

## **Minutes of the Bloomington Township Board**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. on July 11, 2019, at 2111 W. Fountain Drive.

Board members present were Lorraine Merriman Farrell and Marty Spechler. Also present were Trustee Kim Alexander, Chief Joel Bomgardner, and Deputy Trustee Lisa Myers.

### **AGENDA**

Marty moved to accept the agenda as presented. Lorraine seconded, motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Marty moved to accept the minutes of the June 13, 2019, board meeting as presented. Lorraine seconded, motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Public Hearing – Township Office Lease:** Kim discussed the lease revisions requested by Barbara, and explained that an updated copy of the lease was included in the information presented today. Lisa confirmed the changes are highlighted in yellow.

Chris Cockerham, the property owner, discussed the future rent reduction that will be recognized after the cost of the build out is reimbursed. Once the plans are drawn up and reviewed with staff, then bids will be accepted from 3 potential vendors: Loren Wood, Ned Skinner of Patriot Interiors, and Tony Fox. After receiving the bids, the lease can be finalized with the date when the lease amount will be reduced.

Discussion ensued regarding the annual rent adjustments. Barbara previously requested that the CPI (Consumer Price Index) clause be removed, and the annual increase be listed as 3%. Marty requested that the lease be amended to state that the rent adjustment would be based on the CPI only for the previous 12 months. Chris offered to amend the lease to state the increase would be the CPI or 3%, whichever is less.

Lorraine pointed out that some sections of the lease contained errors in the subsection numbering format. Chris agreed to correct those sections.

Lorraine moved to approve the lease as amended or as modified. Marty seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Lorraine moved to approve the resolution allowing the trustee to sign the lease, and to execute any and all documents necessary to implement and carry out the terms of the lease. Marty seconded, motion passed unanimously. Marty stated he would like to see the final version of the lease at the next meeting.

**2020 Budget Workshop:** Kim explained the budget forms that were distributed. Kim reported that the salary worksheets show pay increase examples of 1%, 2%, and 3%. The 2019 salary increase was 3% and we are hoping to match that in 2020. Another salary change involves adding a battalion chief position to the salary structure of the fire department. This was an original position in the hierarchy but was removed during the territory formation process amid complaints that personnel costs were too high. At that time, the former fire chief and Chief Bomgardner were both being paid from the fire administration line. Adding this position will result in a salary increase of \$3500 annually for the three (3) current chief positions. There are no plans to fill the battalion chief position at this time. Lisa explained the layout of the budget printouts which show the 2019 budget compared to the proposed 2020 budget, and answered questions from the Board.

## **REPORTS**

**Fire Territory Executive Committee:** None

**Trustee:** Kim reported that she presented her case to join the district to the Monroe Fire District Board on June 17, 2019. The Board is in support of the merger.

On June 19, 2019, Kim attended the Monroe County Commissioners' work session to discuss the merger with the Monroe Fire District. The Commissioners are in support of the merger.

Kim, Lisa, and Kay attended training provided by the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) regarding the Gateway reporting system at Ivy Tech on June 21, 2019.

The process of having the Township office property appraised by two (2) independent appraisers has been started. Both companies have viewed the property and are working on their reports. The appraisals must be completed before the Township Board can discuss selling the property. It is anticipated that the reports will be available by the August board meeting.

Kim attended the formal meeting of the Monroe County Commissioners on June 26, 2019, to make a case for Bloomington Township joining the Monroe Fire District. Geoff McKim also spoke in favor of the proposed merger.

The post cards inviting residents to the August informational meetings at Station 5 were mailed on July 8, 2019.

The Township received approval from the Monroe County legal department to mail the letter and ballot card to Bloomington Township residents in the unincorporated areas of the township. Twenty percent (20%) of the property owners must approve of the merger for the process to continue.

**Board:** None

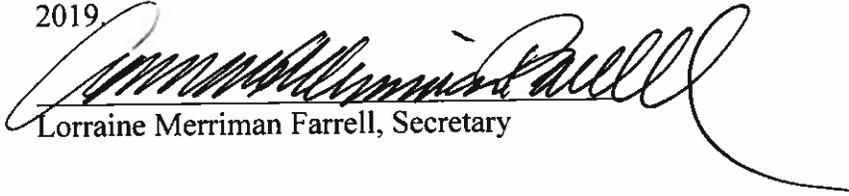
## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**BOARD COMMENT**

There was no board comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 5, 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lorraine Merriman Farrell", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and extends to the right of the line.

Lorraine Merriman Farrell, Secretary