

Pike Township
Legislative Board Minutes
February 25, 2020

Members Present: Dave Willis, Steve Anderson, Marcia Lomax, and Peggy Simmons
and
Claudette Peterson (Secretary)

Staff Present: Annette Johnson, Nabeela Virjee and Chief Chris Tragesser

Members Absent: None

Minutes Taken By: Claudette Peterson

WELCOME

Chair Dave Willis called the meeting to order at 5:05pm

Opening Comments: Member Peterson requested a motion to amend the agenda to allow for a discussion regarding the Dow Chemical Agreement.

Chair Dave Willis express concern about the time it would take and that we were press for time because the room was scheduled for another group later that evening. Member Peterson expressed that the issue was too important to let wait for the next meeting which would be in April. After hearty discussion Chair Willis motioned for amendment to the agenda, which was seconded by Member Peterson, motion passed four to one (Nay vote by Steve Anderson). Dow Chemical Agreement was placed on the agenda as item #3a.

MINUTES APPROVED

Chair Willis called for a motion to approve meeting minutes of January 7, 2020. Motion was made by Member Peterson, second by Steve Anderson, unanimously minutes approved as written.

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Township Accountant Beth March reported the following:

- Presented summary/highlights of Gateway: Cash/Fund Balances, Receipts, Disbursements, and Vendor lists, Account Transfers, Grants (fitness wellness/education) Accounts Payables and Capital Assets reflecting 2019 budget activity. Ms. Virjee thanked Ms. Marsh for her work with completing the report.
- Upon completion Member Simmons expressed her concern about how large the document was, and the time allotted for review and approval. The report was presented to the board on February 25, 2020 and had to be approved by the board and submitted to the Indiana State Board of Accountants (ISBA) by Monday, March 1, 2020. Member Peterson stated, this is the reason why I asked for a quarterly expenditure reports in 2019, so that the Annual Report

would not be so overwhelming, which was never received by the board. Ms. Marsh stated that she is willing to submit a monthly report to the board.

- Pastor Moore requested that the board establish how the report will be submitted to the board, monthly or quarterly, so it can be on the record. Pike resident Mike Wolley asked are there guidelines on who received the report and would the quarterly report be given only to the board, Chair Willis responded, yes.
- Chief Deputy Trustee Virjee stated that the report is not the budget but she would make sure the report is explained at the meetings so the public is aware of Township spending.
- Chair Willis called for a motion to establish monthly or quarterly reporting. Motion was made by Member Peterson to receive quarterly expenditure reports from the township accountant, seconded by Member Anderson, motion unanimously passed. Chair Willis called for a motion to approve the 2019 Annual Report. Motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Anderson, and was unanimously approved.
- Chief Deputy Trustee Virjee distributed document reflecting board approval of the 2019 Annual Budget Report.
- Also, a hearty discussion was had regarding contract services with minority and women owed businesses in Pike Township and if any tracking of expenditures is addressed in the reported numbers.

DOW CHEMICAL AGREEMENT

- Member Peterson shared with the board members that this agreement was brought to her attention about 2 or 3 weeks ago and would like an explanation regarding the agreement. Chair Willis stated he sought of knew about it but was told there was nothing to it by one of the City County Council Members. Trustee Johnson gave no explanation other to say ask the Mayor and City County Council, although she gave the okay to proceed with the agreement. Most Members of the board were unaware of the agreement and expressed a little interest in knowing more. Ms. Virjee stated she knows nothing about the agreement.
- Chair Willis ask the township attorney if he know anything about the agreement, he stated he was unaware of the agreement and could not give answers but that the board has nothing to do with tax abatement issues and has no authority in this area. Member Anderson asked what is the Dow issue? Member Peterson proceeded to explain but Member Anderson stated that it was not the concern of the Board. Member Peterson stated if Chair Willis was aware of the agreement, he should have shared it was the Board since we are responsible for the money that come into the Township Trustee's office.
- There were members of the community who attended the meeting and express concerns about the agreement and how it may impact the residence of Pike Township. Again, Trustee Johnson gave no explanation but refer the question to the Mayor's office.
- Mike Wolley expressed concerns regarding the impact on property taxes and who are the stakeholders that were involved in the agreement. Trustee Johnson

had no answers but stated she came in on the tail end of the agreement discussion.

