

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

MADISON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REGULAR

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

October 24, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.

Held _____

20 _____

Chairman Wayman called the Trustees' Regular Meeting of October 24, 2023, to order at 7:00 P.M. and welcomed everyone to the meeting being held in the Trustees' Meeting Room at the Administration Building.

Mr. Wayman called for a roll call: Mr. Anderson, Mr. Gauntner, Mr. Wayman, Chief Hager, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek, and Mr. Pasqualone were in attendance.

Mr. Wayman led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Wayman stated at this time we will have a "Moment of Silence" to gather our thoughts and remember residents who have passed on to another life. Please remember Madison residents' Margaret Adams, Mary Bliss, and Donald E. Clark. Mr. Gauntner noted that all three residents who passed away were over the age of ninety (90). Mr. Wayman stated people are living longer now.

Mr. Wayman requested a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2023, Trustees' Regular Meeting and the October 10, 2023, Trustees' Workshop Meeting.

Mr. Gauntner presented a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2023, Trustees' Regular Meeting, and the October 10, 2023, Trustees' Workshop Meeting, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll Call: Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

Mr. Wayman requested a motion to approve the bill list in the amount of fifty-six thousand, two hundred dollars and fifty-six cents (\$56,200.56) (actual) for October 24, 2023.

Mr. Anderson presented a motion to approve the bill list in the amount of fifty-six thousand, two hundred dollars and fifty-six cents (\$56,200.56) (actual) for October 24, 2023, attached to and made part of these minutes, seconded by Mr. Gauntner. Roll Call: Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek stated there were two (2) large bills paid this time. The Illuminating Company bill in the amount of ten thousand, four hundred seventy-one dollars and seventy-seven cents (\$10,471.77) was paid, and a bill from Melzer's Fuel Service in the amount of seven thousand, seven hundred thirty-three dollars and ninety-three cents (\$7,733.93) was also paid.

Mr. Wayman requested a motion to approve payroll in the amount of one hundred twelve thousand, six hundred sixty-nine dollars and twenty-six cents (\$112,669.26) (actual) for October 20, 2023, and payroll in the amount of one hundred twelve thousand, five hundred fifty-six dollars and thirty-six cents (\$112,556.36) (estimate) for November 3, 2023.

Mr. Gauntner presented a motion to approve payroll in the amount of one hundred twelve thousand, six hundred sixty-nine dollars and twenty-six cents (\$112,669.26) (actual) for October 20, 2023, and payroll in the amount of one hundred twelve thousand, five hundred fifty-six dollars and thirty-six cents (\$112,556.36) (estimate) for November 3, 2023, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll Call: Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

TRUSTEES:

Nothing

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Hager requested a motion to approve **Resolution #23-108**, A Resolution accepting the funds in the amount of sixty-eight thousand, seven hundred seventy-six dollars and forty-one cents (\$68,766.41) from Ohio EMA ARPA First Responders Retention Incentives Grant.

Mr. Anderson presented a motion to approve **Resolution #23-108**, seconded by Mr. Gauntner. Roll Call: Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

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Chief Hager stated this Emergency Management Agency (EMA) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant was applied for about eighteen 18 months ago by Chief Byers. Chief Hager said he was recently notified that the grant was awarded to the Madison Township Police Department and will be distributed to the police officers who worked during COVID and are still working for the Madison Township Police Department. Mr. Gauntner stated there is a time period in which the officers had to be working from July 1, 2022, to December 31, 2024. Any officer who left the department would not be eligible to receive any part of the grant funds.

Chief Hager stated the department hired a new veteran dispatcher from Geneva who is a fourteen (14) year veteran. The new dispatcher is currently in training, and training should be completed in two (2) weeks. Mr. Pasqualone stated he knows the new dispatcher, and the Geneva Police Chief is not happy losing a good employee.

LEGAL:

Mr. Pasqualone, Solicitor, stated there is a Case Management Conference scheduled for October 31, 2023, for the Michalski case. It will be a telephone conference. At that time, the Judge will inquire as to the issues, the time needed to prepare, schedule pretrial or mediation, if necessary, etc. Mr. Pasqualone said this is just a formality and should only take a few minutes. Mr. Pasqualone stated he will keep the Board posted.

FISCAL OFFICER:

Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek, Fiscal Officer, stated she would be meeting with Chief Hager this month to discuss what budget projects he will have for next year. Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek said she is waiting for the healthcare numbers so she can add the figures in the budget. Mr. Brown stated the Township should have a beginning number by the first week in November, but is still shopping for carriers to consider.

Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek said spending is at fifty-eight percent (58%) overall so far this year. The General Fund is at 64%, the Road & Bridge is at 51%, and the Police Department is at 73%. Mr. Wayman stated 58% is very good.

Mr. Gauntner said he noticed the Trustees received a letter from the Madison Senior Center dated October 12, 2023, in which they requested an increase, if possible, in the Township's yearly stipend to the Senior Center. Mr., Gauntner stated it is quite a coincidence since he mentioned considering increasing the stipend at our last meeting on October 10th. After sitting on the Lake County Senior Advisory Panel for the last ten years, Mr. Gauntner suggested it was time to increase the stipend. Mr. Wayman said the Trustees will look over the information they received from the Madison Senior Center.

ZONING:

Zoning Inspector, Mr. Ungers, requested a motion to approve **Resolution #23-109**, A Resolution to certify costs incurred by Madison Township for the abatement of the listed properties in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87 – Abatement, Control, or removal of vegetation, garbage, refuse, and other debris and to request that the Lake County Auditor enter the amount on the tax duplicate to be collected as other taxes and returned to Madison Township.

Mr. Gauntner presented a motion to approve **Resolution #23-109**, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll Call: Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

The listed properties are 1370 County Line Road, 3930 Wood Road, 6634 North Ridge Road, 1529 Grove Avenue, 1427 Ansonia Avenue, 6210 Maxwell Drive, 5648 Middle Ridge Road, 2104 Dock Road, 1354 Manatee Avenue.

Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek stated this is the first time the Township did not receive one single dime for any of the abated properties sent to the auditor. No funds were collected on the abated properties. Mr. Gauntner said he hopes the Township is able to collect someday.

Mr. Ungers stated the Zoning Commission met last night, October 23rd for another zoning request very similar to the last two (2) requests for rezoning to single-family residential zoning. The Board of Zoning Appeals expects to hear two (2) variances next month.

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Mr. Gauntner said he saw Polaris Engineering today surveying the property north of Mary's Diner on Green Road for a nursing home facility proposed to be constructed. The property recently changed ownership. The project appears to be moving forward. Mr. Ungers said he has not heard from anyone regarding this issue lately.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC WORKS:

Road Supervisor, Paul Cook, said back in September the culverts in South Madison were inspected and found to be okay. Last week the Stormwater crew went out to clear some silt from a culvert on Emerson Road and found that some rocks had slipped off the bank and blocked the culvert. Mr. Brown set up an onsite appointment with Bridge Engineer Alan Exley from the Lake County Engineers' Office who inspected the entire culvert area. The culvert appears to be in good shape, but the Township was advised to replace the culvert extensions on the existing box culvert to reestablish the slope from the road to the stream. The Lake County Engineers' Office will be out to do some survey work and will give the Township a quote to fix the problem. Mr. Exley did not see any evidence that the road is in danger at this time and advised Madison Township to monitor the culvert and Emerson Road. Mr. Cook said the culvert is functional and in good shape, but needs work. Mr. Brown stated funds to fix the culvert will have to be included in the budget for next year (2024). Mr. Brown said the Service Department crew found the problem by looking around the culvert. There were no complaints from anyone. The Service Department was doing their job when the problem was discovered.

ADMINISTRATOR:

Mr. Brown, Administrator, stated there will be a Resolution tonight regarding moving the Township's ARPA funds and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds over to Lake County for the Agreement between Madison Township and Lake County to build a sanitary sewer trunk line on North Ridge Road between Burns Road and Haines Road. Mr. Brown asked if anyone had any questions regarding this Resolution. There were no questions.

