

The regular meeting of the Green Township Board of Trustees held on November 28, 2016 was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Chairman Callos moved to approve the minutes for the regular meeting of November 14, 2016. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. All voted Aye.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-A

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

RESOLUTION #16-1128-B

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution accepting and approving the Amended Estimated Resources for 2016. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-C

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution accepting and approving the Amended Appropriations for 2016. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-D

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution requesting that the Hamilton County Auditor makes advance payments of taxes in 2017 at the request of Fiscal Officer Tom Straus. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-E

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to establish the reimbursement rate of mileage to match the IRS approved rate in 2017. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-F

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to approve health and dental insurance to Township Elected Officials for 2017 with the contribution rate to be 15% of the cost of the premium. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-G

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to provide health and dental insurance for the Township Non-Collective Bargaining Employees for 2017 with the contribution rate to be 15% of the cost of the premium. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-H

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to authorize the 2017 salary for Trustee David Linnenberg to remain at \$20,568 and to pay Trustee Linnenberg on an annual basis in 12 monthly installments. Trustee Rosiello seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-I

Trustee Linnenberg moved to pass a resolution authorizing the 2017 salaries for Trustee Tony Rosiello and Trustee Triffon Callos of \$22,676 and to pay Trustee Rosiello and Trustee Callos on an annual basis in 12 monthly installments. Trustee Rosiello seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-J

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution authorizing the 2017 salary for Fiscal Officer Tom Straus of \$31,064 and to pay Fiscal Officer Straus on an annual basis in 12 monthly installments. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-K

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to approve the employee medical insurance plan design with Jefferson Health as Administrator with UMR as the Provider effective January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. Trustee

Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

Administrator Birkenhauer stated that there have been meetings with the Union Representatives, Benefits Committee, and Sherrill Morgan to discuss the upcoming plan. The initial estimated increase was going to be 20%. That percentage was negotiated down to 16% and then additional work with the Green Township Benefits Committee and the Unions got this number down to a 7.63% increase, which is an approximately \$240,000 cost savings from the initial estimate. There are some minor changes to the plan, however, the basic benefits of the plan remain in place.

Chairman Callos thanked Administrator Birkenhauer, the Unions, and the Benefits Committee for their work in getting the insurance increase as low as possible.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-L

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution adopting a modified plan of Operation and Governance for Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

Administrator Birkenhauer stated that the model being used for gas aggregation is one in which gas is purchased before rates increase significantly, and then rates are approved at the next Trustees Meeting. That plan of Operation and Governance reflects what the current procedure is for aggregation in terms of the variable rate in the summer and locked-in rate in late fall until the May meter reading date. The resolution adopting a plan of Operation and Governance is simply stating what the procedure is for gas aggregation.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-M

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to appoint Francis M. Hyle as Township Attorney for 2017 at a rate of pay of \$5,722 per month. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-N

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to appoint Francis M. Hyle for labor related work and non-retainer services at a pay rate of \$206 per hour for 2017. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

Chairman Callos thanked Township Attorney Hyle for his hard work on behalf of the Board, Department Heads, and the community during his tenure with Green Township.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-O

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to authorize the salaries of the Township's non-collective bargaining employees to be increased by 2% for 2017. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

Chairman Callos thanked the employees of Green Township for all of their hard work during 2016.

Trustee Linnenberg stated that he would like to see the Board move towards a system of merit increases. Trustee Linnenberg asked Administrator Birkenhauer to move towards having that goal in place for 2018. Administrator Birkenhauer stated that he has spoken with the Department Heads about their direct reports. Administrator Birkenhauer stated that he will be developing goals and objectives collaboratively with the management team for 2017, in preparation for a merit increase in 2018.

