RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF PERRY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

MEETING HELD MAY 7, 2024

PERRY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES MET IN REGULAR SESSION, CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:30PM BY CHAIRPERSON LARRY SIDENER, PRESENT, KEVIN COX, PRESENT, GREG KESSEN, PRESENT, ROLL CALL BY FISCAL OFFICER. THE TRUSTEES PRAYER WAS READ AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED.

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CORRECTED MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 16, 2024, 2^{ND} KEVIN COX, ROLLCALL.

CHRISTINA STOMBAUGH, FISCAL OFFICER -

KEVIN COX MADE A MOTION TO PAY BILLS OF \$150,074.83, 2ND GREG KESSEN, ROLLCALL.

CHRIS SUBMITTED THE ARPA REPORT TO THE US TREASURY. THIS REPORT WAS TO INFORM THE TREASURY HOW THE TOWNSHIP HAS USED AND PLANS TO USE THE REMAINING ARPA MONEY.

CHRISTINA ANNOUNCED THAT THE NEWSLETTER IS ALMOST COMPLETE AND ASKED IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO REREAD THEIR LETTERS. SHE ALSO ASKED THAT ANYONE WHO HAS PICTURES TO SUBMIT THEM TO HER ASAP.

CHRISTINA THEN ASKED IF ANYONE PRESENT WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO PLACE FLAGS ON VETERANS CEMETERY PLOTS AT THE PERRY CHAPEL CEMETERY. WE DIDN'T GET A VOLUNTEER SO SANDY HOFACKER AND KEVIN COX SAID THEY WOULD TAKE CARE OF IT.

GUESTS:

CASSIE BETTS
ANDREW KLAUS

ZACH STEWART- ZACH IS WITH VFIS INSURANCE AND WAS HERE TO DISCUSS THE TOWNSHIP'S CURRENT INSURANCE POLICY. HE MET WITH CHRISTINA AND SANDY BRIEFLY BEFORE THE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE RENEWAL PROPOSAL OF THE POLICY. HE TOLD US THE BASICS ABOUT THE POLICY SUCH AS THERE IS AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 4% FOR MOST POLICIES. TOTAL COVERAGE FOR THE BUILDINGS AND CONTENTS IS JUST OVER \$3 MILLION WITH A \$500 DEDUCTIBLE. WE ARE COVERED FOR FLOOD, EARTHQUAKES, WIND AND HAIL DAMAGE. THEY ALSO COVER ANY EMPLOYEE'S PERSONAL PROPERTY WHILE ON TOWNSHIP PREMISES SUCH AS CELLPHONE, KEY FOBS, WALLETS AND PURSES WITH NO DEDUCTIBLE UP TO \$5000. VFIS IS NOW ABLE TO BOND FISCAL OFFICERS IN THE SAME POLICY AS WE CURRENTLY HAVE. THEY ALSO COVER INLAND MARINE, AS WELL AS TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT BELONGING TO THE TOWNSHIP. WE HAVE BLANKET COVERAGE FOR FIRE, ROADS AND EMS. HE DISCUSSED THE COVERAGE OF ALL THE TOWNSHIP VEHICLES AND TOLD US ABOUT THE CHOICES IF ANY OF OUR VEHICLES ARE DAMAGED AND ALSO STATED THAT OUR EMERGENCY VEHICLES ARE COVERED. IF ANYONE FROM A NEIGHBORING COMMUNITY NEEDS TO MOVE OR DRIVE OUR VEHICLES AND THERE IS DAMAGE THEY WILL STILL COVER IT. HE THEN DISCUSSED WITH INTERIM POLICE CHIEF, JOHN ITEN WHAT VEHICLES THEY CURRENTLY HAVE. WE CURRENTLY HAVE 17 VEHICLES ON OUR POLICY WHICH INCLUDES THE NEW DUMP TRUCK THAT ROAD DEPARTMENT BOUGHT. THEY ALSO COVER MALPRACTICE FOR EMS, THE TOWNSHIP FOR ANY EVENTS, AND DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS FOR THE TOWNSHIP. WE DON'T HAVE ANY DEDUCTIBLES ON OUR LIABILITY INSURANCE. THE COVERAGE ALSO COVERS THE TRUSTEES WHILE THEY ARE CONDUCTING TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. OUR PREMIUM WENT UP ABOUT 2% THIS YEAR WHICH IS ABOUT \$850 WHICH IS BELOW THE STANDARD INCREASES. THEY ALSO OFFER TRAINING COURSES SUCH AS DRIVING FOR FIRE AND EMS EMPLOYEES.

