

WESTFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT MEETING

2/20/2024

Patterson called the Westfield Township Fire and Rescue Meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Role Call: Patterson, Schmidt, Horner

Others in attendance: ZI Carr, Chief Hall, Assistant Chief Dave Young, Carol Rumburg, Terri Grimm.

Dan Blazy, township resident at 7192 Buffham Rd, asked if ambulances created revenue. Trustees shared it does not cover the entire cost of the service. Blazy asked if money has been set aside for purchasing a new ambulance and how was it done in 2018. Trustees shared the cost of the building, heating, services have all increased. He shared that the residents do not want to approve the levy. He said the fire department has almost \$300,000 in their accounts and feels that is a lot of money. He said the people have spoken and why is this still showing up on the levy. He said the township will not attract the best experienced firefighters and that we need to remember that. He said our township will never have the experience of putting out a fire. He shared he supports safety forces. He said he disagrees with the county's home evaluation and that the residents can't afford if more levy's get passed. He finished that he would like to see the fire department plan for future purchases. He asked why the township changed their facebook policy on commenting. Trustee Horner said an employee was attacked online and it was the advice of our legal counsel. Blazy said that even the most egregious speech is free speech and asked again why the facebook commenting policy was changed. Trustees said they have given him almost 30 minutes of speaking time and that is significantly above the 3 minutes allotted and that we need to continue with the meeting.

Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes from Feb 5, 2024 minutes. Horner seconded the motion. Schmidt- yes, Patterson- yes Horner- yes. Motion carried.

Chief Hall provided an update: 23 incidents in the month, including mutual aid to Seville, Lafayette, and Lodi. Provided update on billing. 11 total transports by EMS. EMS billing \$7,066.80

Updates- ladder testing complete, kitchen hood was inspected, tank on hood needs replaced. Quote given to trustees for \$1,060.00 Patterson asked if the cost of the fix could be paid by the township's budget. Schmidt agreed it's a township building and should be paid from the township.

The Marcs grant will cover 15 radio user fees. The other 7 radios will need to come out of the fire budget.

Fire department will have an open house on March 9th from 1-4.

Patterson shared that the township will be creating a committee for the fire department levy and highly suggest Mr. Blazy to be a part of that committee.

Dave Young gave an update on the count and cost of equipment. Exhibit A.

Patterson and Schmidt agreed to keep the meeting at 6:30. Horner said he would be good with 6:15.

Patterson said we are getting ready for a November levy and that we are looking for 5 years or less if that is what the people wanted. He asked for as many people as possible to join the committee.

WESTFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT MEETING

Terri Grimm asked for a special meeting in late March and early April to discuss what went wrong, what could be done better and have a group to brainstorm. This is where the public would be invited to participate. Blazy said he will never get on our side until the facebook commenting is changed and he will always be a thorn in the trustee's side.

Fund status: \$175,694.53 Money market savings: \$122,055.80 Primary checking account balance: \$53,638.73 Payments: \$24,927.65

Receipt listing for January is \$29,328.45

Funds totals see Exhibit B

\$53,300.62 was total for payment listings.

Patterson made a motion to approve payments to be made in the amount of \$53,300.62 Schmidt seconded the motion. Patterson-yes, Schmidt- yes, Horner- yes. Motion passed.

Next meeting is March 4, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

Horner made a motion to close the meeting. Schimdt seconded the motion. All in favor.

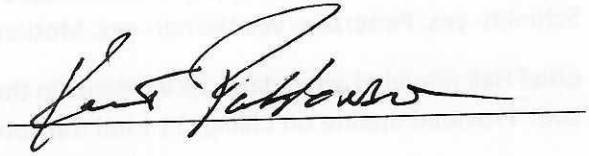
Meeting adjourned at 7:06

Minutes prepared by: Julie Carr, Township Administrator

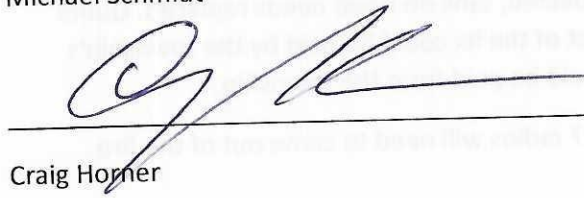
Signed, 3/4/24



Michael Schmidt



Kent Patterson



Craig Horner