

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

MIAMI TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held

MARCH 9, 2020

20

The Miami Township Board of Trustees met in work session on Monday, March 9, 2020 at the Miami Township Civic Center. Vice Chairperson Ms. Wolff called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mary Makley Wolff and Karl Schultz.

Presentations: Mr. Wright introduced a group of residents that were present to make a presentation regarding a concept and goal to raise interest privately to pay for capital expenses to install a solar array here on the Civic Center property. The array would be metered so the Township would benefit from a portion of the solar energy created, and the local residents, as investors, would benefit from the cooperative with part of the energy savings benefitting those investors. He stated it would be the first of its kind, there are aspects to work out, and it is a very admirable goal to work towards. He also noted that Rich Surace was also present and was involved when the Township engaged with Dynegy for the Township's electric consumption agreement at its facilities.

Mr. Don Welty, 1161 Falcon Ridge Court, provided an informational summary and data regarding his residential installation of 21 solar panels on his south-facing roof. He shared the energy generated by the panels offset 77% of his electricity in 2019 and the return on investments is 8.5 years in most cases. He expressed his support for green energy, versus coal, and the proposed community solar array for Miami Township.

Mr. Kevin McDarty, reviewed a community solar farm installation from 2015 called the Boardman Hill Solar Farm located in Vermont and cited it received the Vermont Energy and Climate Action best project award. He shared that the City of Cincinnati created a solar plan in 2008 referred to as, "The Green Cincinnati Plan" which contains recommendations to advance sustainability and strategies to reduce carbon emissions. The City's examples of solar panel installations were noted at police department buildings, Smale Park, and the Cincinnati Zoo.

Mr. McDarty also shared a solar installation operating in Athens, Ohio where included was a mechanism to allow for a carbon tax, although that was not what he was proposing. He next shared the example of a large-scale solar array farm installed by Duke Energy located in Walton, Kentucky.

Mr. David Fossier, 325 Fieldcrest Lane, provided details regarding the equipment costs, program design, and energy production for the proposed solar array at the Civic Center. He stated the equipment would be \$100,000 with an estimated payback period of 12 years. The solar array would generate an energy supply that would reduce 25% of the energy costs for the Civic Center building. The cooperative would sell power from the panels to the Township at a reduced rate. Members of the community would be able to be active in the cause to reduce carbon footprint and there would not be out of pocket costs for the Township.

Mr. Fossier explained that additional opportunities and goals would be to utilize the solar array as a learning center for solar energy and collaborate with the local schools.

Ms. Wolff applauded the residents for their research and interest in the solar opportunity. She stated the Township endeavors to empower its residents and there is not a downside to exploring the public/private partnerships which can be achieved.

Mr. Schultz inquired about the trend in efficiencies of the solar panel technology. It was noted that it has increased to over 300 watts since panels were first available.

Law Director Joe Braun commented that there are legal challenges to review which are significant, and it would require legislation to accomplish. He noted the examples of harvesting energy are numerous and the difference is this project would be a private investment.

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Chief Kelly requested approval to purchase and install the Locution Station Alerting System in the Township fire stations. He shared that Clermont County Communications has installed the backbone for the Locution System which creates the ability to have improved alerting at all fire stations. He stated it would eliminate downtime at the communications center and improves the overall response and on-scene times. Quotes were presented to install the Locution System in all four of the fire stations to allow the direct dispatching. The equipment quote was \$43,600 and \$10,849.98 for the installation of the equipment in all four stations.

Mr. Wright advised that he and Mr. Musselman are requesting a final offer of employment be granted to Cody Dollenmayer, Mike Krebs, Gage Pettit, Ocsar Schuchman and Steve Pfaff for the position of part-time seasonal Maintenance Worker at an hourly pay rate of \$12.36 after successful completion of the remainder of our hiring process.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to grant a final offer of employment to Cody Dollenmayer, Mike Krebs, Gage Pettit, Oscar Schuchman and Steve Pfaff for the position of part-time seasonal Maintenance Worker at an hourly rate of \$12.36 upon successful completion of the remainder of the hiring process, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised that staff has also requested final offer of employment be granted to Douglas Morgan for the position of part-time seasonal Maintenance Worker with an hourly pay rate of \$12.36 beginning March 10, 2020.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to grant a final offer of employment to Douglas Morgan for the position of part-time seasonal Maintenance Worker at an hourly rate of \$12.36 beginning March 10, 2020, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Wright advised that Krystin Thibodeau is requesting that conditional employment be offered to the following candidates pending successful completion of the remainder of the hiring process for part-time seasonal work within the Recreation Department:

Emily Abas	Recreation Assistant	\$9/hr.
Marla Conrad	Recreation Assistant	\$10/hr./Lead \$15/hr.
Peyton Fiegel	Recreation Assistant	\$9/hr.
Connor Pace	Recreation Assistant	\$9/hr.
Candace Walson	Recreation Assistant	\$9/hr.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to offer conditional, part-time seasonal employment for the position of Recreation Assistants to Emily Abas, Marla Conrad, Peyton Fiegel, Connor Pace, and Candace Walson, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Elliff reported that the Zoning Commission met and heard Case #571 and recommended it be heard by the Trustees. He requested a special meeting of the Trustees be set for Monday, March 30, 2020 at 7 p.m. Discussion was held on alternative dates.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to set a special zoning hearing Case #571, R-PUD Major Amendment for Cooks Crossing Apartments, by the Board of Trustees on Monday, April 13, 2020 at 7 p.m. and any other business to come before the Board, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Chief Mills presented a request for 42 plate carrier vests with a grant off-set of \$5,000 from the Ohio Criminal Justice Services. He stated with the ever-increasing need for police officer protection, during the 2020 budget preparations a total of \$13,600 was included and grant funding was submitted and approved for this equipment. Three bids were obtained for the plate carrier vests which were Steel Ops Ltd. for \$11,798, Spartan Armor Systems for \$14,223, and AR500 for \$23,107. It is recommended to accept the bid from Steel Ops in the amount of \$11,798.

