

Eden Township

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chuck Dunlap, Chairman

Dave Baker

Leonard Laughman

FISCAL OFFICER

Robin McKee

November 27th, 2023

This meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm, by Chairman Chuck Dunlap, with all present standing to recite the pledge of allegiance. In addition to Mr. Dunlap the following Eden Township personnel were present; Trustee Dave Baker, Trustee Leonard Laughman, Fiscal Officer Robin McKee, Citizens Larry & Erin Finkes, Harry Farley, Bill Felumlee and Jeff Posey & Brandon Turner of the Newton Twp Fire Department

Trustee Dunlap moved to waive the reading and approved the minutes from the September 25th, 2023 meeting Trustee Baker seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried

Public Participation:

Brandon Turner introduced himself as t

he assistant chief of the Newton Twp Fire Dept and explained that the contract for fire and EMS services will expire on 12/31/2023 and they would like to ask for an additional \$10,000.00 per department (\$10,000.00 for Newton and another \$10,000.00 for MaryAnn) to renew the contract for another 2 years, to expire on 12/31/2025. At that rate the twp would be paying \$55,000.00 per year to each department. Fiscal Officer McKee explained that at the end of the two years we would no longer have the funds to pay at that rate.

Mr. Turner said that with our current levies we should be able to afford the increase. Fiscal Officer McKee explained that one levy is ongoing but the other expires, with the increase in everyone property taxes it is very unlikely that anyone is going to vote on another levy to increase their taxes even more. Without the expiring levy we will not be able to afford a \$20,000.00 per year increase.

Trustee Dunlap asked if they would be willing to accept a \$5,000.00 per department increase for the time being. Mr. Turner said they would discuss it with their Fiscal Officer and would attend the December meeting. Mr. Posey said that they have lost employees due to other departments paying higher wages therefore they have had to increase wages, and the cost of equipment is a lot higher than it has been in past years. They have gotten 2.5 million in grants over the past 5 years that have helped tremendously. They currently have a new fire engine on order and a new medic

on order. Fiscal Officer McKee asked if they had used ARPA funds to help pay for the ordered equipment which Mr. Posey responded yes but did not give the amount of government funds from ARPA had been used.

Mr. Turner noted the increases as follows

26.9% increase of calls

63.6% increase of hourly wages

34.9% increase for maintenance

21% increase on supplies

40% increase overall

In 2021 Eden Twp runs were 63, 2022 runs were 65 and so far for 2023 68 runs.

Trustee Baker asked if they knew how much money was left on the table due to not pursuing unpaid bills. Neither knew the amount but acknowledge there is money that is not collected.

Trustee Baker also asked if they knew who was in charge of the dry hydrants in Eden Twp, he has received calls from 2 residents who would like them taken out because they are not maintained and are now filled with sludge. They will check with the Newton Twp Fiscal Officer and see if she knows. Mr. Turner said he will also check with Chief Smith to see if he knows who is responsible for the dry hydrants.

At that time Mr. Posey and Mr. Turner were given the check for the 2nd half of 2023 and excused themselves from the meeting.

Mr. Felumlee asked again when Stradley Rd would be mowed, he had asked at the last meeting and was told there were only 6 roads left but Stradley has still not been touched.

Trustee Baker replied that Mike is on vacation and he believes that Stradley and Houdeshell Roads are the only two left to finish up this year.

Old Business:

NONE

New Business:

Trustee Dunlap moved motion to move the December meeting to the 18th since the last Monday of the month falls on Christmas this year. Trustee Laughman seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried

Fiscal Officer McKee will run an ad in the Newark Advocate the first week of December.

Trustee Dunlap moved motion to schedule the organizational meeting for January 1st at 7:00 am.

Trustee Laughman seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried

Fiscal Officer McKee will run an ad in the Newark Advocate the third week of December.

Fiscal Officer McKee let the board know that the remaining ARPA funds needs to be obligated to project by 12/31/2023.

A 2013 backhoe was purchased for \$56,500.00 from the ARPA fund. The backhoe discussed at the October meeting had already been purchased but he found another with only 2190 hours. They had went and looked at it and decided it would be a good purchase for the twp. Trustee Baker said we should be able to make adjustments to the buckets we currently have to fit this one, the tires are also interchangeable.

Mr. Felumlee asked if we had a better contact than Southeastern to maintain the new backhoe. Trustee Baker said he had tried several places with the issues with the other one so he is not sure of who else they would be able to depend on for service.

Fiscal Officer McKee said she has received an email that we again have a new attorney representing us- Bryce Ramsay is now in charge of Eden Twp and we can contact him with any concerns.

The backhoe has been added to the insurance policy.

The mileage has been received from the county and they are showing Eden Twp at 26.303 miles, no changes from the previous year.

We have also received another email from Amy before she left that Jeff Cottrell had sent a letter wanting to know what the township is going to do with the 4" tile running into the ditch in front of his house. Trustee Baker needs to get some pictures and send to Bryce. Cottrell would like a concrete basin installed and for us to extend the ditch past his property line. He also sent receipts for all the culvert pipes he had purchased.

Road Report:

Almost done with mowing, only Stradley and Houdeshell to finish.
Done with the Durapatcher for the year

117-2023	Park National Bank	170.46
118-2023	Energy Co-op	99.85
119-2023	Energy Co-op	108.03
120-2023	Windstream	77.45
122-2023	BWC	135.66
124-2023	OPERS	2112.81
125-2023	EFTPS	1043.74
126-2023	Ohio Deferred Comp	100.00
127-2023	School Tax	45.31
128-2023	Ohio Tax	160.20
12124	City of Newark	1200.50
12125	Houser & Son Farm Equipment	56500.00
12126	A Quality Fire Protection	121.50
12127	MaryAnn Twp	22500.00
12128	Newton Twp	22500.00
12129	City of Newark	2633.75
12130	Mike Baker	300.00
12131	Glens Market	171.78

12132	Co-Alliance	776.21
12133	United Aggregate	848.90
12134	Richard Gayheart	600.00
12135	Hanley Business Supply	323.50
12136	Dave Baker	726.91
12137	Mike Baker	3041.52
12138	Chuck Dunlap	707.50
12139	Leonard Laughman	895.54
12140	Robin McKee	1329.93
12141	Shelly Materials	<u>271.80</u>
		\$119,502.85
12134	Richard Gayheart	VOIDED
12142	Rick Gayheart	600.00

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

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

Motion carried

Meeting adjourned 7:39 pm

Chuck Dunlap, Chairman

Dave Baker, Trustee

Leonard Laughman, Trustee

Robin McKee, Fiscal Officer