

April 18, 2024

**The Margaretta Township Trustees met on April 18, 2024 at 1:00 PM**

Present were Mr. Pooch, Mr. Cullen, and Mr. Bias. The pledge of allegiance was recited

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2024 meeting as presented by the Fiscal Officer Robert Day with a change to reflect that Chief Jett attended the meeting with the Stencils.

Vote: all ayes

Mr. Cullen moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to approve and sign the warrants and EFTs submitted for payment by the Fiscal Officer. Vote: all ayes

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to approve the financial reports submitted by the Fiscal Officer. Vote: all ayes

**Matt & Shawna Stencil: Owners – Castalia Farms:**

Mr. & Mrs. Stencil informed Mr. Biglin of a low hanging wire on the Heywood/Homegardner intersection. Mr. Biglin will drive to the location after the meeting and handle accordingly.

Mr. & Mrs. Stencil discussed the conversations that took place at the 4/15/24 zoning meeting. Those discussions will continue until a resolution is found. They also discussed the process to get the safety issues at Castalia Farms resolved. Chief Jett will schedule an inspection in the near future and address accordingly. He will report back to the Trustees the results of that inspection.

Mr. & Mrs. Stencil inquired as to why Castalia Farms is having to comply with certain issues while Millsite and The Oaks are not required to. The Trustees requested specifics and the Stencils will provide a list.

**Kelly Ried, Cemetery Department:**

Mrs. Ried provided an update on the Wreaths Across America project for 2024. 437 wreaths have been carried-over from 2023, 1,273 wreaths have been purchased for 2024/2025. The project will continue to raise funds.

Mrs. Ried reported on the Memorial Day program. She has already spoken to the Margaretta High School Band, taken care of the sound system, and lined-up the Boys Scouts to assist with putting out the flags.

Mrs. Ried requested an allowance of \$2,500 to straighten/lift/rehab headstones in Castalia cemetery. That request was tabled until a work session on the Road/Cemetery budget had.

**Richard Cockrell: Township Resident:**

Mr. Cockrell extended his appreciation to the Road Department for the filling of pot holes. He also questioned if three particular areas on Old Railroad would be leveled when that road is resurfaced. Mr. Biglin assured him that the entire road would be leveled properly.

Mr. Cockrell inquired as to whether or not the Zoning Department has the authority to cite residents for holes in their roof. He was informed by Mr. Schaeffer that the Township does not have that authority.

**Chris Schaeffer, Zoning Inspector:**

Mr. Schaeffer was not in attendance.

**Bob Biglin: Road & Cemetery Department:**

Mr. Biglin inquired about starting pay rates for the summer help. He was informed it will be \$11.25/hour for new employees. He currently has 7 applications for summer help.

Mr. Biglin discussed the flooding issues on the Burdue/Braun/Gysan properties. He also discussed the flooding concerns on the Nick Lawson property. Mr. Biglin indicated that there is a clogged tile on his property that needs to be cleaned. Because it is on the owner's property, it becomes their responsibility and not the Township.

Mr. Biglin indicated that he will have the Road Department put in a catch basin on the west side of Bardshar Road just south of the Skadden Road split. This will alleviate the flooding on the Messenburg property.

Mr. Biglin presented a maintenance agreement with Norwalk Concrete for the grinder pumps at Lions Park. The Trustees will review the benefits and costs.

**Kerry Jett, Fire Chief:**

Chief Jett introduced new part time firefighter Nicole Postan.

Chief Jett requested a work session to review the budget on the Fire Department. The session will be held at 10:00 AM on Monday 4/22/24 to discuss current staffing issues and potential vacancies along with the budget.

Chief Jett reported that Chief Johnson, Rob Street and Matt Stacy will travel to Braun in Van Wert, Ohio to inspect the new squad.

**Board Items:**

Mr. Bias presented Resolution 2024-03: A Resolution to appoint Mr. Bias as the authority to apply for Erie Metro Parks grant. Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to approve Resolution 2024-03. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Cullen – yes, Mr. Pooch – yes, Mr. Bias – yes.

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to change the meeting dates in May. The May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on May 9<sup>th</sup>, and the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will be moved to May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 PM. Vote: all ayes.

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to continue until 10:00 AM on Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Vote: all ayes.

Mr. Day reported that the .50 mill Cemetery levy needs to be placed on the ballot this November. He will reach out to John Rogers at the Auditors office and Charles Bennett at the Prosecutor's office for proper paperwork.

Mr. Day will also reach out to Mr. Bennett for information on employees wishing to opt-out of the Township provided healthcare.

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to declare the double-door refrigerator in the Fire Department as surplus. The Fire Department will dispose of accordingly.

Mr. Cullen moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to adjourn. Vote: all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM.



Chairperson



Fiscal Officer