Chairman Callos stated that the merit increase system is collectively endorsed by the board.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-P

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution authorizing internet usage for the Green Township departments to sell surplus equipment/property in 2017. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-Q

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to set Natural Gas Aggregation Program Agreement between Green Township, Hamilton County and Constellation Energy Services-Natural Gas, for natural gas period between the first meter read date in December, 2016 through the April, 2017 meter read date. The rate will be at or below .4576/Ccf with a Locked in Price

with Flex Down Opportunity Rate. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

Administrator Birkenhauer reported that the natural gas aggregation program provides a cost saving benefit to the residents enrolled in the aggregation program. The Duke Ohio price for November was \$0.477/Ccf. The price for December is \$0.491/Ccf. Therefore, the Township aggregation program price of \$0.4576/Ccf is well below that. Administrator Birkenhauer stated that the goal of the aggregation program is to stabilize prices for residents during high use months and achieve savings over the long term.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-R

Chairman Callos moved to pass a resolution to approve the 2017 Nathanael Greene Lodge Rental Rates effective January 1, 2017. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Yes; Trustee Linnenberg: Yes; Chairman Callos: Yes.

Development Director Goetzman stated that there has not been a rate increase in the Nathanael Green Lodge Rental Rates since January 1, 2014. The increases for 2017 are minimal and effect special events more than non-profit or civic sector rates.

RESOLUTION #16-1128-S

The following properties were declared as nuisances. The Township Attorney was directed to notify the owners of the properties listed below of this resolution:

1. 3199 Bridgestone Court (550-0160-0124), Motion made by Chairman Callos and seconded by Trustee Linnenberg. All voted Aye.
2. 3305 North Bend Road (550-0071-0123), Motion made by Chairman Callos and seconded by Trustee Linnenberg. All voted Aye.

Administrator Birkenhauer made the following announcements:

1. Winterfest will take place on Friday, December 2, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Nathanael Greene Lodge. There will be free photos with Santa Claus, cookie decorating, train display, hot chocolate, and live reindeer. Cincinnati Children's Hospital will be collecting \$5 gift cards to be used as gifts for kids in the hospitals. Shuttle bus service will be available from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. from the Green Township Administrative Complex and Sur-Seal.
2. WLW/St. Vincent de Paul Coat Drive barrels are located at the Administration Office, Nathanael Greene Lodge, Sylved Fire Station, Audro Fire Station and Harrison Avenue Fire Station.
3. Toys for Tots are being collected in the Police Department.

Fiscal Officer, Tom Straus, reported that the Township recently purchased a \$450,000 dollar Freddie Mac Bond that starts at 1% and is callable. So far this year the General Fund has received approximately \$3.7 million dollars and expended approximately \$3.3 million dollars. Overall, the Township has received approximately \$41 million dollars and expended approximately \$35 million dollars.

Township Attorney, Frank Hyle, stated that acquisition of property on Harrison Avenue owned by 2G Holdings, LLC has been completed. Attorney Hyle stated that the 1.5 acres of property is located near Paragon Salon and will be held as greenspace. Attorney Hyle stated need for Executive Session for the purpose of appointment of personnel.

Township Administrator, Frank Birkenhauer, stated that he had nothing to report.

Director of Public Services, Joe Lambing, reported that projects continue to move along well. The hike/bike trail is set to have some pavement going down in the next week or so, weather permitting. The sidewalk along Bridgetown Road is nearly completed. The right hand deceleration lane heading eastbound on Harrison Avenue has been installed, however, it is not open yet. That lane will help with traffic pulling into the Harrison Greene project. Director Lambing also reported that the Public Services Department is changing over from summer to winter schedules.

Chairman Callos asked Director Lambing if he has received any feedback regarding Clean-Up Day. Director Lambing stated that he received many positive comments, and reported that approximately 35 dumpsters were filled. There were also 2 dumpsters full of scrap metal. The shredding truck being there went very well. Salvation Army did not show up.

Director Lambing announced that yard waste drop off is now closed. Yard waste drop off will be available two Saturdays in January for Christmas tree drop off.

Trustee Linnenberg stated that he received a card thanking the Trustees for providing Clean-Up Day.

Trustee Linnenberg stated that we still seem to be having issues with telephone poles not being moved within some of our projects. He noted the pole on Lee Court has not been moved and that the new Bridgetown sidewalk contains a pole. Public Services Director Lambing stated that the poles cannot be pulled until the new poles are installed. He noted that in both cases the traffic lights are hanging on those poles. When the new traffic signal poles are installed those wires and poles can be removed.

Trustee Linnenberg asked who will put the new poles in. Director Lambing stated that contractors hired by the Township will install the new poles on Harrison Avenue. Trustee Linnenberg stated that our contractor could have installed the new pole a long time ago. Director Lambing stated that it has to do with the traffic signal. The Township cannot take out the poles because the new poles have not been installed by Cincinnati Bell. Trustee Linnenberg asked that we apply additional pressure to push Cincinnati Bell along.

