

ISLAND CREEK TOWNSHIP

MAY 10, 2022

The Island Creek Township monthly meeting began with the financial part of the meeting, While checks and PO's were being signed. The Fiscal Officer read the bills being paid.

A correction to the minutes was explained, that during the April Financial part of the monthly meeting, the Fiscal Officer explained that a new bank agreement was signed to raise the bank collateral amount, due to receiving the American Relief money, and the Real Estate Tax money which raised the depository balance. This was omitted from the April minutes and will be added to the May minutes as corrected.

REGULAR MEETING

Sam Grafton, chairman, called the Regular meeting to order asking the Fiscal Officer for a Roll Call;

Sam Grafton, here

Ralph (Bub) Grimm, absent due to illness

Brian Applegarth, here

The meeting is being recorded, please speak your name.

Brian moved to accept the previous months minutes as corrected adding the Bank Agreement correction to May's minutes. Sam second. All in favor.

Brian moved to accept the financials, Sam second All in favor.

CHAIRS

The additional chairs that were added to the Community Building, were donated by Trebel LLC., the Company that handles the electric aggregate program the Township residents voted in. He was present a few months ago, explaining rates and realized we needed chairs. A thank you will be sent.

BILL LUCAS-OTARMA

Bill was present to review the OTARMA Insurance plan. Nothing has changed in the last two years, but he wanted to high light several things. Our renewal is 5-15-22. OTARMA now offers faithful performance of duty, instead of bonding. We did receive a refund regarding the old bonding. Bill reviewed the vehicle coverage. And liability coverage. He also explained claim

coverages on legal issues. Bill explained Cemetery coverage on vandalism. Sam received a call about someone pushing over tombstones. Personal vehicle coverage was also explained. Bill ask that we review the schedule property and vehicles, and let him know if there are changes.

Rob Herrington wanted to ask about coverage for demolition on a house that was burnt down in the Township. Bill explained that there is no coverage. Bill suggested the Land Bank. Sam explained that there is a lien on the property.

Sam moved to renew coverage with OTARMA at the same liability as current, Brian second. All were in favor.

JOHN RHINE- FOUR SEASONS COMMUNITY CENTER

John explained that he is the Chairman of the Board of the Four-Season Community Center. The road leading up to the center is a mess. They would like to see about making it a Township Road. Sam explained that this is all done through the County. Currently the road is owned by three different people. They all have to sign off on the road. The County has to come out and give their opinion and we go from there. John has an attorney working on the papers, Sam explained it goes to the Commissioners, then the County Engineer will review what needs done to the road.

MARK LONGO-KINGS DRIVE

Mr. Longo ask about Sam questioning the County about the traffic of a tractor trailer and the destruction of the roadway. Sam talked with Branagan, County Engineer, he ask if the truck was overloaded. It doesn't matter the size of the truck if it's a legal highway, they are allowed to be in there. Unless its overloaded, then we can have the scales brought in to weigh. Mr. Longo didn't believe it was overloaded. Mr. Longo- Obviously, its tearing up the roadway. Branagan also explained, that we need to look at our road surface to see why It's breaking down. Mr. Longo-the way they put their driveway in, they are blocking the drainage of the water on one side of the road. Sam will come out to look at. Troy just fixed a drainage problem a few weeks ago on that road.

BRENDA POWLEY

Brenda ask about the roads we were going to pave and if we were going to discuss it. Sam explained we got our list together, we all picked roads that we felt were the worse. It is not finalized yet. We have not condensed down. We have to finish the paving on Buzzards Roast, or (Bakers Hill), we have Issue Two on Archery Club Road. Termer Ave down at Pottery, we talked to Shelly and Sands about. They took a bridge out and they are going to repave where they dropped the bridge on Jewitt Hallow, so those are a few we will be starting with. We will have a list together and weigh out the values of chip and seal program. Brenda ask about the cost of the blacktop, Sam-\$72.00 for surface, we don't know the cost of base yet. Brenda ask if we were using Shelly and Sands for blacktop. We usually use Shelly and Sands blacktop. By the

time we go to Martins Ferry or Empire the asphalt gets cold. Brenda ask about where the entrance to Bray's Cemetery was, other than walking up the hill. Sam explained there is no other way. When they trim they carry weed eaters up the hill. Whenever the County reconstructed the turn, they cut the entrance road off. There used to be a road at the top, but it was done away with.