- After hearty discuss nothing was established regarding the agreement and no answers presented by Chairman Willis and/or Trustee Johnson, so Chair Willis move on to the next agenda item

PIKE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Chris Tragesser distributed to the board the Annual Report highlighting all division activities in 2019. A lot of information in the report please feel free to contact him
- Member Peterson asked question regarding spending with minority owned businesses. Clear about spending as it pertain to percentage in the area on minority we need to reflect the diversity in the township. Member Peterson asked Ms. Marsh to incorporate spending percentage breakdown as it pertains to contract services.
- Mike Wolley asked questions regarding the Dow Chemical Agreement and where the dollars are coming from and the need to reach out to the stakeholders who endorsed the agreement. Trustee Johnson admitted she was involved with the agreement but came in on the tail end of the process.
- Dr. Green asked about diversity with spending and tracking who the vendors are? Chair Willis stated that 98 percent of business with contractor would be with the Fire Department and that for 5 years the board has be advocating diversity. Trustee Johnson stated she is very adamant about spending with minorities and that it's her number one priority. The Trustee agreed to supply a list of contract vendors providing services in her office.
- Pastor Moore asked about executive staff, Trustee Johnson and Chief Trustee Virjee responded with all executive staff members are minorities. Chair Willis and Trustee Johnson shared with the body the diversity of the 2019 graduating class, total 17 (3 African American & 2 Hispanics).
- Chair Willis asked about the Baby Box, Chief stated it is stored away and safe and on fire department property.
- Member Anderson made an observation about fire fighters and those eligible for retirement and that in a few years there will be a need to begin a recruitment effort.
- Chief Tragesser stated if any the board members have any questions regarding the report feel free to reach out to him.

ADJOURNMENT

Before closing the meeting Chair Willis opened the floor for any questions or comments.

- Trustee Johnson shared with the board due to an investment made in 2019, the return was \$350,000.00 back into the township.
- Member Simmons congratulated board member who won in slating.
- Trustee Johnson distributed office highlights for 2019.
- Pastor Alexander mentioned the tax abatement and how the money issued to Dow Chemical impacts the township and the residence of Pike. He asked how did we allow the agreement to pass, why Hamilton and Boone counties not

sharing in the cost of the agreement. Chair Willis position regarding the matter was if the city has decided to move on a matter there is nothing we can really do about it. Chair Willis shared that the township is facing possible legislation that could take the fire department in spite of us having a lobbyist working on our behalf. Pastor Alexander stated we should never give up and we should also be willing to express our concerns no matter how things may workout.

- Member Peterson stated she would handle the minutes and the agenda moving forward. Chair Willis responded how will the Trustee's office get items on the agenda? Member Peterson shared with Chair Willis the Trustee can call me or email me her agenda items. The board voted me in as the Secretary and I will handle my responsibilities.

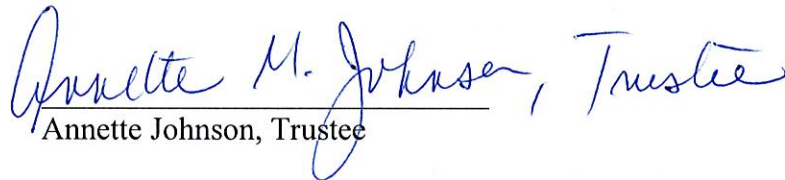
Chair Willis reminded everyone the next board meeting is April 14, 2020 at 5:30p

Member Peterson moved to adjourn. Chair Willis motioned for adjournment and meeting was adjourned at 5:57 pm.

Minutes approved by the Board on May 19, 2020.



Claudette Peterson, Secretary



Annette Johnson, Trustee