

Board Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2023

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

President David Willis called the Public Hearing to order at 5:35 p.m.

Beth Marsh stated the purpose of this Public Hearing is to ask for an Additional Appropriation of \$1,250,000.00 to complete the construction of the De-Contamination and Maintenance Facility. The Additional Appropriation was advertised and want to know if there are any comments.

Claudette Peterson wanted to know the total cost of construction and if on township property. Chief Beam responded that the cost of the building itself was just over \$5,000,000 and is located on the campus at 71st and Georgetown. There are two buildings, a temporary Shop Maintenance Facility and a Detox Facility. Of the \$5,000,000 there is about \$400,000 in change orders. There was some unspent funds remaining in the 2022 budget due to the timing of the start of the project. The project is about 94% complete.

President David Willis wanted to know if it is everything expected. Chief Beam said yes. They are still working on the roof and should be complete in the next 2 – 3 weeks. President Willis asked if there will be an open house. Chief Beam said there would be a dedication and open house when all the equipment and everything is complete.

Claudette Peterson asked if the Detox unit was for exposure to fire or dedicated more to gas and chemical exposure. Chief Beam stated that it is for any time the firefighters are in a smoke environment. Staff will remove gear/equipment and place outside the apparatus. Once at the facility they will remove clothing, shower and dress while other staff clean gear/equipment. Then firefighter with cleaned gear/equipment returns to their apparatus. This helps to avoid taking contaminates back to stations. Claudette Peterson wanted to know in a year or so would they be able to determine the return on investment. Chief Beam said usage you would see, not dollars. Usage by Firefighters to avoid medical conditions, less firefighters developing cancer.

Cynthia Oda agreed with Claudette Peterson and said usage would save a life and suggested developing white papers for treatment for Firefighters and saving a life. Most people don't know what Firefighters experience or go through.

Tony Davis asked if the men and women were separate. Chief Beam said men and women have separate facilities.

With no further questions, President Willis closed the public hearing and opened the regular board meeting.

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

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

Chairperson David Willis gave the Board members time to review the minutes from the May 16, 2023 meeting. Claudette Peterson noted that on Page 2, 2nd paragraph should read “After much discussion, Steve Anderson” not Burnice Head asked Trustee if feasible. Beth Marsh noted on Page 1, 4th paragraph CFO should read CEO. Pat Magnuson noted that the last page, 1st paragraph should be Deer Creek and not Deer Run.

Motion by Burnice Head to approve the May 16, 2023 minutes with noted corrections. Seconded by Cynthia Oda.

Beth Marsh, CEO of Bookkeeping Plus presented total spending per fund for January through June 30, 2023.

Fire Spent 55% benefits front loaded at the beginning of the year, Cumulative Fire 77%, Small Claims Court 38%, Township 37%, Welfare Administration 28% and Other Direct Poor Relief 41%, all on target.

Claudette Peterson also inquired about the report requested at previous board meetings with information regarding services. Claudette Peterson said the report that the board voted on, is a report giving the Stats on Assistance and still is requesting this report.

Trustee Annette Johnson presented the AFR report for January through June 2023, which list detailed expenses by Funds and appropriation. It would be difficult to breakdown further due to the volume of activity. The board was pleased to see a report, which makes it much easier to analyze monthly activity and spending percentages that Beth Marsh provides. Trustee Annette Johnson said going forward she would provide this report at each board meeting.

Next Chief Beam requested board approval of the Additional Appropriation for the Fire Cumulative Fund presented at the Public Hearing.

Motion to approve the Additional Appropriation for the Fire Cumulative Fund for \$1,250,000 made by Claudette Peterson. Seconded by Cynthia Oda.

Chief Jeffrey Beam presented April, May and June Fire reports to the board. Chief Beam also provided year to date statistics for number of runs and retirements. There were three promotions. The recruit class ended with Graduation on June 9th. Chief Beam noted that community projects that department participated are listed in the monthly reports. Lastly, Meridian Dermatology offered services to the Fire department to provide skin cancer screenings in August.

Chief Jeffrey Beam presented a list of items to surplus from inventory, which requires Board approval. Burnice Head moved to approve resolution to surplus equipment as listed, seconded by Claudette Peterson.

Trustee Annette Johnson gave an update of activities. July 4th participated in community parades within Pike Township. Made rounds at all schools. Ortho Indy back to school program. Open House for the Mommy Baby Room was held on May 31st and was covered by a local TV station. President David Willis encouraged other board members to visit the Baby Room and commented on how nice it was.

Claudette Peterson wanted to know what the criteria was for helping expecting mothers. Trustee Annette Johnson said an everyday client struggling to pay rent and they are expecting. Referrals by caseworkers or schools. Service is every day or interested moms can call the Trustee office from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Trustee Johnson was at Pike Schools giving out book bags, saw a mom with children and holding a baby in her arms about to drop her. The mother did not have a stroller. Trustee Johnson invited the mother to come by the office and pick up a stroller. Clients are only asking for items needed,

Claudette Peterson reminded Phyllis that the Board Meeting be posted on the website in advance of board meeting. Noted.

Chairperson David Willis called for Public Comment. There was none.

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

Next Board meeting – TBD