EMS CONTRACTS

Brian A. explained that going back and forth with TEMS, he feels there is progress. Brian A. ask Bill to stick around for questions concerning OTARMA's recommendations. Bill explained that if they offer requirements, that may not be set in stone. Bill reviewed the recommendations. If they require it, the Township should do there best to try. Bill explained that what he feels they want, is the liability limits. An extra million requirement. Jeff felt we ask for 2 million. And asking that the Township be named as additionally insured. Bill felt that it wasn't a problem to be additional insured. Its good to have the same limits when asking to be named as additional insured. The Township has no aggregate limit. No aggregate applies. This helped explain some of the recommendations.

BRIAN HARE-RICHMOND, Brian H. explained there was still some issues with training requirements. It is about money. We do have to operate like a business. If we have to purchase additional insurance, if we have to purchase hazmat suits for training, if we have to have NFPA physicals, which no one in the county does, we have to think about the cost. They want to do the best they can do. As the chief, he's not sure he can meet the requirements and it's his name as chief on the contract. Jeff felt that as far as the Hazmat, since you don't have the equipment or capability, you put in the contract that you'll call the County. Brian H. felt that is there's other avenues, and common ground until we will get people trained.

Rob Herrington felt that they were going by the Ohio Revised Code. If we can fall back on the County Hazmat the language can be addressed.

Chuck Polen, felt that the time line on the training was an issue.

Rob Herrington ask that providing that the language be sorted pout, what is the situation on the amounts, percentages?

Brian A. explained that right now we are at 80%, 45%, and 10% with the shortfall coming from the American Relief Act.

Jeff felt that they are close to getting the contract signed with TEMS.

Rob wanted to discuss the funding. Rob felt that its very unfortunate that the people who have to work together have been drawn into this basic battle over money. Brian Hare made the statement, it is a reality that we are in Business. How does this get figured? As Clark will tell you he doesn't do 80% of the calls in Island Creek Township, with Pleasant Hills calls. Rob has the numbers. the reality of it is they are working to have enough money to do the service. So, the number everyone has, is what it takes to have enough money to do the service. So, the number everyone has is what it takes, not what's available. The percentages aren't based on anything. When we had said 45%-TEMS, 45% Wintersville, that was a percentage Dave Fulmer

came up with, Rob agreed with him because it sounded about right. It actually is 55-35 in favor of TEMS, because TEMS calls for Pleasant Hill in the beginning of 2021 are not what they are on a daily basis. As of today, he will run approximately 400 calls, Wintersville will run 250 and Richmond 62. Rob had a print out sheet, showing cost per calls (based on the EMS Funding at the percentages of TEMS 80%, Richmond 7% and Wintersville 13%.) TEMS: \$209.00 per call. Brian, Richmond: \$118.00 and Wintersville: \$53.00, so as a Business person, the deal is the Township doesn't have enough money for what is needed. The Reality for Wintersville is, TEMS will get paid 4 times more per incident. We know that the Township has to do something to generate more money. Rob is still waiting on the tax map report. The cost to run EMS calls is going to be somewhat similar.

There is animosity so deep because of this. Rob suggest that we come to a compromise that everyone gets a fair amount of money but needs to be close to the same, it needs to be fair. How do we move forward? Rob feels it should be fairly distributed and make up the difference somehow so its even. If your going to give TEMS money out of the American Relief Act to operate, then the Township owes Wintersville \$146,000.00 Because we have the same issues. We are going to do Business somehow, but to have people screaming at each other and post on Facebook. We need to work together or its going to get worse. We need to fix it. We are not in tuned with what the agencies need. Sit down with each of us for what we need. Clark feels this year should be covered and look to the future. Rob felt that we were going to figure out the coverage area and then move forward.

Sam felt that there's not enough fire or EMS funds. Rob felt that each Agency needs to work together with the Township on what they need in the future.

Un-named male, He stated Toronto has never been invited to a meeting. Rob will check into the Toronto Department. We used to have a Mutual Aid with Knoxville.

Clark felt that all the Data should be on the table.

Chuck felt we need to figure out the need, and then discuss the levies. People always ask Rob, why they bill insurance and Medicare, Rob explained why they bill for calls.

Rob ask that can the Township give the assurance that we will meet the financial expectations that we have for this year. Brian felt that we will, using the American Relief Money.

Rick Antill felt the residents deserve to know that we have EMS coverage. Jeff explained that we had options available for coverage for all residents. Brian A. explained that we have been working on solutions. We always have a plan for back up. Jeff explained that we have been trying.

Un-named man, ask about isn't it the same contract. Rob explained, the old contracts were extremely poor, needed more language. The recommendations were put on paper, and issues are getting resolved.

