

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MADISON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORKSHOP

Minutes of

Meeting

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

November 14, 2023, at 6:30 P.M.

Held _____ 20 _____

Vice Chairman Anderson called the November 14, 2023, Trustees' Workshop Meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and welcomed everyone to the meeting being held in the Trustees' Meeting Room at the Madison Township Administration Building.

Mr. Anderson called for a roll call: Mr. Gauntner, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek, Chief Hager, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Pasqualone were in attendance. Mr. Anderson said Mr. Wayman is absent tonight due to a prior commitment.

Mr. Anderson stated before we get started tonight, he would like to have Mr. Varley come up to the podium. Mr. Bob Varley stated he lives at 6961 Lake Road and is President of the Madison Shores Condo Association. Mr. Varley said it was two (2) years ago in October that he approached the Madison Township Trustees about a drainage problem and an issue on the condo association property. Two (2) years later, it is remarkable the job is done. Mr. Varley stated he has dealt with city governments and worked for the gas company in the past, and it is remarkable the job has been completed. Mr. Varley wanted to stop by and thank the Trustees for entertaining the idea to get the project done. He also thanked Mr. Brown and his staff, the Lake County Stormwater District, the engineering firm, and project contractor. Mr. Varley stated the contractor was very respectful of the property. Due to good fall weather, the grass has even come in nicely, and there were no issues or water problems this summer. Mr. Varley said he thanks everyone and a special thank-you to Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown stated for the record, Hallmark Excavating was the contractor for the project. Also, Mr. Varley handled a lot of complaints from the Madison Shores Homeowners Association and filtered them for the Township. Mr. Brown said he appreciated that. Mr. Gauntner thanked Mr. Varley for coming to the meeting to thank everyone as not many residents come to the meetings to thank the Trustees. Mr. Anderson stated Mr. Varley's comments were much appreciated.

TRUSTEES:

Mr. Anderson said the Trustees wanted to discuss adding another day to the Chipper/Yard Waste schedule. Mr. Gauntner stated residents on social media have been inquiring about this issue since the Township's last drop-off date of November 4th. Mr. Gauntner said he still has leaves on trees in his yard as do many other residents. The Trustees decided to add Saturday, November 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the schedule for the Chipper/Yard Waste Program. Mr. Gauntner said the Township had to add the second date in November last year as well so in the future the Township will schedule two (2) dates in November instead of just one (1). Mr. Gauntner said he will post the date on social media and have the date added to the Township website. Mr. Gauntner said he will make a motion in the Regular Meeting later tonight to add the November 18th date.

ADMINISTRATOR:

Administrator, Tim Brown, said he wanted to make the Trustees aware there will probably be an increase in the employer portion of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) rates from fourteen percent (14%) to eighteen percent (18%) for regular public employees' and from eighteen percent (18%) to twenty-three percent (23%) for law enforcement employees. Mr. Brown stated this must be passed by the Ohio Legislature, but is on the books and will happen. This will significantly impact the annual township budget. Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek asked if there was a date when this would happen. Mr. Brown said he has not seen a date but felt sure this would eventually happen. Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek said she will put the 18% and the 23% in the budget today. Mr. Brown said he would agree she should do so.

Mr. Brown stated Dominion has a proposed gas rate hike of sixteen percent (16%) with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). This is not in effect yet as it still has to get through PUCO, but is a pretty significant increase also for regular rates.

Mr. Brown advised the Board he has a meeting with a representative from the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) tomorrow for a review of the township parks and building policies. Mr. Brown said OTARMA always returns some pretty good recommendations. Mr. Brown stated this is more of an inspection than anything pertaining to the financial side of the issue.

Mr. Brown said he received a quote back from Aetna for healthcare rates for the Township. Aetna has quoted a 7.4% increase for 2024. Quotes from Anthem and UnitedHealthcare were competitive. The Township is still awaiting quotes from Signa, Crabie, Medical Mutual, and Soundcar. Mr. Brown said he should have all the quotes by the end of the week and can then start considering which would be best to choose.

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Mr. Brown said the Historical Management Project (minute book scanning) is done. He has dispersed five or six copies of all old documents which are in safes so they will never be lost again.

Mr. Brown updated the Trustees on the Shore Drive Storm Water Drainage Project. The contractor (CATTs Construction) finished closing up the project for this year. The final pay application is at the Lake County Engineers' Office being reviewed for payment now. Mr. Brown stated Mr. Pasqualone will be sending a letter to CATTs Construction stating that the terms of the project closeout are acceptable. All the terms except for the final term for the lost time, are agreed upon. If CATTs Construction wants to contest that final condition that they asked for (lost time), they will have to advise Mr. Pasqualone and set up a meeting with the Trustees. Mr. Brown said the ball will be back in CATTs court. Mr. Brown stated he walked the Shore Drive neighborhood yesterday and knocked on doors. He spoke with three (3) residents and updated them on the issue with the project. He left letters with the Shore Drive homeowners explaining why the project stalled out, and what the Township hopes to do in the future.

