

The regular meeting of the Green Township Board of Trustees held on February 10, 2014 was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Chairman Rosiello, excused; Trustee Linnenberg, present; Trustee Boiman, present; Fiscal Officer Straus, present.

Trustee Boiman moved to approve the minutes for the regular meeting of January 27, 2014. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. All voted Aye.

Annual Meeting of the Tax Incentive Review Council Regarding the Green Township Tax Increment Financing Program

Trustee David Linnenberg asked Hamilton County Auditor, Dusty Rhodes, to conduct the Annual Meeting of the Tax Incentive Review Council for Green Township. Chairman Dusty Rhodes called the meeting to order and mentioned that Lisa Houser was present representing Oak Hills School District and Chris Langford was present representing Northwest School District. The Review Council had a quorum of five individuals, including the two Green Township Trustees David Linnenberg and Rocky Boiman. Hamilton County Auditor, Dusty Rhodes, asked for nominations for the Vice Chairman for this year's Review Council. Trustee Boiman nominated Trustee David Linnenberg as Vice Chairman. This nomination was seconded by Auditor Dusty Rhodes. All five members voted Aye in favor of this resolution.

RESOLUTION #14-0210-A

Trustee Boiman moved to pass a resolution appointing David Linnenberg as Vice Chairman of the Tax Incentive Review Council. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Boiman: Aye; Trustee Linnenberg: Aye; Chairman Rosiello: Excused. All other members voted Aye.

Chairman Rhodes asked Fiscal Officer Tom Straus to review the 2013 history of receipts and service payments to the school districts and to discuss the expenditures made from the TIF Funds for the benefit of Green Township. Fiscal Officer Straus stated that Green Township received \$23,560,764 in TIF Funds in 2013. Approximately \$7.9 million dollars went to the Oak Hills School District, \$3.5 million to the Northwest School District, \$894,000 to the Cincinnati School District, and approximately \$641,000 to Great Oak School District. This was a total of \$13,234,099 that went to four school districts. The balance of \$10,326,665 went to Green Township. Green Township also had unencumbered balances as of December 31, 2013 of \$9,445,662.

Green Township spent approximately \$1.9 million dollars in 2013 on road and park improvements and spent approximately \$1.7 million dollars on curbs and streets. The majority of that money was spent to complete North Bend Road in front of Mercy Hospital. Green Township also spent approximately \$1 million dollars to pay off the bond that was taken out in 2009.

A new ladder truck was purchased by Green Township Fire Department in 2013 for approximately \$718,000. The total expenses in 2013 for Green Township TIF expenses was \$7,581,296. Green Township also has \$3,459,286 in outstanding purchase orders from 2013 that will be expended in 2014.

Chairman Dusty Rhodes asked Mr. Celarek to elaborate on future TIF plans.

Mr. Celarek stated that the Township always sets aside \$1.2 million dollars per year to do street rehabilitation, which includes renovation of approximately 15 to 25 streets. There must be a \$750,000 matching grant with the Harrison Avenue Improvement Project from the I-74 bridge all the way out to the Township line. The Township will begin looking at the 5-points intersection and right-of-way acquisitions, the Township will have a little more right-of-way that has to be acquired on Rybolt Road for the project between Taylor Road and Wesselman Road. The Township will purchase a new EMS vehicle, and continue to purchase police vehicles. Each year approximately four vehicles are purchased for the Police Department. The Township will continue to make park improvements. That is some of the ways that the Township will continue to use TIF dollars in the future.

Hamilton County Auditor, Dusty Rhodes, asked if there was any new business to come before the counsel. Trustee Linnenberg stated that he is in favor of sidewalks and bike paths, and that the Township has recently purchased part of the old CSX railroad property, that a potential hike/bike path could be created. He also stated that the Township will be sending out letters soon regarding the sidewalk on Bridgetown Road connecting the library to Kuliga Park and J.F. Dulles Elementary, all the way over to Markay. Trustee Linnenberg stated that sidewalks will make this area a

more user friendly area. Trustee Linnenberg then stated that TIF monies cannot be used for salaries, so it must be used for projects like those stated above.

Administrator Celarek added that TIF monies can only be spent on five different things, which are, road improvements, acquisition of land for park purposes, improvement of parks, acquisition of fire and EMS vehicles or fire station improvements, police equipment, and recycling activities. TIF funds, by law, may never be used for gasoline, utility bills, salaries, and benefits.

Hamilton County Auditor, Dusty Rhodes, commended the Board of Trustees and the Administration of Green Township for doing an excellent job and setting the standard for other communities.

Trustee Linnenberg moved to adjourn the annual meeting of the Tax Incentive Review Council. Trustee Boiman seconded the motion. All voted Aye and the meeting was closed at 5:45 p.m.

Hamilton County Auditor, Dusty Rhodes, stated that he has been talking to other County Auditors from around the State, and through bipartisan efforts, they are working on the possibility of a Constitutional Amendment to require the State to put 5% of its proceeds into the Local Government Fund. It was running around 4% the last couple of years, however, it has been cut down to approximately 1.68%. The State has continued to chop away at that amount and it has created a real problem for local officials around the State who are already running tight operations, just as Green Township does. But with the State taking away money that jurisdictions counted on, it is creating a financial hardship. Mr. Rhodes stated that he will keep the Trustees posted on that issue.

