

ISLAND CREEK TOWNSHIP

SPECIAL MEETING

JUNE 7, 2022

The Board of Trustees met in special session to sign and disburse EMS contracts and payments.

Ralph (Bub) Grimm, Vice Chairman called the meeting to order, with the Fiscal Officer asking for Roll call:

Sam Grafton, absent (sickness)

Ralph Grimm: Here

Brian Applegarth: Here

Brian made a motion to pass a Resolution to use the American Relief Act Funding, to pay part of the EMS coverage to TEMS for the first 6 months and second 6 months, Bub second. All in favor.

Brian moved to accept and sign the proposed contract with TEMS through the end of the year. Bub second. All in favor. Clark Crago and Bob Bertram were present to sign and accept the check. Clark asking if this was the final contract that was sent, Brian answered Yes Sir.

Brian made a motion to pass a Resolution to pay Wintersville Fire Department from the American Relief Fund, for the EMS coverage shortfall for the past services, of \$99,461.52, Bub second. All in favor.

Brian moved to accept and sign the proposed Contracts for EMS and Fire for Wintersville, to extend them to the end of the year, Bub second. All in favor. Rob Herrington was present to sign and accept checks. (He took both copies for Mark to sign and returned.) Rob ask if they were the same, Brian answered yes, Jeff took out the insurance clause and extended to the end of the year. Three separate checks were given, one for EMS, one for Fire and one for the American Relief Fund.

Brian moved to sign and accept Richmond's proposed Contract, Brian Hare representing Richmond stated Richmond's not going to sign, Brian Applegarth ask what's going on? They sent him a thing yesterday with all the stuff, basically there's very little changed on their contract, when he was at the last meeting and mentioned some of the stuff in the contract they weren't worried about ours at the time, and basically all I got was the revision of the training part. And removal of the umbrella, but some of the stuff in there just, on the fire side, I don't

agree with, I wish the powers to be that wrote the contract were here, so I could sit and hash some of it out, because for you to call me that you want me to sign a contract and then within 30 days I have to agree to IDLH training program with you, when the State sets the IDLH training requirements, why do I have to set a training requirement with you if I follow what the State puts out? It's me that has to sign the IDLH not the Township. I'm the one if I have a member that doesn't take the IDLH I'm the one that has to sign off, that yes, they received additional training to be able to do subdue firefighting on a scene of a fire such as that. Just some of the stuff in there like the NFPA physicals, they are \$300.00 a shot, I'm not against having physicals, we've had them done in the past, like it's just a lot of ongoing expense for the little portion we cover of the Township. I'm not going to hold you back for doing what you're doing, like getting stuff resolved, it's just that we're not going to sign. If you want to divvy the area up that's up to you, were not going to discontinue services, were just not going to sign a contract. Brian Hare will sit down with someone, Brian Applegarth wrote down the issues and will have the conversation later. Bub added that most of the requirements are from our insurance. It's not the Township. They told us what we should have, just to clarify that. All we are is a middle person, we take the money that the tax levies bring up and distribute it to the Fire Departments, Correct? We are just the middle guy, we don't control Pleasant Hill, Pottery Addition, Richmond, Wintersville or TEMS. Brian Hare understood that, and doesn't disagree with that fact, but like he said when you put in there the IDLH part of the training, which the State has set forth requirements that Fire Chiefs basically have to assume the liability and sign off if they are willing to do that, but your contract says once I sign the contract I have 30 days to agree with a training, Bub agreed with him 100 % .Brian didn't want to speak on Clarks behalf or the other Departments on these EMS billing rates on who we can bill and who we can't bill. He is a private Company, Clark added he believed that was in there if the Township would have their own department. Its still in there, and the fact that they establish different charges for Township Residents, and nonresidents, and charge for infrastructure patients, Rob added that we talked to Fulmer about that and, Clark talked to him also, the problem is, when he did that part of the contract he looked at a revised code, and the revised code is kind of broad, so that if you have your own EMS. Rob's understanding was when he talked to him, was it doesn't apply because like Brian said, we are a private organization as well and there are political, or separate organization. So, it didn't really apply to any of us, so he ask why not just take it out? He said it's not going to apply, so Rob stated it shouldn't be in there, Brian Applegarth is going to get back with Jeff on this and double check. Clark added that a lot of the stuff was geared toward if we had our own Fire district. Or EMS or whatever. Rob added the problem with that in the legislature about the way its written, you have the authority to pick your law enforcement provider and your fire protection provider but EMS isn't in the revised code because they never bothered to put it in there as far as who determines the provider, it's just stuff like that. They never fix this stuff, and that section is really old and never corrected. There're so many different ways that people do EMS in Ohio it's just got this Broad umbrella thing that's never been defined. Brian Applegarth ask Brian Hare if he saw a way working around this? Or you mentioned splitting up coverage is that something you want to do, I'm not going to kick this

down the road another month. Brian Hare answered he's not trying to hold us back, he has a meeting with their executive Board on Thursday, he thought we were closer to a resolution on his end than we are, on some of this stuff. Brian Applegarth stated we will work through it.

Clark Crago added, we need to continue to working through issues. This is to get us through the end of year. We need to look at the future. Long term plans are needed.

