

Eden Township

Licking County, Ohio
10431 Purity Road St. Louisville, Ohio 43071

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dave Baker, Chairman
Chuck Dunlap
Leonard Laughman

FISCAL OFFICER

Robin McKee

January 29th, 2024

This meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm, by Chairman Dave Baker, with all present standing to recite the pledge of allegiance. In addition to Mr. Baker the following Eden Township personnel were present; Trustee Leonard Laughman, Fiscal Officer Robin McKee, Citizens Jackie Laughman, Larry & Erin Finkes, MaryAnn Twp Fire Department, Newton Twp Fire Department and Bill Felumlee. Trustee Dunlap is out as he just had surgery.

Trustee Baker moved to waive the reading and approved the minutes from the December 18th, 2023 meeting and the January 1st 2024 organizational meeting. Trustee Laughman seconded the motion.

VOTE: Trustee Baker -yes; Trustee Dunlap -X ; Trustee Laughman -yes

Motion carried

Public Participation:

NONE

Old Business:

A new/used truck was purchased for \$32,500.00

Reminder that Bryce and Amy will attend the February meeting

ARP fund is now closed. The funds were used for the new playground, overhead doors on the garage, improvements to the community center and to purchase a truck.

The Trustees and Newton/MaryAnn Twp fire departments agreed to a 6 month contract at \$25,000.00 each to give Eden Twp Trustees to get opinions of the residents.

Newton Twp has asked for a \$10,000.00 per year increase for a total increase of \$20,000.00 per year for services. MaryAnn Twp did not ask for an increase but an increase to either side would carry over to the other.

MaryAnn Twp has offered to cover all of Eden Township for the 6 month agreed cost for a total of \$50,000.00 per year.

Eden Twp currently has a continuous levy generating approximately \$84,000.00 per year and a 1 mill levy that will expire in 2025 that generates approximately \$29,000.00 per year. Without another levy passed in 2025 the township would not have enough money to cover the increase that Newton Twp wants.

The trustees want to get feedback from the residents of the township before deciding if we should go with just one to cover the entire township. They debated going door-to-door and talking to the residents but have decided to mail flyers asking opinions. Fiscal Officer McKee will handle the mailers and the responses.

Erin Finkes asked if they township went with MaryAnn Twp only would that reduce response times.

Trustee Baker gave an example (SR586 and Henpeck Rd is now covered by Newton Twp and would roll over to MaryAnn Twp with mutual aid from Bladensburg)

Keisha from MaryAnn Twp explained it is impossible to go over every scenario.

Trustee Baker said there is no easy way to approach this. The bottom line is having the money to pay for 2 services and what the majority of the residents want.

The trustee had attended 2 Newton Twp meetings at their request, and had asked if Newton would agree to a smaller increase and no answer was given. MaryAnn Twp Trustee Tim German asked the board if they would consider giving MaryAnn a 3 month trail to collect data before the 6 month contract expires in June.

Larry Finkes-it will be very hard to pass a levy with the increase in property taxes and the Northfork Schools having a levy to build another school.

Brandon Turner with Newton Twp apologized to the board for hid presentation at the December meeting, he was not prepared to answer questions that were asked. The Newton Twp trustees are the ones who make the decision but the fire department is willing to negotiate.

Newton Chief Doug Smith said if both departments are kept that the division of Eden Township will need to be looked at, the current division is not good. He also directed at Keisha with MaryAnn Twp that it is a contradiction if MaryAnn Twp thinks they can cover the entire township.

Fiscal Officer McKee asked Keisha of the 54 runs for Eden Township in the 4th quarter of 2023 how many of those runs were supposed to be Newton but they were not manned and were taken off the 911 list (our contract states they are to be manned 24/7) Keisha replied that 25 of the 54 runs Newton Twp should have been dispatched. Fiscal Officer McKee said then there should be no 3 month trail period as MaryAnn Twp has already been doing the job of Newton Twp.