Fire/EMS Chief, Doug Witsken, stated that he had nothing to report.

Police Chief, Bart West, reported that they are wrapping up their training program for the year. Each Officer has complied with the State mandated 11 hours of training. However, in addition to the required 11 hours, the Officers will have completed a 3 hour in-house training class for every Officer, and a number of Officers recently graduated from Crisis Intervention Training which is a 40 hour class. Next year the State of Ohio will increase the number of required training hours from 11 hours to 20 hours. Those 20 hours are very specific hours. In addition to those hours Chief West will have Officers complete an additional 20 hours of training. His goal in 2017 is for each Officer to have a minimum of 40 hours of training.

Chairman Callos commented about the tragic situation that occurred today at Ohio State University. He stated that the first responder on scene followed protocol and training to eliminate the threat and hopefully saved the lives of those injured and many others that could have become victims. Chairman Callos thanked all members of law enforcement for what they do.

Director of Development, Adam Goetzman, reported that at the next Trustees Meeting the Board will be looking at a case for a sign variance for the new office building that is being constructed on Mercy Health Boulevard and North Bend Road. They are requesting building signage that does not conform to the zoning resolution.

Director Goetzman also reported that the Township will be proceeding with a public announcement to request Statements of Interest for review of appraisal reports and the acquisition of property for the Cheviot Road project. The Hamilton County project number is CR73-0.00PID#95292, and involves a process by which the Township announces that it will be receiving Statements of Interest for the acquisition of property for temporary easements as well as permanent right-of-way acquisition. The Township must also file with ODOT.

Chairman Callos stated that the project will be extensive and will require partnerships with ODOT and the Hamilton County Engineer.

Similar to the work that was done for months on the I-74 project, which is on schedule at this point.

Development Director Goetzman stated that all of the right-of-way has been purchased for the Five Points Intersection Improvement Project. The project will now be moving forward to the pre-bid stage. He noted that this is an ODOT let project, so ODOT controls the bidding and awarding of the construction contract. A final construction schedule has not been established because of an issue associated with the Indiana Brown Bat and site clearing. ODOT can dedicate some space in a State Preservation area to offset the potential exposure and loss of habitat, or the clearing can be done over the winter at Township expense. Both options will be explored and a recommendation will be made to the Board at a later date.

Trustee Linnenberg read several thank you letters.

Trustee Linnenberg thanked Development Director Goetzman for his

assistance with a presentation to a Girl Scout Troop working on their Government badge. He also thanked Police Chief West for giving the girl scouts a tour.

Trustee Linnenberg reported that he read an article about a community in northern Ohio that suspended a Fire Department Lt. because he instructed his personnel to distribute candy on Halloween. Trustee Linnenberg stated that is the complete opposite of what the Board wants here in Green Township. Trustee Linnenberg stated that he loves the fact that there are 60,000+ residents that share 10 miles of border with the City of Cincinnati and yet you can call the Police Department to check on your house when you are gone on vacation, or on Halloween night our Police and Fire Departments are out passing out candy. Trustee Linnenberg stated that he was shocked by the article regarding suspension of the Lt. in northern Ohio and thrilled that is the exact opposite of what we want here in Green Township. Trustee Rosiello stated that is why Township levies pass at an 80% rate because residents understand that they work together on everything. Chairman Callos stated that it is incumbent upon the Board to listen to its residents.

Chairman Callos wished both LaSalle and St. X the best of luck this week as they compete for State Championship titles this week. LaSalle will play this Thursday for their third consecutive State Championship. St. X will be playing either Friday or Saturday. Chairman Callos wished them both the best of luck in bringing State Championship titles back to southwestern Ohio.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Chairman Callos made a motion to recess into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing appointment of personnel. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello, Aye; Trustee Linnenberg, Aye; Chairman Callos, Aye. The meeting was recessed at 6:00 p.m.; reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

Chairman Callos moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Linnenberg seconded the motion. Trustee Rosiello: Aye; Trustee Linnenberg: Aye; Chairman Callos: Aye. Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

ATTEST: