

Minutes of Regular Meeting February 5, 2025

3:30 p.m. Call to order by Mr. Mack

Roll Call: Mr. Britten, Mr. Schaller, Mr. Mack, Mr. Eckel, Ms. Welch

Mr. Mack – Motion to enter Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, and compensation of a public employee or official. Mr. Britten for approval. Mr. Schaller. All yes. Motion approved.

4:00 p.m.: Mr. Mack – Re-enter regular meeting. Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Mack asked about any changes or additions to the agenda:

Chief Gazarek – purchase vehicle for detective division and get vehicle from Enterprise for police.

Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.

Approval of meeting minutes:

January 15, 2025

Mr. Schaller moved for approval. Mr. Britten seconded. All yes. Motion approved.

Special Presentation

None.

IT:

Resolution 2025-003: Purchase various IT storage, security and protection services through vTECHio, \$60377.11. There are three components to request: 1. Email/file hosting / cloud back-up. 2. Backup server. 3. Window server licensing. Mr. Britten – this will have the storage in-house? Yes, and in cloud storage also. Mr. Mack – can you assure our residents that what happened in Wood County we are not susceptible to. Everyone is susceptible to it but putting in key items that work for protection. I am also training the staff and quizzing to spot spam and fraud. **Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.**

Maintenance:

Getting ready for the ice today. We will be out early in the morning. We put on brine and pre-salted.

Fire/EMS:

Resolution 2025-004: Update MVA billing policy. Brought the billing up to what the company recommended. Added a hardship policy along with a vehicle fire policy. Mr. Britten- is there anything for police department when they have to provide traffic control. Unsure, I would have to check with legal counsel. **Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.**

Permission to hire two part-time employees.

John Yard: rate of pay \$28.38 with start date of 02-16-2025. **Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.**

Austin Mezinger: rate of pay \$28.38 with start date of 02-16-2025. **Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.**

Permission to begin looking for a replacement for ff/paramedic Eric Schmidt who announced his retirement last day is 03-02-2025. We will look internally; we have many viable candidates. **Mr. Schaller moved for approval. Mr. Britten seconded. All yes. Motion approved.**

2024 year-end report. 2700 calls for service, up 30%.

Mr. Schaller – are you involved with the Wood County Township Association meeting last night. Chief Brice did attend. Departments need employees but not many applicants. Mr. Mack – cost of equipment is going up; we need to make trucks last longer and be prudent.

Police:

I would like to purchase a vehicle from Reinke Dealer for the detectives. I would trade one vehicle in and buy one. The cost of the vehicle is \$43910.00, the trade is \$16000.00, total cost \$28332.00. We would use the federal drug fund to pay for it. **Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.**

At the last meeting I informed you of the Durango that had a blown motor. I did get quotes from Enterprise. Another Durango would be \$929.00 per month, a Ford Explorer is \$960.00 per month. The wait time for the vehicle is 12-16 weeks, which puts us in June. Enterprise did pick up the two charges and will pick up the Durango. We will probably get \$10000.00 for all three. In talking to Marvin, we have spent a lot of money on the Dodge's, the first quarter of last year spent over \$10000.00. If approved, I would like to try the Ford Explorer. I would purchase the equipment for the new vehicle from Buckeye Emergency which will cost \$20758.34 paid for out of the drug fund. **Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.**

Recreation & Recycling:

I turned in the final report to Wood County Park District for the 2024 grant, safety mats for Starbright Park. I gave you in your packet information about a ball field down at the corner of Lime City. Price last year was \$35000.00, but it did not include a fence. We used to have ball fields at station 2, think we need to get one for the kids.

Simmons Park – need to start thinking about this, it has been 3 years. A lot of people are bringing up the dog park again. Mr. Britten – I received some literature on grants at the OTA that are offered for parks by ODNR. I am on the budget committee with other residents going over the budget. Today, I met with the auditor about the levies for the police and fire. I believe we must prioritize our money right now with services, not that the park or ball field are not needed or wanted by the residents. Bob – don't we have money set aside. Mr. Britten – about \$50000.00, but we have spent some of that on DGL for studies. Mr. Schaller – I think it is an embarrassment that we have not done anything with the property that Ms. Cranker willed to us. There have been ideas and offers but nothing that has been done. Before we did not have the money, and we do not have it now and prices continue to rise. Mr. Britten – what I remember is wanting to dig a pond, we have no money to spend on that. This year we must fund the police department \$800000.00. We need the money for services. We must manage the money like we do our own, it is easy to spend other people's money. We must have the final budget by the end of March and all departments are going to have to make cuts moving forward. Mr. Mack – I echo what has been said. There was an idea for archery at the park and at the time we put the brakes on it, and we were not going to bring it up until

Zoning:

Zoning is working on the comprehensive plan and getting the steering committee around. The first meeting is Monday the 10th from 3-4:30pm in the fire training room. If we have any farmers in the community or here at the meeting that would like to join the committee let me know. There will be 7 meetings over the course of 12-14 months.

Administrator:

Resolution 2025-005: Re-appoint Mr. Tony Knight to Port Authority. **Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.**

Working hard on the new administration building, will have the plans to share soon.

Fiscal Officer:

We need to have policies in place and approve them.

Use of federal funds and/or grants.

Asset of inventory.

Public money deposit.

Procurement policy.

Credit card policy.

Travel reimbursement.

Disaster recovery plan.

Mr. Britten moved for approval to approve all in the packet. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes.

Motion approved.

Trustees:

Mr. Britten – OTA conference. I went to learn about parks grant, agriculture land, levy campaign and tools township can use for economic development.

Mr. Mack – OTA conference. Learned that during COVID state legislature made it possible to vote thru zoom/electronically. They have since made it that if you are an elected official or getting paid you must attend/vote in person. Attended economic development seminars.

Mr. Schaller – OTA conference. I learned about vehicle speed limits on township roads and the options that a township can do themselves. CLOUT meeting. Levy campaign. Unexpected disruptions to township operations. Cemetery landscape. Economic development.

Public Comments:

None.

Mr. Mack entertained the motion to adjourn. Mr. Britten moved for approval. Mr. Schaller seconded. All yes. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 16:57

Gretchen Welch – Fiscal Officer

Robert Mack -Chairman