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Mr. Schultz made a motion to approve the purchase of 42 plate carrier vests from Steel Ops Limited in an amount not to exceed \$11,798.00, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Ms. Flanigan presented the semi-annual review of Township credit cards in accordance with ORC 505.64. She stated that the Township's Finance Associate Laura Wells as the compliance officer along with herself review the credit card accounts which occurs every six months.

Ms. Flanigan reported that there are 14 Township credit cards. There were two Sam's Club Mastercard accounts closed. The Township still has a Sam's Club membership and makes payment with the department credit cards. No changes were made to credit limits or expiration dates, and one account number inactivated, and new account number assigned due to external fraudulent activity. The expiration date and card limit did not change.

Mr. Schultz made a motion to accept the semi-annual credit card report for the period September 2019 – February 2020, seconded by Ms. Wolff with all voting "AYE".

Mr. Musselman presented a request to replace a salt truck within the Service Department for 2020. He stated this replacement was in keeping with the 5-year vehicle replacement plan. Truck 12 is currently the truck in the worst condition and performs as a spare. He reviewed a number of mechanical and electrical issues occurring with the truck in addition to the corroded chassis.

Mr. Musselman stated that a new single cab and chassis purchased through the state purchasing program would cost \$81,069. He noted the request is for the cab and chassis only and the configuration for the truck bed is still being reviewed.

Discussion was held regarding the overall condition of the truck fleet and there will be requests to budget truck replacements for the next few years. Also discussed was the stainless-steel bed option and whether that was cost-effective.

Chief Kelly presented two out of township travel requests. The first is to send Firefighter/Medics Greg Ortman and Chris Luebbe to the ImageTrend users conference July 21-25, 2020 at a cost not to exceed \$2,300. Chief Kelly stated this was training for the new records management system recently put in place. As part of the contract there were included two admissions to the training conference and the cost request is for the travel to St. Paul Minnesota.

The second travel request is to send Firefighter/Medic Maria Pyles to the annual Fire Department Instructor's Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis, Indiana from April 19 – 21, 2020. He shared that Ms. Pyles applied for and received a grant scholarship that will cover the registration fees of \$980 which was received from Women in Fire. The travel expense would be a total of \$1,225.

Chief Mills reported that the Police Department has brought in approximately \$20,000 through drug forfeitures and other activity. These funds are available for other uses. He shared that after the homicide in 2019, the need was realized that a drying cabinet was necessary. The equipment provides for a controlled environment with filters to handle wet evidence and reduces the possibility of contamination.

The drying cabinet was budgeted for 2020. Three bids were collected for a 36" drying cabinet which were from Trittech Forensics for \$3,899, Shopevident.com for \$3,999 and Sirche for \$6,165. The lowest bid from Trittech Forensics in the amount of \$4,372 is being recommended which included filters to last five years.

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Discussion was held regarding the current methods and extra precautions to be taken when collecting evidence. It was noted that this equipment would step-up the Township's method for preserving evidence making it difficult for any potential defense challenges.

Mr. Wright advised of surplus property requests from the Police, Fire Service and Administration Departments. He stated an exhibit was prepared listing the property that is no longer useful for the Township. The property would be posted to auction on GovDeals prior to be disposed of appropriately.

Mr. Musselman advised that the Township has budgeted to replace a ¾-ton pick-up truck for the Service Department in 2020. This follows the five-year replacement plan. This would allow for Truck 1501 to be rotated to be repurposed to be utilized with road mowing services. The replacement was budgeted for \$29,000 and a suitable replacement can be purchased for \$30,633 with the difference of \$1,633 being funded by the remaining dollars saved when the brine mixing station was acquired.

Chief Mills presented a request for a mechanic workbench with tool storage, constructed of stainless-steel and built for rough conditions of a service garage. He reviewed the cost savings on repair work by having a mechanic in-house and the extensive tool collection will be better preserved by the storage unit. The 12-drawer pro series workbench purchase would not exceed \$3,389 and would be purchased from Dragon fire Tools LLC.

Mr. Musselman presented the bid opening results held March 5, 2020 for the Miami Township Pavement Resurfacing Plan. The engineer's estimate for the base bid was \$1,790,430, and the bids received were from Jurgenson at \$1,778,983.60, Barrett at \$1,713,009.24, Rack & Ballauer at \$1,946,945.40, and the rejuvenation cost for the base bid was \$121,376.

Mr. Musselman advised the engineer's estimate for the base and alternates was \$1,933,602, and the Jurgenson base plus alternates was \$1,920,263, Barrett at \$1,849,551.16, Rack & Ballauer at \$2,103,479.75, and the rejuvenation for the base plus alternates was \$131,209.

Mr. Musselman stated with the apparent low bid base plus alternates from Barrett totaling \$1,980,760.16, the bid is approximately \$51,000 under the total budget of \$2,040,000 for resurfacing.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of utilizing the remaining funds to add additional paving projects.

Public Comment: None.

Executive Session: None.

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

ATTEST:

Eric C. Ferry

Eric C. Ferry, Fiscal Officer

Mary Makley Wolff

Mary Makley Wolff, Vice Chairperson