

Regular Meeting  
May 18, 2026 @6:30 pm

**Meeting location: 6699 Buffham Rd, Seville**

**James Likley called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm**

**Roll Call:** Joseph Doty, James Likley, Kent Patterson  
Others in attendance: Julie Carr, Tera Seiwerth  
Village council member Karen Martin

**Moment of prayer and reflection**

**Comments from the floor-**

**Chief Hall's Report**

Given the first meeting of the month  
Inventory still being worked on.

**Minutes to be approved**

May 4th minutes have been reviewed.

Doty made a motion to approve the minutes of May 4, 2026

Likley seconded the motion.

Roll Call- Doty- aye, Likley- aye Patterson - aye. Motion passed.

May 13th special minutes have been reviewed.

Doty made a motion to approve the minutes of May 13, 2026

Patterson seconded the motion.

Roll Call- Doty- abstain, Likley- aye Patterson - aye. Motion passed.

**Fiscal Officer Report, Tera Seiwerth**

Financial Reports

Checking balance: \$85495.48

Savings balance: \$100,150.05

Bills/Warrants- \$39,146.51

Doty made a motion to approve the payment listing of \$39,146.51

Patterson seconded the motion.

Roll Call- Doty- aye, Likley- aye, Patterson - aye. Motion passed.

Likley shared that we are at 36% of the appropriated funds for the year which is on track with where we need to be.

Sheriff Grice asked to attend a trustee meeting to go over the dispatch billing from the Sheriff's office which will see 5%, 5% and 2% increase over the next three years.

### **Old Business**

The 7-year Budget Plan was presented. At the special meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup> the Trustees spent about three hours reviewing operational needs and equipment replacement options. (see exhibits attached to the minutes) The goal was to create a consistency in percentage year over year using the last years' appropriated funds as a guide. They found 5% is a base to work with. With this trend the amount needed for operational needs alone would be a 2.5 mill levy. Then, each piece of equipment cost today with manufactures estimated 5% annual increase, replacement schedule and funds needed annually were reviewed. Trustees shared that this is the best approach to be proactive for the long-term funding needs. They reviewed multiple scenarios to be sure the different scenarios were as accurate as possible. Likley shared that if the levy does not pass, there will not be enough funds to appropriate properly for the following year. Doty shared if the levy isn't successful we are looking at around \$80,000 to \$100,000 in cuts.

Karen Martin asked if the Trustees would have a sit down with the village council and what the levy would look like for the village and the township. Doty shared that if a proposed levy would be successful the fire district would be dissolved, the present 2.5 mill continuous levy (1.344 mill effective rate) would be discontinued freeing up the \$151,700 of village contract payment and it would be a fire department under the township continuing to serve all residents. The goal has been to allow village residents the opportunity to vote on the level of service that they want. If the levy is successful, the village residents would be paying a property tax vs a payment from the village through income tax.

Likley shared the median home value is \$335,000 in the township. The cost would be a yearly amount of \$293.13 for a 2.5 mill levy.

Patterson said the township needs to sit down with the village.

Michael Schmidt shared that he is surprised if the village is on board with this levy with how they worked with the township during the past few levy attempts. Schimdt asked if the trustees had a meeting with the village yet. Trustees said no, not collectively. Likley shared that he has been in communication with the village council members individually and he has attended every village council meeting since November with this message.

Doty shared that they are coming up on a deadline and have been working diligently to establish the 7-year budget to base future needs.

Likley shared that a resolution of a proposed millage rate must first be sent to County Auditor to certify the revenue and then to the Board of Elections by the first part of August with ballot language.

Karen Martin shared again that they would like to have a sit down with legal counsel where everyone can be educated and be on the same page.

Likley, said they want everyone to vote on the level of service they want.

Schmidt asked why it was set up this way in 2012 as a fire district. Likley, said the district was officially started in the 70's. Old meeting minutes reflect that and the reasoning at that time.

Schmidt asked about voiding the contract with the village. Village and Trustees agreed that yes it can be voided if they both agree.

Karen Martin said she will be going back to the Village to work on a joint meeting date.

Truck bids- 164-1 still out for bid.

Phone provider- Doty said that he worked with Lieutenant Blair and they have an app that will allow the elimination of land lines at the township and fire department. Savings cost will be evaluated. Further review of the services needed.

**New Business**

None

**Comments from the floor-** none

**Executive Session-** none

**Announcements**

June 1<sup>st</sup> 6:30 pm regular meeting

**Motion to adjourn** time 7:40 pm. Likley made motion to adjourn. Doty seconded.

Roll Call- Doty- aye, Likley- aye, Patterson- aye. Motion passed.

Meeting minutes prepared by Julie Carr.

Signed by:

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James Likley

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kent Patterson

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Joseph Doty

Date Approved

May 18, 2026 WFRD regular meeting