TIM JACKSON-WILLIAM DICKERSON-JEFF CAROLUS-JASON STOMBAUGH- CATHY CLEMENTZ- CATHY WANTED TO KNOW IF THERE IS ANYTHING NEW ABOUT THE DATA CENTER. LARRY SIDENER STATED HE TOOK A DRIVE TO NEW ALBANY TO LOOK AT THEIR DATA CENTERS. THERE WAS A LOT OF CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT. LARRY SAW TWO POWER SUBSTATIONS IN THE AREA. CATHY ALSO ASKED IF THEY NEED TO REQUEST A TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER AND CHRISTINA STATED THAT ALL THE HOMES IN PERRY TOWNSHIP THAT HAVE A REGISTERED VOTER IN THE HOUSEHOLD WILL GET A NEWSLETTER.

JIM CLEMETZ- HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ON THE PERRY TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. JOHN ITEN STATED THERE ARE 6 PAID OFFICER AND 3 AUXILIARY OFFICERS THAT ONLY HELP WITH EVENTS SUCH AS SCHOOL GAMES AND PROM ETC. JIM WANTED TO KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ALLOWED TO BE ON THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. LARRY SIDENER STATED THAT THE TRUSTEES ARE CURRENTLY WORKING WITH JOHN TO RESTRUCTURE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFFING AND THEY HAVEN'T MADE A DECISION YET. JIM ALSO ASKED IF WE CAN CHANGE THE SPEED LIMIT ON AMHERST BETWEEN MCCLAIN AND STATE ROUTE 65 BECAUSE OF EXCESSIVE SPEEDING OR HAVE MORE POLICE PRESENCE. HE ALSO OFFERED TO ALLOW POLICE CARS TO PARK IN HIS DRIVEWAY. JOHN ITEN STATED THAT AS SOON AS THE SPEEDERS SPOT THE POLICE VEHICLE THEY SLOW DOWN IMMEDIATELY. KEVIN COX SAID HE WILL CHECK IN ON THE REQUEST FOR A SPEED CHANGE.

JOE MAYS- WANTS TO KNOW IF WE'VE HEARD ANYTHING BACK ON THE INCREASE FROM ALLEN COUNTY DISPATCHERS. GREG KESSEN STATED THAT HE HAS WENT OVER THEIR NUMBERS AND HE DOESN'T SEE A REASON WHY IT WENT UP 80% IN COST. WE WERE FORCED TO SIGN A 3 YEAR CONTRACT WITH THEM.

DAVE STOMBAUGH

BROOKE HEDGES- SHE WANTED TO THANK THE TRUSTEES FOR HELPING AT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT PANCAKE DAY. THE HIGH SCHOOL IS DOING A SENIOR CLAP OUT AND WOULD LIKE TO INVITE TRUSTEES AND DEPARTMENT HEADS TO COME FOR ABOUT 15 – 20 MINUTES IN LATE MAY. SHE WILL LET US KNOW THAT DATE BY FMAIL