Mr. Brown said on October 17th he attended the Local Government Fund (LGF) ad hoc Committee Meeting along with representatives from Eastlake, Mentor, Willoughby, Painesville, Painesville Township, Concord Township, and Mr. Hamercheck. The committee was chaired by Auditor Christopher Galloway. Mr. Brown said the meeting was a very good start for the Committee. The goal of the committee is to come up with a new formula for the County to distribute Local Government Funds to the cities, villages, and townships in Lake County. The next meeting will be in December.

Mr. Brown stated the Township has reached a verbal agreement, backed up with some written documents, between the Township and CATTs Construction to finish up on some items agreed upon regarding the incomplete Shore Drive Storm Water Project. Mr. Brown said Mr. Pasqualone and representatives from CATTs Construction will meet and discuss the issues of the incomplete project. One hang-up issue is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) of lost time work that CATTs is requesting. Both the Township and the Lake County Stormwater Department feel the Township should not have to pay for lost time on what little work they did on this project. Mr. Pasqualone will discuss this issue with CATTs Construction. Mr. Brown said the concrete headwall to be installed on the lake bluff in Tuttle Park which is the storm water outlet will be delivered tomorrow, October 25th. CATTs Construction should be back to work in Tuttle Park tomorrow.

Mr. Brown requested a motion to approve **Resolution #23-110**, A Resolution authorizing Mr. Timothy Brown, Madison Township Administrator, to apply for the FY-23 Community Development Block Grant funding for the Stanton Park Exercise Trail Improvement Project.

Mr. Anderson presented a motion to approve **Resolution #23-110**, seconded by Mr. Gauntner. Roll Call: Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

Mr. Brown stated the Trustees wanted him to budget for a topcoat to be put down on the walking trail at Stanton Park which is estimated to be a one hundred thousand-dollar (\$100,000.00) project. The Township will ask for seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000.00) from a CDBG Grant from the County Commissioners, and pay the additional thirty

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thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) from township funds. The trail is hard to use for someone with a walker or wheelchair or bad ankles in its present condition. Mr. Wayman stated a lot of residents use the trail for exercise. More people will use it once the trail is paved.

Mr. Brown requested a motion to approve **Resolution #23-111**, A Resolution to enter into an agreement with Innovative Sport Surfacing, LLC, of Mentor, Ohio, not to exceed the amount of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000.00), for the resurfacing, construction, and equipping of two (2) pickleball courts to be located at Veterans Park.

Mr. Brown stated the Madison Kiwanis Club approached the Board a while back with a suggestion to install pickleball courts in Madison Township Veterans Park and offered to make a donation if the Board was willing to install them. Mr. Wayman said he talked to Mr. Ferguson from the Madison Kiwanis Club who was happy to hear the Township was pursuing the project.

Mr. Gauntner presented a motion to approve **Resolution #23-111**, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll Call: Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

Mr. Brown requested a motion to approve **Resolution #23-112**, A Resolution declaring November, 2023, as Fair Housing Month.

Mr. Anderson presented a motion to approve **Resolution #23-112**, seconded by Mr. Gauntner. Roll Call: Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

Mr. Brown said the Board is very supportive of fair housing. Passing this Resolution is also a requirement when applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from Lake County.

Mr. Brown requested a motion to approve **Resolution #23-113**, A Resolution, in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Section 505.86, authorizing the Township Administrator with the authority to take any and all actions necessary to proceed with the remediation of structures damaged by fire on property located at 6634 North Ridge Road (Burger King).

