

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF PIKE TOWNSHIP, MARION
COUNTY, INDIANA**

January 7, 2020

Attendance: Board members Marcia Lomax, Steve Anderson, Claudette Peterson, Peggy Simmons and David Willis. **Present:** Trustee Annette Johnson.

- 1) **Approval of the December 2nd Meeting Minutes.** Minutes were reviewed by the Board and members of the public. Peterson moved to approve the minutes. Anderson seconded the Motion. Motion carried without opposition.

- 2) **Township Board Elections.**
 - Anderson moved to nominate Willis as President. Simmons seconded the Motion. Motion carried without opposition.
 - Anderson moved to nominate Peterson as secretary. Simmons seconded the Motion. Motion carried without opposition.

- 3) **Introduction of Township Counsel, Jeff Bellamy** – Bellamy reported on his transition meeting with Buschmann. The only outstanding item relates to the Baby Box; there is currently nothing going on between the parties. Bellamy explained to the Board that there is no law requiring the installation of a Baby Box; the Fire Department remains a “Safe Haven” site, irrespective of the Box.

Chief Tragesser commented that the Box as is isn’t a great fit for the Department. That being said, the Box is in good shape and in safe keeping. The spot in HQ where the Box used to be has been patched up.

- 4) **Introduction of Township Accountant, Beth Marsh** – Beth Marsh is the owner of Bookkeeping Plus and has been in business for over 32 years. Beth oversees the finances for many municipalities, including Washington Township. Beth has been given remote access to the Township’s accounting system and reviewed the bookkeeping practices of the previous administration. Based on her review, the Township needs to implement some better systems for financial recordkeeping. Beth will be working closely with the Deputy Trustee, Nabeela Virjee, over the next year to implement these best practices.

- 5) **Introduction of PTFD Fire Chief, Chris Tragesser** – Chief Tragesser circulated an updated PTFD Flow Chart and a PTFD Report for the month of December. By way of background, Chief Trag has been a member of PTFD for 29 years. He most recently served as a Battalion Chief and Shift Commander for the last 9 years. Chief Trag has a strong background in operations.

President Willis said he is very happy to have Chief Trag and is confident he is ready for the task of leading the Fire Department.

Peterson asked Chief what his mission and goals are for the Department. Chief responded that his main focus is providing the best service possible to the residents of Pike Township. He plans to

give a formal presentation with goals at the next Board meeting. Top of mind goals include maintain ISO 1 Rating, ensuring proper staffing levels, and minority recruitment.

- 6) **Introduction of Union Representative, Ryan Masters** – Masters introduced himself to the Board and has worked extensively with Chief Trag over the last 18 years. He currently serves as a Lieutenant on Engine 64. Master’s goal is to keep the PTFD as a top rated Department.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Secretary of the Board



Attested by

