Board Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2022

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF PIKE TOWNSHIP,**

**MARION COUNTY, INDIANA**

**November 29, 2022**

Meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Chairperson David Willis

**Board Members Present:** David Willis, Claudette Peterson, and Burnice Head. Quorum confirmed.

**Board Members Absent**: Steve Anderson and Cynthia Oda

Also present wereTrustee Annette Johnson, Phyllis Robinson, Tim Henderson, Engineer for Taft Stettinius & Hollister (Taft), Kayla Moody-Grant, Carl Drummer, Attorneys with the law firm of Taft and Abdul-Hakim Shabazz, Parliamentarian.

Trustee Johnson welcomed residents attending the public board meeting and thanked them for their support for Pike Township.

Trustee Johnson also introduced Abdul-Hakim Shabazz as future Parliamentarian for board meetings. Claudette Peterson commented that she wished this had been discussed beforehand.

The minutes from the November 14th meeting were presented. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Claudette Peterson and seconded by Burnice Head.

Next, Trustee Johnson introduced Tim Henderson, Engineer for Taft to present maps that were drawn and explain how maps were divided into legislative body districts.

Tim Henderson, Engineer explained that Marion County made changes to drawn maps. Ward names are different. Tabulated equal population with the redistricting process. The target number for each district was 16,606.

District 2 population was 3.12 % of target but not more than 10%, which is still within the population specs..

Tim Henderson further stated that The City County Council did not affect boundaries. Red lines represent new precinct lines by The City County Council. Precinct 33 and 34 were combined near the reservoir.

Claudette Peterson said so nothing changed. No changes are required. Burnice Head asked redrawing or no redrawing of maps, is property effected when redrawing. Tim Henderson, Engineer responded that property is no affected, boundaries only.

Judge Doug Stephens recalls previous redrawing of maps at last census. He states there is only a couple of places that would cause change to the growth in the Township, the reservoir, Park 100 and the parks. This keeps the population static

Claudette Peterson disagreed; over the course of 10 years, the population should grow.

This triggered much discussion from the public.

Donna Forbes asked what are pros and cons of change. Tim Henderson respond the following:

Pros – Pretty much golden, map is in very good shape, Cons – People’s perspective and the boundaries, all of which are well under 5%, within the specs.

Mike Wolley said nothing has to be changed, but the board could shift on this. Tim Henderson responded to either approve the map or change a map for community interest or for political data. Donna Forbes responded that even if changed because of political reasons, there would be none for population.

Leroy Robinson, City Council, said the changes would be racial, demographics political, to avoid. District 4 balance would be political.

Chairman David Willis said the township has been Democratic, not Republican since he has been here.

Mrs. Wolley concerned that she heard Chairman David Willis say that we would tweak the map here and there, why are you going to tweak. Tim Henderson said precinct names only.

Rev. Antonio Alexander asked is the board looking at remaining the same or changing. Paul Woods said that we moved four streets, not bad. Paul Woods said I think the residents should not be hung up on the word tweaking. Kayla Moody-Grant says the choices are redrawing the maps or leave the same; Tim Henderson drew the specs, no need to be legal.

Mike Wolley said he was a novice trying to find out how this works. We are calling this complicated. How can the public address if driven by census. Boundaries might be annexed.

The general opinion of the public residents was for the board to assure that they will make no changes to maps only correct wards to Districts from the previously drawn maps.

After much discussion, Claudette Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chairman David Willis. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Next Board meeting – January 10, 2023, 5:30 pm – Election of (Officers) Chairman and Secretary