Mr. Gauntner presented a motion to approve **Resolution #23-113**, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll Call: Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

Mr. Anderson stated the Township received a lot of complaints regarding the building, and it needs to come down. Mr. Brown stated he received a letter from Captain Terry Sopko, Madison Fire District, stating the building remains in disrepair and presents a danger of structural collapse and is declared unsafe. Captain Sopko said he will advise his last known contact from Burger King the intentions of the Board. Mr. Brown stated the insurance adjustor informed him he cannot even get an address to send a check for the balance of the claim to which has to be seven or eight thousand dollars (\$700,000.00 - \$800,000.00). Mr. Pasqualone stated he has a phone number for Burger Kings attorney, and he will try to contact them. Mr. Gauntner stated he has a Lake County Law Library meeting tomorrow morning which he chairs. He will discuss this matter with Assistant County Prosecutor, Kelly Echols who is legal counsel to the Law Library Board. A few weeks ago, Ms. Echols had suggested to Mr. Brown that the township get an Administrative Search Warrant for the building and have Mr. Pasqualone draw up the affidavit. The Administrative Search Warrant would be approved by a Judge for the Lake County Building Department to enter and inspect the building. Mr. Gauntner said Stacy Dame, Legal Counsel to the Madison Fire District, who is also a member of the Lake County Law Library Board would be present when he talks with Ms. Echols about how best to get the required Building Department inspection of the burned-out Burger King Building.

Mr. Brown requested a motion to approve **Resolution #23-114**, A Resolution to enter into a cooperative Agreement with the Board of Lake County Commissioners, allocating a combination of ARPA and tax incremental funding totaling one million, six hundred thousand dollars (\$1,600,000.00) for the design and construction of sanitary sewer to be located on North Ridge Road between Burns and Haines Roads.

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Mr. Anderson presented a motion to approve **Resolution #23-114**, seconded by Mr. Gauntner. Roll Call: Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

Mr. Brown reminded the Board that the Township is paying for the project design with Barrington Consulting Group, Inc. The estimated cost will be around three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00). This amount will be subtracted from the amount sent to Lake County which will be around one point three million dollars (\$1,300,000.00). Mr. Wayman said this should be a good start to this project. Mr. Gauntner said this project has been a long time coming. Mr. Brown said he received the first invoice in the amount of forty-seven thousand dollars (\$47,000.00) from Barrington Consulting Group, Inc. for the engineering plans. Barrington Consulting Group, Inc. is well into the project and may have everything completed by December.

OTHER:

Mr. Wayman reminded everyone the Administration Offices will be closed Friday, November 10, 2023, in observance of Veterans Day.

Mr. Wayman asked Mr. Gauntner for an update on the last Fire Board Meeting. Mr. Gauntner stated the Board did several annual staff performance reviews at the last meeting. It was determined staff performance was very positive, and everyone is doing a good job. Mr. Gauntner said the next Fire Board Meeting is November 15, 2023 at 7 P.M.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None

Mr. Wayman stated the next Trustees' Workshop Meeting will be Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. with the Trustees' Regular Meeting following at 7:00 P.M.

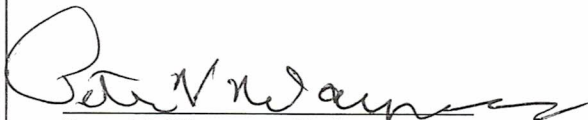
Mr. Gauntner stated WOIO Channel 19 Cleveland did a news story about the Ford Road Bridge last night which was interesting. As of today, the Ford Road Bridge has been closed for 424 days, and the County Commissioners are not any closer to a funding solution than they were two weeks ago or five months ago. Mr. Wayman said it is pathetic that the County Commissioners cannot work together for the good of Lake County.

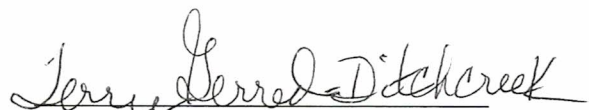
Mr. Wayman reminded everyone November 7th is Election Day. Mr. Wayman stated there are many candidates and issues on the ballot. Mr. Wayman asked everyone to please educate yourself and exercise your right to vote.

Mr. Wayman asked if there was any other business, and with no further business to discuss, requested a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Gauntner presented a motion to adjourn the Meeting, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll Call: Mr. Gauntner: Yes Mr. Anderson: Yes Mr. Wayman: Yes

Chairman Wayman adjourned the Trustees' Regular Meeting at 7:33 P.M.


Peter V. Wayman, Chairman


Terry Gerrard-Ditchcreek, Fiscal Officer