Brian stated the contract he has EMS coverage to June 30th, and Fire till September 30th. Brian Applegarth said the new one was through the end of the year. But it doesn't really matter if he doesn't like the language. Brian Applegarth gave him a copy to take with him. Someone:

(maybe Clark) There was so many out there. Brian Applegarth: As far as everybody, I made clear, or thought I made clear, maybe I didn't, you sign these and we discuss the long term plan. Until then we keep going.

Brian Hare also pointed out he would like two different contracts, one for EMS, and one for Fire. This is for grant reasons. The State on EMS side requires this. This is a simple fix. On page 4 of the training was a problem, if they are going to agree on what the State sets forth, Clark added that you probably have members that are happy at their level that don't want to go on, Brian Hare stated he has members that are 50 years old that aren't going to go take the Fire one, I mean I do get that they're not going to pack up and go in, but they are some of my best eyes on scene and with the truck and such.

Clark, it's hard when you have State requirements and the Township is trying to cover, Brian Hare:

It's something we can get through but if I sign that and can't come to an agreement, what they are going to require. Bub added, I don't think we require anything other than what the State wants, we're not making special request. Clark: it was at first, Bub added, we know, we had a problem with our Fire Prevention Officer, I'm going to be point blank, Roger Fisher ask if he was still here? Brian Applegarth, technically yes, but not involved. Bub, he hasn't been around.

Roger: Is he no longer going to be involved? Darla: he says he's coming to Tuesday's meeting.

Bub, that will be discussed at Tuesday's meeting. I can't say whether he is or not, he's a volunteer, I'll just leave it at that. Maybe Roger: So, he's not being paid? Bub: No not a dime.

Roger: So, if he requests information from us, do we have to send it to him? Clark, that's a inaudible. Bub: that's up to you. Darla: I do, because of public information, but I can't answer that. Shawn Smith: he's referring to, he requested all the minutes from all our meetings for the last two or three years. Bub understands that, and he went overboard. We are not going to get into that, this is not what this meeting is about. Shawn understood but that's a problem and the hard dates on the calendar that are impossible to meet. Clark: we actually talked about that too. You do have to follow the Ohio revised code on giving information.

Rob Herrington explained some of the training issues throughout the State and with State requirements. There are three levels of training in Ohio. On the volunteer end is a 36-hour course that does not permit those to go into a burning building. That has never been enforced in Ohio, until a few years ago. They want to do away with that course. They compromised by giving a list of requirements for the Fire Chief to check off. It is still in limbo in Ohio. So, we have volunteers that are 36-hour train, that maybe don't want to go further, So Dave Fulmer's idea was everyone had to be that, (structure fire trained) well you don't have to be that, just everyone can't go into a burning building. So, then the conversation was, how about everyone at least have a plan for how they would do that. The reality is there are people in all our organizations who are not going to go past that 36 hours, and that's OK as long as you have other people that can be structural firefighters. So, Rob's idea was turn in your roster and what your plan moving forward is. The Amish went crazy about this training, so they compromised and the Fire Chief could sign off. The problem with that is, that puts the Fire chief in a liable position. So, if they submit a plan, what if its not agreeable. Then what. The other question is, who's going to be agreeing on this, the Trustees or Dave Fulmer? Brian Applegarth stated that no one if that language is not needed.

Rob: The language could be to submit a plan for a year, that says where your trying to go. Pleasant Hill has already sent some for Emergency Vehicle courses. Clark added why not follow the Ohio Revised code for each organization. Rob explained that the reason it came about was that Pleasant Hill doesn't have very many people as Fire Fighter one. That was a problem. Chuck has been talking with Rob on doing the training, but Rob needs the States approval to do it. It's not like he's not trying. Brian Applegarth will work on working this stuff out as far as language and accommodating. It's like telling Clark, everyone has to be a paramedic. You're always going to have EMT's and paramedics. Same with Fire fighters your going to have the 55-year-old guy, that will go and do everything you need him to do, but go into a burning building. Or wear a breathing apparatus, and we don't want to lose these people. It's just coming up with a plan to make sure that's being dealt with correctly. Again, Brian will work on this with Richmond.

LEVIES

Rob pulled all our levies, the effective rates are so low, basically we have 5 mils that generate \$370,000.00. At the current rate they would generate almost exactly twice as much. Rob ask if each organization would meet this week to see what the need is going forward and bring back to the Trustees'. Rob ask if we can have emergency resolutions? We can do special meetings to meet the deadline. Rob is also working on the language and supposedly there is a way to get away from the effective rate issue, so every five years you get fresh money, it's still voted on, not continuous. Roger Fisher: they could also vote it down every 5 years. Rob, we have to do a good job.

Clark added: If this is the angle we are going at, these contracts need cleaned up even more and need to be a long term 5-year contract. Rob: the idea is to do the math up front. Bub: you guys

get together, I'm sure we will agree, we have no reason not to. Rob: We'll put something together, Bub: that's better than us having say, a David Fulmer or me or Brian or Sam. You guys know what you do. That was the intent all along.

Rob will have the language hopefully today and will keep in touch.

Brian then moved to adjourn. Bub second. All in favor.

VICE CHAIRMAN

FISCAL OFFICER