Bill Lucas felt that the Trustees need to sit with just the interested parties and hash this out.

JB GREEN TEAM

The clean up is June 2nd. Sam ask if they will be bringing help. We will call.

JEFFERSON COUNTY RECREATION GRANT

We did request money to finish the walking trail. Haven't heard back yet.

BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

No one was present, but it was noted that they have reimbursed the Township for the Utilities they have used.

FEMA 381

Last meeting some residents suggested getting a dozer and opening up the road. Sam talked with the County Engineer who stated, it's a slip area, if we touch the road we would lose any funding, plus a study would need done.

LOGGING ON 391

A logger on 391 has signed a road use maintenance agreement.

TROY-ROAD FOREMAN

Troy stated Seven Creeks had some flooding with the last rain, they have worked to repair that. They will get back to getting 384 ready for the County. Patched some holes in Lewis and Speakers.

OVERLOOK HILL FIRE ISSUE

Rob ask about what to tell the residents. There is a lien on the house, the lien blocks the sale of the land. The lien won't be released. So, the reality is the Township can't leave it like this. Its basically a junk yard that burnt down in a neighborhood. Brian A. ask about the Health Department, Jeff felt it is a nuisance. Rob explained we won't get our money back from the Demolition that needs done. A resident ask, if we were allowed to demo? Rob explained, if the resident signs for it, which Rob feels he will. The lien against the house is \$107,000.00. The lien blocks the sale of the land. Sam added there is also back taxes. Rob talked to the lien holder and he won't release the lien. There was no insurance, no money, it's the worse case scenario. Rob is willing to call the land bank for information; the property has good value but because of the lien. Rob had gotten a price of \$9500.00 for demo. Rob ask if the Township would want to do it. Sam replied no.

Health Department general takes time. The property is a disaster. Jeff will call Jeff Bruzees for additional direction. If we exhaust every way, this may not wait another month. If needed we will have a special meeting.

GRANTS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS

We received information on DeWine announcing a grant, the Departments knew about it.

ROAD LEVY RESOLUTION

Sam moved to proceed with the Road Levy Resolution, Brian second. All in favor. This is the final step to be placed on the ballot. This will go to the Auditor and to the Board of Elections.

EYE, DENTAL INSURANCE

The eye and dental insurance is up for renewal. The dental rate was unchanged the eye increased .55%. Brian moved to renew the eye and dental. Sam second. All in favor.

CHAMBER

In order to receive the better rates of the insurance, we have to join the Chamber. We received this information after excepting the lower rate. Sam moved to join the Chamber, Brian second. All in favor.

EMS, FIRE LEVY

Brenda Powley ask if we were going to get busy on a levy. Sam explained when you start on a levy, we need a meeting with EMS and Fire. Its best to try to keep separate. When you go for a levy, it's best to be able to justify it. No sense putting a .5 mil on if you need 2. The departments need to figure what it will take to get the money that we need. Brenda ask if we are going to work on that, an Un-named resident ask wouldn't it be better for the residents in the TEMS area to vote to join the TEMS District. Rob's opinion was, the biggest issue now is we need to sit down as departments and say what needs generated for EMS and then the Fire side do the same. If the decision is to put part in TEMS, so be it. But we need to have the conversation about it. Clark added we need to do it now. Everyone agreed. Brenda ask again, if we are going to get it rolling? Yes, we need to move forward. Clark wants to look long term.

BUDGETARY

The following Supplemental Appropriations were made to record the Tax settlement for mobile home fees:

TO: 1000-113-314-0000 \$100.00 Auditor fees

FROM: 1000-110-315-0000 Election Expense

TO: 2191-230-314-0000 \$200.00 Auditor Fees

FROM: 2191-230-3600 Contracted Service

The following supplemental appropriations were made to submit payroll March retirement that was taken from the gasoline Fund:

TO: 2021-330-2111-0000 \$175.00 PERS

FROM:2021-330-360-0000 \$175.00 Contracted Service

The following Supplemental Appropriation was made for Garage door repair:

TO: 1000-760-720-0000 \$2400.00 Building

FROM: 1000-990-990-0000 Other (insurance repair)

The following supplemental Appropriation was made for EMS Coverage:

TO: 2273-230-599-0000 \$21,847.69 Other Expenses

FROM: 2273-990-990-0000 Other Financial needs.

Brian moved to accept the following as legal obligation of the Township, Sam second.

There being no further business brought before the Board, Brian moved to adjourn. Sam second. All in favor.

CHAIRMAN

FISCAL OFFICER