

Minutes of the Bloomington Township Board

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on September 10, 2015 at 2111 West Vernal Pike.

Board members present were Bill Sturbaum, Kim Alexander, and Barbara McKinney. Also present were Trustee Lillian Henegar, Fire Chief Faron Livingston, and Deputy Trustee Lisa Myers.

AGENDA

Bill moved to accept the agenda as presented. Kim seconded, motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Kim moved to accept the minutes of the August 20, 2015, board meeting as presented. Bill seconded, motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

2016 Budget Public Hearing: Lillian explained no changes have been made to the budget since our last meeting. Lillian reported the County Council questioned the proposed debt levy during the non-binding review process. Lillian informed the Council that we satisfied our loan for Engine 51 in 2014 and therefore, a debt was not levied in 2015. The reason for the 2016 debt levy is the scheduled replacement of a tanker truck. The tanker is currently under construction and will be received next year. The County Council appeared satisfied with the response.

2016 Fire Contracts: Lillian mentioned that Washington Township expressed concern over the cost of the 2016 contract. Washington Township has stated they do not have the tax base to cover the increase, but they will include it in their budget submission and see how the State responds. At this time, Lillian has not received any objections from Benton Township on the cost of their contract. Bill moved to approve both the Benton and Washington Township contracts. Kim seconded, motion passed unanimously. Both contracts were signed by the Board and Trustee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

REPORTS

Trustee: Barbara McKinney was appointed as Deputy Trustee while Lillian and Lisa attend the Indiana Township Association (ITA) conference from September 20 through September 23.

Lillian reported a new intern has started working at the Township. Madison Taylor will be working with Lillian on the South Central Housing Network's (SCHN) Heading Home plan and

assisting with the food pantry. Madison is interested in the nutritional aspects of the pantry and will be working on a recipe/food use project. For example, how to best utilize five pounds of dried beans. Madison's internship is unpaid and is not a class requirement.

Lillian asked the Board to consider if they would like to receive financial reports that include all account details for the month. Currently, the Board receives a summary of receipts and disbursements along with the month end fund balances.

Barbara asked for the interest rate on the loan for the tanker purchase. Kim asked which bank holds the loan. Lisa reported the loan is held by German American and the interest rate is 2.57%. Lillian confirmed the length of the loan is five years.

Kim inquired on the status of the Township Assistance appeal. Lillian replied that a pre-trial conference is scheduled for September 17, and the hearing is scheduled for October 5.

Fire Chief: Faron reported there are several upcoming fire prevention events, including the Monroe County Fall Festival and the Peden Farm Fest.

Faron announced Eleonore Maudry is returning to the Department. Eleonore has been working in Indianapolis for several years but recently returned to Bloomington to work for IU Health, Bloomington Hospital.

Station 5 has experienced some unexpected expenses. Emergency pest control was required along with the replacement of the bedding and linens in all sleeping quarters.

There have been some minor thefts at Station 5. Estimates are being obtained to explore the possibility of installing security cameras. It has also been decided that it is time to begin a dialogue to determine the policies/procedures for locking the Station. Currently, Bloomington Township is the only department in the County that does not have a lock down policy.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8.

Kim Alexander, Secretary