

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

April 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, John Hughes, Harry Farley, Jeff Esty, Sally Gartner, Phyllis Parish, John Reynolds, John Swick, Damian Fulk, Jordan Grennell, Shani Smith-Reed, Melissa Niedzielski, Eric Landis, Jadeen and Rob Hergenrother
If others were there and did not sign in I apologize for not including you on this list.

Trustee Dunlap moved to waive the reading and approved the minutes from the March 25th, 2024 meeting. Trustee Laughman seconded the motion.

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

Public Participation:

Jeff Esty asked what was going on with the fire and ems contract and is concerned that his farm insurance will go up if the township contracts with only one department.

Trustee Dunlap explained that insurance companies had been contacted and we were told that rural areas are graded on a scale regardless of how many departments are contracted with and other departments will still be on call for mutual aid.

John Swick asked what the definition of mutual is so that everyone understands.

The MaryAnn Fire Departments representative responded.

(Mutual Aid = all run card, fire or ems, are ran through the 911 call center if one department is out it would go on to the next department. If an emergency situation requires more than one department mutual aid is dispatched and could be Newton Twp, Bladensburg or any other close department.)

Phyllis Parish asked why we had two departments to begin with.

Trustee Dunlap responded that decision was made by previous board members and was never discussed with the public.

Shani asked what the currents responses were to the cards that had been mailed?

Fiscal Officer McKee said that current count is 83 for one department and 39 for two departments.

Rob Hergenrother with the Boy Scout Camp asked what department the township would contract with if they go with only one department.

Fiscal Officer McKee responded that Eden Township would contract with MaryAnn.

Unnamed citizen asked if Newton even covers a portion of the township because he has never seen Newton Twp in this area.

Fiscal Officer McKee responded that they do currently cover part of the township.

Jeff Esty asked if there was a Newton representative at the meeting, (there was not) he wanted to know if they were contacted by the call center would they respond with mutual aid.

What advantage is there in keeping Newton?

Mr. Esty also reiterated that his farm policy would increase because of the distance from the fire department.

Rob Hergenrother asked if mutual aid only comes into play if MaryAnn can not respond.

MaryAnn rep. responded and explained mutual aid again.

Jordan Grennell asked if ,contracting with only MaryAnn would have an affect on MedaVac.

Fiscal Officer McKee said, it would not.

Harry Farley explained to newcomers that Newton has had staffing issues, when is enough enough.

Eric Landis said when there is a shortage of staff that should mean the chief should step in and help.

There were many questions being directed at the MaryAnn rep. from several people and he did answer them as he could. These questions were not recorded as they were quick and some unheard from the board.

Damian Fulk asked what the township would save.

Trustee Dunlap explained the continuous levy gets the township approx.. \$84,000.00 per year with contracting with one department at a cost of \$50,000.00 per year we would not have to ask for a renewal on the 1 mill levy that will expire in 2025. With the savings we would be able to clean out dry hydrants and any other fire/ems related items.

Damian also showed concern that he had never seen MaryAnn in this area, Trustee Dunlap explained that the area he lives in is currently covered by Newton.

Rob Hergenrother asked who incurs the cost if Newton has to respond?

MaryAnn rep. answered that all departments charge rather is be to your insurance or the person, regardless of any contracts.

More talking among the citizens-not recorded.

Shani asked why the fire and ems information about this issue is not on the township website, there are many residents concerned ones and response times.

Fiscal Officer McKee said that is why the mailers were sent out and people were invited to attend meetings, to ask questions on any issue they are concerned with. She asked exactly what she thought needed to be posted on the website, Shani responded she would talk to her after the meeting.

Eric Landis asked if the trustees would be using the grader this year, his end of Baker road is getting worse.

Trustee Dunlap said they are working on it.

Jeff Esty asked how many hours per year is the grader used.

Trustee Baker replied 125-150 hours per year.

Trustee Baker said he had run the grader Friday long enough that it overheated and he had to bail out as it slid into a tree. The gauges do not work and it needs repairs. Mr. Landis asked if we should buy another grader instead of sinking money into this one.

Trustee Baker said we do not currently have any debt and it would be much cheaper to fix this one. Landis replied a small grader would be less expensive to use and to work on.

Old Business:

Trustee Baker addressed the public letting them know he was not being rude during discussion of the Fire and EMS contracts, that the prosecutors office has advised him he is not to answer questions in regards to this matter.

New Business:

Trustee Dunlap said we are in need of gravel again. Fiscal Officer McKee said the PO is open and stone can be ordered whenever it is needed.

Trustee Baker said that one blade had been welded on the new plow truck.

The tailgate was fixed with a coal shoot to be able to use with the Durapatcher.

The radiator in the grader needs fixed or replaced and Greens cannot handle something that large. They are having trouble finding someplace that works on graders that large.

Mr. Landis said maybe the township could budget for a new machine even if only a down payment for one.

Road Report:

The plow truck has been cleaned up.

Propane is at 62%. Trustee Baker said we should wait until winter to fill.

Trustee Dunlap moved a motion to pay bills. Trustee Baker seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried. The following bills were examined, approved and signed by the Board.

40-2024	Energy Co-op	115.49
41-2024	Energy Co-op	105.87
42-2024	Energy Co-op	47.36
43-2024	Auditor of State	762.00
45-2024	BWC	91.55
46-2024	Windstream	73.70
47-2024	Park National Bank	83.00
49-2024	OPERS	2025.68

50-2024	EFTPS	961.83
51-2024	Deferred Comp	100.00
52-2024	School Tax	46.14
53-2024	Ohio Tax	145.21
12199	Kleem	146.00
12200	A-1 Welding	104.64
12201	Glenns Market	376.65
12202	8up with Graphics	243.00
12203	Ohio Inds. Filters	39.48
12204	Mowtivated Mowers	1215.00
12205	Keystone Co-op	885.91
12206	Bobs Tire Service	167.00
12207	Dave Baker	741.45
12208	Mike Baker	2725.79
12209	Chuck Dunlap	727.34
12210	Leonard Laughman	910.93
12211	Robin McKee	<u>1360.00</u>
		\$14,201.02

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 –X

Motion carried

Meeting adjourned 7:17 pm

Dave Baker, Chairman

Chuck Dunlap, Trustee

Leonard Laughman, Trustee

Robin McKee, Fiscal Officer