CORLISA TYSON- SHE WOULD LIKE TO REORGANIZE THE NORTHWEST PERRY GROUP AND WOULD LIKE SOME GUIDANCE. SHE WANTED TO KNOW IF ANYONE KNEW OF SOMEONE THAT USED TO BE IN THE ORIGINAL GROUP. KEVIN COX STATED HE DOESN'T THINK ANY OF THEM ARE AROUND ANYMORE AND ASKED HER TO GO TO THE LIBRARY FIND MORE INFORMATION. **ROMAINE JACKSON-**

JOHN ITEN, POLICE CHIEF- JOHN PRESENTED APRIL'S NUMBERS FOR HOURS AND MILES. JOHN REQUESTED TO SHIFT SOME FUNDS AROUND TO BE ABLE TO REPLACE THE MARCS RADIOS THAT ARE ABOUT TO EXPIRE. JOHN RECEIVED AN ESTIMATE FROM COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR THREE PORTABLE RADIOS AND ONE BASE UNIT FOR INSIDE THE STATION FOR \$11,319.36. ONE RADIO WAS ALREADY BUDGETED FOR \$3,800 ON LINE ITEM 72 (TELEPHONE FUND). THAT WOULD COVER \$3,411 TO PAY FOR THE PORTABLE RADIOS LEAVING \$389 IN THAT FUND. THE COST OF THE PORTABLE RADIOS IS \$7,908.86. HE REQUESTED TO MOVE \$5000 FROM AMMO LINE ITEM 78 (OPERATING SUPPLIES) WHICH WOULD BRING IT TO \$2,908.86 AND USE THE REMAINING AMOUNT OUT OF LINE ITEM 72 OF \$389 WHICH WILL BRING THE REMAINING AMOUNT TO \$2,519.86. THEN TAKE \$2000 FOR THE REPLACEMENT TASER ON LINE ITEM 83 (OTHER EXPENSES) WHICH WOULD BRING IT DOWN TO \$519.86 AND TAKE THAT AMOUNT OUT OF OTHER EXPENSES LINE ITEM 80. RADIOS WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO UPGRADED AFTER JULY 2025. WE WILL NEED TO BUDGET OR APPLY FOR GRANTS IN THE FUTURE BUT FOR NOW THIS PLAN WILL KEEP US RUNNING. WE MAY BE ABLE TO GET THE EQUIPMENT NOW IF ORDERED BUT THERE IS A BACK LOG TO HAVE THEM SET UP. KEVIN COX ASKED IF WE STILL HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT BUT JOHN STATED THAT IT IS A MANDATORY UPGRADE. HE WOULD LIKE TO STAY AHEAD OF THE GAME. BOTH OFFICERS THAT WERE OUT DUE TO TRAINING ARE BOTH BACK IN SERVICE NOW. HE RECEIVED A CHECK YESTERDAY FROM OPATA FOR WAGE REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAINING HOURS TO GO BACK INTO THE SALARY ACCOUNT FOR POLICE. JOHN HANDED A LETTER TO TRUSTEES.

COREY LEHMAN, ROAD SUPERVISOR – OUR NEW TRUCK IS IN THE BAY AND WILL BE GOING TO KALIDA TO BE OUTFITTED IN THE MORNING. IT WILL BE READY IN 2-3 MONTHS. COREY PRESENTED AN ESTIMATE FOR SEALING AND STRIPING THE BLACKTOPPED AREA OF THE PARKING LOT, BETWEEN THE ADMIN AND FIRE BUILDING, FOR \$10,670.00. WE HAVE THE FUNDS AVAILABLE IN REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE SO THE TRUSTEES WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE THAT SOON. COREY RECEIVED A CALL ABOUT A LOG JAM IN THE RIVER AT AMHERST AND DIXON. HE CALLED AUGLAIZE COUNTY SINCE THEY TAKE CARE OF THAT AND THEY PUT IT ON THEIR LIST. THE TOWNSHIP OWNS LAND ON A SECTION OF THE RIVER THAT POSSIBLY NEEDS CLEANED OUT, BUT WE NEED TO SEE WHAT THE REGULATIONS ARE FIRST. THE ROAD DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN BUSY MOWING AND DURAPATCHING.