Mr. Brown asked if anyone had any questions on any of the Resolutions scheduled for this evening's Regular Meeting. There were no questions from the Trustees.

Mr. Brown said he contacted the Health District inquiring about a permit for the Burger King demolition. The Health District was contacted by a local contractor but no applications have been received to start the demolition process. Mr. Brown said he will talk to Mr. Pasqualone at the end of the week regarding the next step.

Mr. Gauntner had a question regarding use of the security cameras which will be ordered for the Madison Township Service Department garage. Mr. Brown stated they will order three (3) cameras to begin with and can add more later if needed. One camera will be for the garage yard, one for the gasoline pumps, and one for the pickleball courts. Mr. Gauntner asked if the video from the cameras can be sent to the Administration Building. Mr. Brown said the technology is not there to do so. There is such a poor internet connection between the Service Garage and Administration Building that the Township has trouble with even the telephones. Mr. Brown said Chief Hager has offered to have dispatch watch the security cameras if the Township can figure out how to set it up. Chief Hager said he has a tech coming in to check a speaker in the Interview Room, and he will check with him. Mr. Gauntner recommended talking to Paul Stefanko Director of Lake County Telecommunications who he worked with for twenty (20) years. Paul was really good with security cameras. He made it possible for him to watch the security cameras at the Lake County Courthouse from Hilton Head, SC via the internet.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Hager updated the Trustees regarding a K-9 Fundraising Project for 2024 for the Police Department. The K-9 project would cost approximately fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000.00) a year. A special cage will need to be ordered and installed in a police vehicle and will probably cost approximately ten to eleven thousand dollars (10,000.00 - \$11,000.00). The police vehicle will be used for dual purpose. One side for the cage is for the dog and the other side to transport prisoners. Chief Hager said he will meet with Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek so a line item can be added to the budget for donations for the K-9 project at the next meeting.

Chief Hager wanted to get the Trustees thoughts regarding the portable radios each police officer carries. When the radios are bought in bulk numbers, they all age out at the same time. Chief Hager thought it would be better to buy a handful each year to eliminate this problem. Chief Hager said the Fire Department started purchasing a few at a time, and it seems to be a better way to not have all the radios go bad at the same time. Chief Hager said the Police Department has seven (7) more years on the current radios so if he starts purchasing some now, the department will not have a large purchase when the radios all start to die. Both Mr. Gauntner and Mr. Anderson agreed. The radios cost between thirty-five to fifty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00 - \$5,500.00). Mr. Gauntner mentioned a statewide movement he heard about to allow people to reach 911 by text and video. New equipment would have to be purchased for this. Chief Hager said no one has notified him about this yet. Lake County Dispatch Center is currently the 911 center for cellphone calls. Chief Hager said he would look into the matter.

Chief Hager mentioned he had Sgt. Gosnik update the Police Department website last week. Some of the information on the website was outdated. Both Mr. Gauntner and Mr. Anderson were glad the website is now current.

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LEGAL:

Solicitor, Mr. Pasqualone, stated he had nothing for the Workshop Meeting.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT:

Service Department Supervisor, Mr. Cook, commented on the two (2) items being sold on GovDeals that are obsolete and no longer being used which will be presented as a Resolution at the Regular Meeting later tonight. One item is the 2001 Generac 50KVA Single Phase Generator and the other is a 2007 HD-35 Bend Pak 35,000 lb. Vehicle Lift. Parts for the generator can no longer be purchased, and the lift can no longer be inspected.

FISCAL OFFICER:

Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek, Fiscal Officer, stated she did not have anything to report. She is still struggling with the 2024 Budget. Mr. Brown suggested having a meeting to discuss the budget around the beginning of December. Mrs. Gerred-Ditchcreek said that would be a big help before finalizing the budget. Mr. Brown said there will be a lot of variables for 2024. Mr. Brown said he will schedule something after the beginning of December.

ZONING:

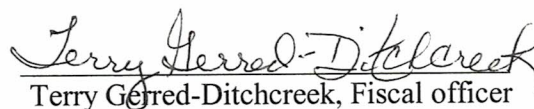
Zoning Inspector, Mr. Ungers, stated last night, November 13th, the Zoning Commission discussed some text changes at their meeting and a rezoning request. Mr. Ungers said he will present this information at the next meeting and request a motion for a Public Hearing on December 12th. Mr. Ungers said the Board of Zoning Appeals will hear two (2) potential Conditional Use Permit Reviews which are unique. He has had no feedback from them yet. Also, Mr. Ungers said he will be coaching the Madison High School Basketball Team and may not be able to attend the Tuesday meetings for the next three (3) months. Mr. Bernard, Assistant Zoning Inspector, will come to the meetings. Mr. Gauntner said it is good to have Mr. Bernard here once in a while.

Mr. Anderson asked if anyone had any further business to discuss at this time, and with no further business to discuss, Mr. Anderson requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Vice Chairman Anderson adjourned the Trustees' Workshop Meeting at 6:53 P.M.


Max Anderson, Vice Chairman


Terry Gerred-Ditchcreek, Fiscal officer