

Board Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2023

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

February 21, 2023

President David Willis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: David Willis, Cynthia Oda, Steve Anderson, Claudette Peterson and Burnice Head. Quorum confirmed.

Also present were Trustee Annette Johnson, Phyllis Robinson, Township Attorney Jeffrey Bellamy, Beth Marsh, CEO of Bookkeeping Plus, Chief Jeffrey Beam and Deputy Chief of Administration Michael Goodrich.

Chairperson David Willis gave the Board members time to review the minutes from the January 10, 2023 meeting. Claudette Peterson wanted the minutes to reflect omitted comments by Rosemary Turentine. The 3rd paragraph from the end of the minutes (page 2) was modified to read “Rosemary Turentine commented on the roles of the Trustee and Township Board and the authority of the Trustee to engage an Independent Parliamentarian”. Claudette Peterson also wanted to note that the discussion of having a Parliamentarian at board meetings was not on the agenda as asked. The board had taken no action on this request at the January board meeting. Claudette Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Steve Anderson seconded the motion.

Beth Marsh, CFO of Bookkeeping Plus presented the Annual Financial Report for the Township for 2022.

Beth explained the various sections of the AFR in detail.

Page 2 – Cash & Investments Combined Statement by Funds

Pages 3 – 4 - Detailed Receipts by Funds

Pages 5 – 8 - Disbursements by Fund

Pages 9 – 41 – Township Disbursements by Fund, Category, Paid To and Amount

Pages 41 – 42 – Fund Type Schedule

Page 43 – Deficit Fund Balance, Township had none

Page 44 – Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

Page 45 – Transfer, Township had none

Page 46 –Blank

Page 47 - Grants, only Fire (Assistance to Firefighters Grant from Dept. of Homeland Security)

Page 48 – Capital Assets

Page 49 – Accounts Payable/Receivable Statement, Township had none

Page 50 – 52 – TA-7, Township Assistance Statistical Report, cases that came through

Page 53 – Pensions - Public Employees Retirement Fund, Police and Firefighter's Pension Fund

Beth informed the Board that they must sign the Certification Form from the Gateway that AFR reports are accurate. The (AFR) Annual Financial Report must be advertised in both the Indiana Business Journal and the Indianapolis Recorder. Beth also presented the final budget numbers by Fund for 2022, no negative balances and the transfers within funds as allowed by the State Board of Accounts.

Discussion occurred from Claudette Peterson regarding getting reports at the last minute and then having to ratify. When getting the whole package at one time, it is a lot to digest. Claudette Peterson requested that the board meet prior to the board meeting to review the reports and numbers to ratify. Cynthia Oda responded that the details ties back to the reports, so let's move forward.

Tony Davis stood up from his seat, then leaned on the wall and appeared to be taping Trustee Annette Johnson. Trustee Johnson asked the Sherriff to remove Mr. Davis from the meeting. Trustee Johnson also said that Mr. Davis should not be taping her during the meeting. Tony Davis refused to move and blamed the Trustee for starting the confrontation. Tony Davis said he could not see Trustee Annette Johnson because he could see around Mr. Hence. Mr. Hence moved and allowed Mr. Davis to sit in his seat.

Claudette Peterson request that the board receive some type of report to detail out who is being helped, like the TA-7 something that can help you when asking for detail. Cynthia Oda, replied that a Quarterly Progress report can be done easily. Board Chairman, David Willis asked if it was possible to review the AFR a week before the meeting and that problems or discussions should be 30 minutes prior to the board meeting. Beth Marsh said the AFR can be viewed on the Gateway once it is complete.

Cynthia Oda made a motion to approve the AFR as is. Seconded by Burnice Head

Claudette Peterson made a motion for a quarterly report to show progress with spending in the Township, asking for a quarterly report. Seconded by Cynthia Oda. Motion passed 3 to 2 count.

Chief Jeffrey Beam introduced Chief Goodrich in the Deputy Chief Position. Chief Goodrich has been with Pike since 2014 as an 8 year prior Firefighter.

Chief Beam presented the monthly Fire Report for December 2022 and January 2023. In December 2022, there were many staff transitions, new Admin, Deputy Chief and Division IMS. There were 14,000 runs for year 2022, a 16.7% decrease from 2021. January 2023 was down 6% from December, 15% over a year ago. There were five retirements within the Fire Department including Ron Wilke, Allyn Rankin, Chris Tragesser, with 30 years or more of service. Chief Beam mentioned other updates for 2023, which includes career advancement in office class, new recruits in March and Fire School.

Chief Beam said the Maintenance and Contamination project was about 55% complete. Chief also mentioned that the Department had recently received an ISO renewal as a Class 1 Fire Department, the highest rating for insurance. Chairperson David Willis congratulated and thanked Chief Beam and the Fire Department. Chief Beam will present the Annual Report at the next meeting.

Trustee Annette Johnson presented 2023 Proposed Township Assistance Guidelines. The shelter and food assistance guidelines are higher due to inflation and wages not increasing. Income maximums remained the same, while shelter, food, household supplies and burial assistance projected to increase. The board improved the numbers 2 years ago and incorporated those changes into these figures. Claudette Peterson made a motion to approve the recommended increases as presented. Burnice Head seconded the motion, motion passed 5 to 0.

Trustee Annette Johnson presented list accomplishments for the township. Trustee mentioned that out of 1000+ Trustees in Indiana she won Trustee of the Year. Also that the Fire Department as well as the Trustee are recognized by townships across the state.

Chairperson David Willis called for Public Comment.

Much discussion occurred among the public regarding missed comments at the board meetings. Mrs. Wolley suggested purchasing a recorder so that comments are not lost during discussions. Trustee Johnson said we had just order a recorded to help make sure nothing is lost in the future.

Chairperson David Willis adjourned the meeting at 6:35 pm.

Next Board meeting – TBD