KEVIN COX MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ESTIMATE FROM BLACKTOP SEALING INC. FOR \$10,670 FOR CRACK FILLING, SEALING AND STRIPING THE PARKING LOT BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AND THE FIRE BUILDING, GREG KESSEN 2ND, ROLL CALL

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE ZONING PERMIT RECEIPTS FOR APRIL 2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,331.00. KEVIN COX 2^{ND} , ROLL CALL

JOHN BREWSTER, ZONING INSPECTOR - JOHN TALKED TO GUY ON STATE ROUTE 65 WHO HAD THE HOUSE FIRE. HE HAS BEEN APPLYING FOR PERMITS AND IT'S LOOKING LIKE IT WILL BE AT LEAST 3 MORE MONTHS BEFORE HE CAN BE BACK IN HIS HOUSE. THE TRUSTEES ORIGINALLY APPROVED THE CAMPER FOR 6 MONTHS. HIS INSURANCE COMPANY IS PAYING FOR THE CAMPER AND HE MAY BE WORKING ON THE HOME REPAIRS HIMSELF. GREG ASKED JOHN HOW WE SHOULD LEVERAGE THE TIME LIMIT WITH THE HOME OWNER. JOHN STATED THAT AS LONG AS HE'S MAKING PROGRESS, WE SHOULD ALLOW HIM MORE TIME. IF THE PROGRESS STOPS THEN THERE MAY BE AN ISSUE. LARRY SIDENER WANTS TO KNOW IF IT SETS A PRECEDENT BY ALLOWING MORE TIME. JOHN STATED THAT EVEN IF THEY REQUEST HIM TO HAVE THE CAMPER REMOVED, IT MAY TAKE ANOTHER 3 MONTHS BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMPANY WOULD DO THAT. GREG KESSEN ASKED JOHN TO ASK THE HOME OWNER IF HE CAN COME TO THE NEXT MEETING TO SEE IF HE CAN BE GRANTED AN EXTENSION AND POSSIBLY GET MONETARY FINES FOR EXCEEDING AN EXTENSION. JEFF CAROLUS STATED THAT WE MAY WANT TO DOCUMENT HIS PROGRESS ON THE PROPERTY WITH PICTURES. TIM JACKSON ASKED IF WE ALLOW PEOPLE TO LIVE IN CAMPERS. GREG KESSEN STATED THAT WE DON'T. TIM JACKSON THEN STATED THAT HIS NEIGHBOR HAS LIVED IN A CAMPER ON HIS PROPERTY FOR AT LEAST 1 ½ YEARS ON BREESE ROAD. THERE HAD BEEN A PREVIOUS HOUSE FIRE ON THAT PROPERTY. HE WILL GIVE THE ADDRESS TO JOHN BREWSTER. JOHN IS SENDING ANOTHER LETTER TO 1511 LENNOX AND WE WILL PROCEED WITH TEAR DOWN IF NO RESPONSE. JOHN SENT KAYLA A BUNCH OF PAPERWORK REGARDING VICTORY LOUNGE AND HAS MORE FOR HER TOMORROW. TALKED TO CINDY LEIS FROM AEDG AND ADAM FROM REGIONAL PLANNING ABOUT ZONING AMENDMENTS TO START THE PROCESS. THE TRUSTEES WOULD HAVE TO MAKE A RESOLUTION TO START THE PROCESS. LARRY SIDENER SPOKE WITH KAYLA ROGERS AND SHE SAID TO NOT VOTE ON A RESOLUTION YET ABOUT ZONING CHANGES. SHE IS STILL LOOKING INTO THINGS. JOHN THEN STATED THAT AMENDMENTS AND REZONING ARE TWO DIFFERENT PROCESSES AND SOME MAY BE CONFUSING THE TWO. LARRY WILL CONTACT SOMEONE FROM AMERICAN TOWNSHIP ABOUT THE SAME DISCUSSIONS THAT WERE HAD WHEN IT WAS PROPOSED IN THAT AREA. TRUSTEES ARE NOT CURRENTLY GOING TO MAKE ANY ZONING AMENDMENTS. GREG KESSEN STATED THAT HE ISN'T GOING TO MAKE THAT DECISION BETWEEN TRUSTEES AND AEDG; HE'D RATHER THEM NEGOTIATE WITH THE LAND OWNERS. HE DOESN'T THINK IT SHOULD BE THE BOARD'S DECISION ON WHAT HAPPENS WITH THE RESIDENTS' LAND. KEVIN COX STATED HE WANTS MORE INFORMATION ON DATA CENTERS IN OTHER AREAS. LARRY SIDENER STATED THAT CINDY LEIS SUGGESTED THAT SHE, KAYLA, JILL, JOHN AND LARRY HAVE A PHONE CONFERENCE OR FACE TO FACE MEETING. JASON STOMBAUGH SUGGESTED THAT THE PERRY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES CONTACT THE TRUSTEES IN THE NEW ALBANY AREA TO FIND OUT ABOUT POTENTIAL REVENUE AND ANY PROBLEMS CREATED. HE STATED THEY HAVE ABOUT 8 DATA CENTERS IN THAT AREA NOW. WHEN THEY COME INTO AN AREA THEY SEEM TO MULTIPLY PRETTY QUICKLY. THERE IS AN APPLE DATA CENTER IN NORTH CAROLINA THAT'S BEEN THERE FOR SOME TIME AND THEY ARE NOW GETTING A MICROSOFT DATA CENTER. THEY WOULD BE A GOOD RESOURCE FOR INFORMATION. DATA CENTERS LIKE TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT WITH SOLAR AND WIND TURBINES FOR ENERGY AND BACK UP GENERATORS IN CASE OF POWER OUTAGES. ALSO, THEY PUT A LOT OF MONEY BACK IN THE SCHOOLS AND THE TOWNSHIP.

