

September 21, 2023

The Margaretta Township Trustees met on September 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM

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

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Bias to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2023 meeting as presented by the Fiscal Officer Robert Day. Vote: all ayes

Mr. Bias 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. Bias to approve the financial reports submitted by the Fiscal Officer. Vote: all ayes

Mr. Riesterer discussed the Erie County Township Association meeting that took place on September 14, 2023. He specifically elaborated on comments made by Erie County Commissioner Pat Shenigo as to why Margaretta Township did not receive any of the \$1,000,000 in Gas Tax Funding for road repairs provided by the County Commissioners to the nine townships in Erie County. Mr. Shenigo indicated that Margaretta Township received funding from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) in each of the last three years to assist with road repairs. It was noted by the Trustees and Fiscal Officer that the OPWC program is available to all entities in the State and Margaretta Township was being penalized for utilizing resources available. It was also reported that Margaretta Township was not the only township to receive OPWC funding in the last three years. Yet other Townships were awarded money by the County Commissioners. When questioned by Fiscal Officer Bob Day as to why the change in distribution of the Gas Tax Funding from, an equal distribution of \$111,111.11 to each Township in the county for 2022, to the Commissioners making the determination of which Township received funding in 2023, Mr. Shenigo refused to answer that concerns.

Edward Cullen, Candidate for Margaretta Township Trustee:

Mr. Cullen was present as an observer.

Richard Cockrell, 6801 Parker Road:

Mr. Cockrell raised concerns over the loose stones at the intersection of Parker Road and Laurel Drive. Mr. Biglin will have the Road Department address the issue.

Rex Stieroff/Shelby Koch, Thicket Road Residents:

Mr. Stieroff and Mrs. Koch discussed concerns with how the finishing on the Thicket Road paving looks and how it will hold up over time. Mr. Biglin explained the process of the finish and the fact that it will increase the life of the paving project on Thicket Road.

Wesley and Betty Miller, Northwest Road Residents:

Mr. and Mrs. Miller raised concerns over the catch basin on Brunner Road. They requested the township tax a look at the output pipe in the Sunny Mead area. Mr. Biglin will address the issue.

Bob Biglin: Road & Cemetery Department:

Mr. Biglin reported that he is working with Charles Bennett at the Erie County Prosecutor's Office to resolve the issue with Adkins Fence for damage they caused to Snow Drive in Village Hill.

Mr. Biglin provided an update on the new columbarium. The concrete base will be poured on 9/25/23.

Mr. Bias moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to declare the tailgate salt spreader as junk and to allow Mr. Biglin to dispose of accordingly.

Mr. Biglin announced that Erie County Solid Waste granted \$13,734 to Margaretta Township for the purchase of 21 waste receptacles made from recycled materials.

Mr. Biglin discussed the Maintenance Contract with the Village of Castalia. Charles Bennett from the Erie County Prosecutor's Office review the contract and made several changes to the contract provided by the Village. The Trustees will request a meeting with Mr. Bennett for discussion.

Thomas Johnson, Fire Chief (not in attendance):

Chief Johnson requested to purchase a replacement for the inflatable boat and trailer. He presented information on a 15' Inmar Patrol 470 at a cost not to exceed \$6,000. Mr. Bias moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to approve the purchase of the 15' Inmar Patrol 470 at a cost not to exceed \$6,000 and that the trailer would be discussed at a future meeting. Vote: all ayes.

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Bias to declare the current inflatable, which is over 30 years old, as junk and allow the Fire Chief to dispose of accordingly. Vote: all ayes.

Chief Johnson reported that there will be training for pump operations held at the Township Fire Department on 9/30 & 10/1/23. There will be no cost to the Township as this is provided by the State of Ohio.

Chief Johnson discussed the need for electrical upgrades at the Fire Station to get multiple outlets on back-up generator. The Trustees acknowledged the need for the upgrades and recommended to proceed with pricing for the upgrades.

Chief Johnson reported that the current bullet-proof vests have expired and he will get pricing for possible replacements along with a possible grant to cover the costs.

Chris Schaeffer, Zoning Inspector:

Mr. Schaeffer discussed the continuing issue regarding the sale of green space at Village Hill Estates. The Trustees continued their position that this is a civil matter and beyond the scope of the Trustee's authority.

Board Items:

Mr. Bias moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to approve the vacation requests for Dan Minor (72 hours), Justin Galloway (24 hours), Matt Stacy (96 hours) and Matt Studer (16 hours). Vote: all ayes.

Mr. Bias moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to approve joining the other Erie County Townships for a group rate on training provided by the Ohio Township Association. Vote: all ayes.

Mr. Bias moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to recess until 10:00 on Tuesday September 26, 2023. Vote: all ayes.

The Township Trustees returned from recess at 10:00 on Tuesday September 26, 2023.


Mr. Bias moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of personnel issues. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Pooch – yes, Mr. Bias – yes, Mr. Riesterer – yes.

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Bias to move back to Regular Session. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Pooch – yes, Mr. Bias – yes, Mr. Riesterer – yes.

Mr. Bias moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to adjourn. Vote: all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.



Chairperson



Fiscal Officer