Trustee Baker explained that Newton Twp only wants a 2 year contract therefore they could ask for another increase at the end of that two years. Chief Smith said that would not mean another increase would be asked for.

Erin Finkes asked do we know the amount of increase for the Fire Fund since property taxes have increased. Fiscal Officer McKee only has the current number.

Trustee Baker explained that if we went with one department we would extra money that the prosecutors office has said we could use for many different things, such as, equipment for the community center equipment we could donate to the camps or local churches, fix the dry hydrants.

MaryAnn Twp said they would consider a longer contract period if that would lessen the burden on the township. Trustee Baker said he would prefer to discuss the length of any contract when all trustees are present.

Fiscal Officer McKee asked Newton Twp if a levy were not to pass would they then lower the price of service for the township to be able to afford it. MaryAnn Twp answered, no, they would not, Eden Twp would have to use money from the general fund to cover the amount that would be lacking in the fire fund.

Fiscal Officer McKee asked Newton Twp if they brought the requested schedule that the trustees had asked for at the December meeting, no schedule was brought but they would email a copy.

New Business:

The brine report Mike turned in needs to be detailed for the report to be filed.

Fiscal Officer McKee renewed the CD for 26 weeks at 3.5% interest. This was the highest interest rate available.

Mowing contract- Raymie spoke with Trustee Baker and asked if the township would consider a longer contract and will be sending a 1 year and a 3 year price for the township to look at, Trustee Baker asked for numbers prior to the February meeting.

Waste Management contract expires 12/31/2024 so we will need to advertise accepting bids this year.

The County has removed all salt from the building.

Trustee Baker spoke with Buster at the City department about buying salt from them in the future. He said that would not be a problem we would need to let him know how much we would like each year. Baker said that he spoke with Kyle Broseus and he would be willing to haul it for us and we would keep around 40 ton a year in the barn in case we need it.

Road Report:

New truck works great, but heater needs fixed.

Hysong removed tree at Miles cemetery.

2 signs have been ordered for Baker Road-someone stole them.

4900 is good for GovDeals and Trustee Baker has filled out the paperwork and will send Fiscal Officer McKee pictures to be able to post.

1-2024	Park National Bank	50.00
2-2024	Energy Co-op	111.03
3-2024	Energy Co-op	123.69
4-2024	BWC	91.55
5-2024	Park National Bank	702.96
6-2024	Windstream	77.45
8-2024	OPERS	2413.76
9-2024	EFTPS	1277.93
10-2024	Ohio Deferred Comp	100.00

11-2024	School District	46.14
12-2024	Ohio	193.56
12153	Licking Twp Assoc	390.00
12154	Ken Schimpf-Truck	32900.00
12155	Licking C Engineer	1112.96
12156	Treasurer Ohio	114.25
12157	MaryAnn Twp	25000.00
12158	Newton Twp	25000.00
12159	Gannett Ohio-Local	102.50
12160	Licking Treasurer	52.00
12161	Martin Trucking	5143.02
12162	Glenns Market	606.24
12163	Hysong Tree Service	2000.00
12164	Schilling Propane	254.11
12165	Dave Baker	741.45
12166	Mike Baker	3840.08
12167	Chuck Dunlap	727.34
12168	Leonard Laughman	910.93
16169	Robin McKee	<u>1360.00</u>
		\$105,442.95

I certify there are sufficient funds on deposit for the payments of foregoing bills when obligated and funds are now on deposit to pay the above expenditures

Robin McKee, Fiscal Officer.

Trustee Baker moved a motion to adjourn. Trustee Laughman seconded the motion.

VOTE: Trustee Baker –yes; Trustee –yes; Trustee Dunlap –X

Motion carried

Meeting adjourned 8:11 pm

Dave Baker, Chairman

Chuck Dunlap, Trustee-out for surgery

Leonard Laughman, Trustee

Robin McKee, Fiscal Officer