KEVIN RADER, FIRE CHIEF – RADER REQUESTED WE HIRE CAITLIN STOVER AS HIS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AT 40 HOURS PER WEEK. SHE IS A FIREFIGHTER AND EMT BASIC AND WILL BE TAKING HER PARAMEDIC EXAM ON THURSDAY. HER RATE WILL BE \$15/HR PENDING HER PASSING AN OP&F PHYSICAL. IF SHE PASSES HER PARAMEDIC LICENSE, THAT WILL ADD \$2/HOUR. RADER REQUESTED TO ADD CAITLIN STOVER TO BE A USER ON THE CREDIT CARD POLICY. RADER ALSO REQUESTED WE HIRE JUSTIN ROBERTS AS A PART TIME EMT AND VOLUNTEER FIREMAN AT THE APPLICABLE RATE.

CHIEF RADER IS RECRUITING IN MANY PLACES BUT THERE IS NO INTEREST AT OUR PAY RATE OR THERE ARE NON-QUALIFIED CANDIDATES. WE HAVE THE LOWEST PART-TIME PAY RATE IN THE COUNTY BY \$.50 - \$1.35. RADER WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH THE BOARD TO DISCUSS OPTIONS SO THAT WE CAN BE MORE COMPETITIVE IN RECRUITING AND RETAINING EMPLOYEES. NATIONWIDE, THE PUBLIC SERVICE SECTOR IS SEEING A DECREASE IN VOLUNTEERS, PART-TIME EMPLOYEES AND FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES. IN OHIO FROM 2018 TO 2021, THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS IN OHIO DECREASE BY 6.5%, ACCORDING TO THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, BUT CALLS INCREASED BY 9% FROM 2018 TO 2020. THIS INCREASE SHOWS NO SIGNS OF SLOWING. YEAR-TO-DATE THERE HAVE BEEN 700 HOURS COVERED BY PART-TIME STAFF, WHICH PREVENTED PAYING \$13,400 OF OVER-TIME. YEAR-TO-DATE, WITH

GRANTS, BUDGET CUTS, AND FULL-TIMERS COVERING SHIFTS, INCLUDING THE CHIEF, THEY'VE HAD \$88,400 IN SAVINGS.

CHIEF RADER QUESTIONED IF TASC IS DOUBLE BILLING. THERE SEEMS TO BE A LOT MORE BILLING THAN EXPECTED FROM THEM. SANDY AND CHRISTINA WILL CHECK WITH TASC ABOUT ANY PENDING CREDITS. RADER ASKED CHRISTINA AND SANDY ABOUT A BUDGET ERROR WHERE A BILL WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE FIRE FUND FOR A ROAD DEPARTMENT BILL FROM RD JONES EXCAVATING CORP.

ON LINE ITEM 225 THERE SHOULD BE 5 FULL-TIMERS BEING PAID BUT 6 ARE. THE OTHER EMPLOYEE (ADMIN) SHOULD COME OUT OF 226. 3 EMPLOYEES ARE COMING OUT OF LINE ITEM 226 THAT SHOULDN'T BE. LYNN'S AND THE DEPUTY CHIEFS WAGES ARE COMING OUT OF THAT AND CHRIS' WAGES WERE. CHRIS WILL LOOK INTO THE LINE ITEMS AND WHAT WAGES ARE COMING OUT AND CORRECT WHERE NECESSARY.

THE PERRY FIRE DEPARTMENT ATTENDED AND ASSISTED A MOCK CAR CRASH AT PERRY HIGH SCHOOL. THEY ALSO PARTICIPATED IN A SPECIAL OLYMPICS BASKETBALL GAME AT LIMA SENIOR AND LOST HORRIBLY BY ONE POINT. CHIEF RADER THANKED KEVIN COX FOR SHOWING UP TO SUPPORT THEM. HE ALSO THANKED EVERYONE FOR COMING TO THE PERRY FIRE DEPARTMENT PANCAKE DAY AND THANKED KEYSTONE MEATS FOR DONATING SAUSAGES, MATTHEWSON FOR PROVIDING PROPANE. THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ATTENDED THE PEPSI PLANT BENEFIT FOR VETERANS AND USED THE AERIAL TO HANG A FLAG FROM. CHIEF RADER PRESENTED LETTERS TO LARRY SIDENER AND KEVIN COX AS A THANK YOU FOR HELPING AT PANCAKE DAY.

KEVIN COX MADE A MOTION TO HIRE CAITLIN STOVER AT \$15/HOUR AS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, GREG KESSEN 2^{ND} , ROLL CALL

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO ADD CAITLIN STOVER AS A USER ON THE TOWNSHIP CREDIT CARD, KEVIN COX 2^{ND} , ROLL CALL

KEVIN COX MADE A MOTION TO HIRE JUSTIN ROBERTS AS EMT AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER AT THE APPLICABLE RATE, GREG KESSEN 2ND, ROLL CALL

LARRY SIDENER MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:48 PM GREG KESSEN 2ND, ROLL CALL.

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:34 PM KEVIN COX 2^{ND} , ROLL CALL.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROPRIATE \$50,000 FROM THE OHIO DEPT OF COMMERCE GRANT TO THE FIRE FUND TELEPHONE BUDGET LINE ITEM TO REPLACE THE MARCS RADIOS, KEVIN COX 2^{ND} , ROLL CALL

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT A 2024 HYDRANT PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH COLONY MOBILE HOME AND EASTWOOD ESTATES, KEVIN COX 2^{ND} , ROLL CALL.

TRUSTEES

GREG KESSEN MADE MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 9:42 PM, 2ND BY KEVIN COX, ROLLCALL.