Hamilton County Auditor, Dusty Rhodes, also reported on the Homestead Program. He stated that this program is open again. He stated that what the State did with that is that anyone who hit age 65 after January 1, 2014 is going to be means tested, in other words, if you have income of more than \$30,500 in a year, you won't be eligible anymore, whereas prior to that anyone that was age 65 before then and is in the program is getting the full benefit of the program for as long as they live and they are also going to make it portable. So if somebody wants to move from a house to a condo and they are receiving this, they can take it with them, however, the problem is that there are residents who are eligible for this that just don't know about it and are not taking advantage of the program. The Auditor's Office has done outreach at senior centers and continue to put the word out to residents. Residents are being told that taking the Homestead deduction does not hurt their local community as the State makes up the amount of the exemption. In Green Township the exemption is approximately \$400 per year off of property taxes for residents who are either permanently disabled or 65 years of age or older. Mr. Rhodes stated that he will leave brochures regarding the Homestead Exemption that explain the program and its requirements.

RESOLUTION #14-0210-B

Trustee Boiman moved to pass a resolution accepting and approving the financial reports as submitted. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Boiman: Aye; Trustee Linnenberg: Aye; Chairman Rosiello: Excused.

The Ohio Department of Liquor Control has sent notice of application from:

- a. Noodle Shop Co Colorado Inc, DBA Noodles, 6475 Glenway Ave., Green Township, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211. The Police Chief had no objection. The Trustees had no objection.

Administrator Celarek made the following announcement:

1. There will be a Hamilton County Public Staff Conference held at the Green Township Administration Building, 6303 Harrison Avenue, on February 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the proposed Renaissance Residential Community project.

Development Director, Adam Goetzman, stated that the Public Staff Conference is in regards to the Hillview Golf Course property. It was approved a number of years ago for about 280 units of residential housing, with a mix of garden style apartments, condominiums, attached patio homes, and single-family. The proposal is to actually zone change that back to single-family, a large PUD, for a total of 238 single-family units in four different product types. This project is finally heading into the Zone Change process and he will have a presentation regarding this at the Trustees Meeting on February 24, 2014.

Fiscal Officer, Tom Straus, reported that he and Linda Griswold are working with Clark, Schaefer & Hackett to prepare the year-end financial reports. It is interesting to note that as of the middle of February the Township has received NO money in on Ohio Estate Taxes.

Township Attorney, Frank Hyle, stated that he had nothing to report.

Township Administrator, Kevin Celarek, asked the Trustees to nominate Tony Rosiello for the District II OPWC Integrating Committee, which is a Hamilton County Committee. Trustee Rosiello would sit on that committee when they review roadway applications for OPWC grants. There are currently two vacant positions on that committee. Trustee Rosiello has stated that he would be willing to serve on that committee if nominated.

RESOLUTION #14-0210-C

Trustee Linnenberg moved to pass a resolution nominating Trustee Tony Rosiello to the District II OPWC Integrating Committee. Trustee Boiman seconded the motion. Trustee Boiman: Aye; Trustee Linnenberg: Aye; Chairman Rosiello: Excused.

Director of Public Services, Joe Lambing, stated that he appreciates the residents of Green Township being patient with them over these last couple of days, especially with this really heavy snow that we had followed by a hard freeze. The Township hasn't seen this much snow in quite some time. He stated that the Township's job is to clear the roadways and that sometimes that requires piles of snow at the end of a residential driveway or in front of mailboxes, however, those instances are not intentional and cannot be helped.

Trustee Linnenberg asked how the Township is doing on their salt supply. Mr. Lambing stated that the Township is beginning to get low, however, they are using plows more often and using a little less salt.

Trustee Linnenberg asked residents not to throw snow from their driveway out into the street.

Gary Dressler, Sidney Road, complimented the Public Services Department employees on the excellent job they did with snow removal over these past few heavy snow storms.

Asst. Chief, Scott Souders reported in the absence of Fire/EMS Chief, Doug Witsken. Mr. Souders thanked the Public Services Department for the excellent job they did clearing snow from Township roadways. Mr. Souders reported that dates for CPR classes have been picked. They will be held on April 22nd, July 15th, and October 14th. Those dates are available on the Township website and classes are free to Township residents.

Police Chief, Bart West, announced that the Active Shooter video that was produced by the Oak Hills School District will be available on the Public Access channel in the near future. Chief West also reported that the Police Department is continuing their training with the schools to make sure they are all prepared in the unlikely event of a school shooting.

Director of Development, Adam Goetzman, reported that a letter has been drafted regarding the sidewalks on Bridgetown. He also reported that after next month's ICC meeting, which is OKI's Integrating Committee, there is a Transportation Alternatives workshop. That workshop comes at a time when the Township is acquiring property for the purpose of a hike/bike trail. Mr. Goetzman stated that the Township is in line for a State grant for that project. Mr. Goetzman stated that the hike/bike trail is a very worthwhile project and he is looking forward to continuing work on that.

Trustee Boiman read several thank you letters.

Trustee Linnenberg reminded everyone that applications for the open position of Green Township Trustee are due by Friday, February 14, 2014.

Trustee Linnenberg announced that the next Trustees Meeting on Monday, February 24, 2014 will begin at 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of Executive Session where they expect to announce the name of the replacement Trustee.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, February 24, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Trustee Linnenberg moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Boiman seconded the motion. Trustee Boiman: Aye; Trustee Linnenberg: Aye; Chairman Rosiello: Excused. Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

ATTEST: