

Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

June 26, 2017

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees met on Monday June 26, 2017 to transact business. Vice Chairman Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Guy Bainum and Gary Jordan answered the roll call. Also present were Fiscal Officer, Gregory W. Carson, Yvonne Malott, Richard Malott, Brian Tatman, Kevin Wiedemann, Ed Boll, Rich Surface and Mark Bishop.

Mr. Bainum motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas. Mr. Carson presented a financial report, including a comprehensive account of expenditures and receipts and the trustees accepted it.

Mr. Jordan motioned to pay the attached bills. Mr. Henning second. All yeas.

Mark Bishop said that they work for Energy Alliances and work with several surrounding townships regarding energy aggregation. He said that he's sure that everyone gets calls from energy suppliers all of the time, but this is an opportunity for a township to negotiate the rates for the residents. He said that it is run through PUCO so its government regulated. He said that it would need a resolution passed by the township trustees to put it on the ballot. He said that if it passes the ballot box, then public hearings would be held and PUCO would regulate them. He said that this would not tie the township to Energy Alliances, but allows the township to have this program and allows the township to work with any supplier, but he hopes that we would work with Energy Alliances, because he feels that they have the best pricing and best program available. Mr. Jordan asked the details of how they are working with Batavia Township and Mr. Bishop explained that the Batavia Township program is an opt in program which allows residents to opt in, but doesn't require them to opt out, which makes the negotiated rates less favorable, because there is no guarantee of quantity available to make it a bulk rate. He said that they have a different gas and electric program. He said that their gas program is very unique in that they allow it to fluctuate through the year, but they do a buy ahead program in the winter to keep it from fluctuating too much during the winter months. Mr. Bainum said that he feels that we should never force anyone in the township to be required to use a service. He feels that the residents are smart enough to make their own decisions without government controlling their lives. He said that he needs to read through the literature thoroughly to fully understand it and help him to make an informed decision. He said that he feels that rates get locked and then the possibility exists of other rates going below these rates and then residents are stuck at the higher rate. Mr. Bishop gave a step by step list of what they do to help the resolutions get passed on the voter's ballot. Mr. Jordan said that he agrees with Mr. Bainum that we shouldn't force things like this on our township residents and require them to do something because they should have free choice. Mr. Surface said that we shouldn't feel like we are forcing the residents to do anything. He said that residents have the option to opt out and even if they choose it in the beginning, they can cancel at any time.

Zoning Report

Mrs. Malott presented a zoning report. Mr. Bainum thanked her for sending out the numerous letters about cleaning up their properties. She said that she is giving public notice for 2 properties of notice to control vegetation.

Cemetery & Maintenance Report

Mr. Tatman gave a copy of a survey that Symmes Township conducted of all of the surrounding township and private cemeteries costs for funerals and graves. He said that Bethel recently raised their prices. Mr. Jordan thanked him and said that we would review it and take it under advisement for a future meeting. Mr. Tatman said that the broken equipment is back up and running. He said that almost all of the roads are mowed now, but the remaining roads should be completed by the end of the week. He said that they have had 40 funerals YTD which is up 7 from YTD last year. Mr. Jordan said that there are some pothole problems on various roads. Mr. Tatman said that he has them on his list and he's working to catch up now that roads are mowed and junk days are over. He said that they need to re-trim some trees on Happy Hollow Road. He said that he has a few funerals this week.

Emergency Services Report

Mr. Wiedemann said that he would like to put Callie Willis on the department, because she is almost finished with her Basic EMT class. Mr. Bainum motioned to put Callie Willis on the department with standard probationary period. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas. Mr. Wiedemann said that Lucy Snell from the garden club called and would like to use the fire hydrant to water the flowers at 5th and Spring Street. He said that we can't do that with the hydrant. He said that he plans to talk to the Mayor about it, because they water the other things in the town. He said that if they don't do it, then he will volunteer to do it with the jeep. He said that he would like to purchase a tool box from Harbor Freight at a cost of around \$300 so that he can lock up his tools. Mr. Bainum motioned to allow him to purchase a tool box from Harbor Freight at a cost of around \$300. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas. He said that they didn't use the \$2,000 allocated to do the light bar on car 373 and had about \$1,200 leftover from what we allocated so he would like to do the rest of the other lights because we have had 3 boat rescues recently and really needed brighter lights. Mr. Jordan motioned to allow them to purchase the additional lights at a cost of around \$1,200. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. He said that he plans to take some vacation during the week of July 3. He said that they would like to do electronic EMS reporting with new software. He said that several other townships around the county use this software and are very happy with it. He said that he has looked at a few different options, but he likes ESO the best and that is what the other townships are using and like also. He said that it's likely that we could increase our medical billings by as much as 10% because of the efficiency. He said that the cost for the tablets, training, software, maintenance, etc. will be \$9,239.76 for the first year and then \$5,185/year thereafter. Mr. Jordan motioned to purchase this software and equipment at a cost of around \$9,239.76. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas.

Mr. Jordan motion to enter executive session pursuant to section 121.22 (G) (8) (a) to consider confidential information related to negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. Mr. Jordan motioned to come out of executive session at approximately 8:30 p.m. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas.

Mr. Bainum motioned to adjourn at approximately 8:30 p.m. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas.

Fiscal Officer

Chairman