch basins were installed or repaired on Westminster and Edgefield Dr.
A new drain was installed on Greenway Dr. (Jeff Sutton property)

Fire Department

All 5 new hires have been completing paperwork for new employment. 3 of the new ones started Dec 1st, 2nd and 3rd. The remaining two will be starting Dec 15th.
Swearing-in is scheduled for Dec 18th at 5:30 pm here at the twp. hall

Chief has completed the sale of reserve medic to Marion City.

The generator is currently being replaced at Station #2 with a panel upgrade.

Overhead doors have been sealed for winter.

Still working on replacing the front man door at Station 2 before winter as well. This needs to be done very soon as the door is not closing and latching due to the condition of the door.

Chief will be working on 2024 budget numbers for Ms. Perin.

The board of trustees should consider declaring an emergency for the upcoming Solar Eclipse. This will take place on April 8, 2024. Possibly, April 6-9, 2024

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Ballinger made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Creasap seconded. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm

_____	Ms. Karen McCleary, Chairman
_____	Mr. Larry Ballinger, Vice-Chairman
_____	Mr. Ben Creasap, Trustee
_____	Ms. Sheila Perin, Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the Board of Trustees of Marion Township concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and /or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in the meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.