

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 25, 2023
7:00 PM



CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

A. ROLL CALL: Supervisor Heise , Treasurer Doroshewitz , Clerk Vorva ,
Trustee Buckley , Trustee Curmi , Trustee Stewart

ABSENT: Trustee Monaghan Excused

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief J. Knittel
Assistant Police Chief Kudra
Fire Chief P. Conely
Kevin Bennett, Attorney
Jeremy Schrot, Engineer
Denisa Terrell, Recording Secretary
29 Members of the public

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Jennifer Buckley

**PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL
FIREFIGHTERS DAY – MAY 4, 2023**

Gratitude was expressed for the Plymouth Township Firefighters by Supervisor Heise as he presented Fire Chief Conely with a proclamation for International Firefighters Day.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Moved by Clerk Vorva and seconded by Treasurer Doroshewitz to approve the Agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting of April 25, 2023.

All Ayes

D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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The homeowner does not understand why the sidewalk was replaced in 2017 at no charge and he is now asked to pay for the sidewalk replacement in the current sidewalk program. He was advised that there will be a review.

The resident at 9111 Corey Court questioned the found defects. He was advised to send an email to sidewalks@plymouthtownship.org to receive flags and pictures of the sidewalk defect.

The President of the Hunters Park Condominium Association shared a notice for assessment for sidewalks that do not run through the condominium. There is also an additional assessment that was due to a water main break that caused damage to a sidewalk. Mr. Schrot advised the Township is paying for the repair that is the result of the water main break in which the Township DPW workers were involved. It was also shared that the HOA is responsible for the sidewalks that abut the condominiums.

Walter Ikes on Woodleigh Way asked if pictures were available. He questioned the specs listed in his assessment letter. He was advised that information will be shared via email to include pictures. Mr. Schrot provided his business card.

Trustee Stewart shared that the township engineer (Mr. Schrot) went out and made a house call to assist.

Mark at 13809 Westbrook Road received a letter concerning N Territorial Road which is located on the backside of the subdivision. The area referenced in the letter refers to a common area in the subdivision. Will the homeowner's association be responsible for the sidewalk? Mr. Schrot will review it further.

13841 Buckingham inquired about cracks made by a utility truck and if she is responsible for replacement. The homeowner also shared the same issue as the previous neighbor in identifying the responsible party which could be the homeowner's association. Mr. Schrot will review it and get back to her.

46380 Barrington Road has a large black walnut tree that has pushed up the sidewalk. He inquired if the roots of the tree will be cut. The response was the roots will be cut at least six inches below the surface.

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Jim Vermeulen of the Vermeulen Funeral Home on Ann Arbor Road inquired if grinding sidewalk edges off are allowed. He was advised that grinding is not allowed as it is not ADA-Standard, and a trip hazard can occur and opens the pores in the concrete.

The homeowner at 47266 Beechcrest Court inquired if the sidewalk behind his house is his responsibility. He was advised that the sidewalk is his responsibility.

Moved by Clerk Vorva supported by Trustee Curmi to close the public hearing for the Sidewalk Replacement Program.

Roll Call

All Ayes of Those Present

Public Hearing Closed at 8:15 p.m.

2. Finding of Necessity for 2023 Sidewalk Replacement Program, **Resolution #2023-04-25-31**, *Township Engineer Jeremy Schrot*

Trustee Curmi requested the completion of the Sidewalk Replacement Program take place in August so that it can be placed on the tax roll.

Moved by Clerk Vorva and seconded by Trustee Buckley to approve Resolution #2023-04-25-31 authorizing the replacement of the non-compliant sidewalk flags, and the Treasurer to assess the property owners for the work completed for the 2023 Sidewalk Replacement Program.

All Ayes of those Present.

3. Bid Award for Sidewalk Replacement Program, **Resolution # 2023-04-25-32**, *Township Engineer Jeremy Schrot*

Mr. Schrot advised there were four bids for this project. The bids came in low.

Moved by Trustee Stewart and seconded by Trustee Curmi to adopt Resolution #2023-04-25-32 authorizing the Board of Trustees to approve the award of the 2023 Sidewalk Replacement Program to Great Lakes Infrastructure in the amount of \$372,250.20.

Roll Call Vote

All Ayes.

4. Veterans Commission Ordinance, First Reading, **Resolution #2023-04-25-33**, *Supervisor Kurt Heise, Trustee Jen Buckley*

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Trustee Buckley shared her experience as a veteran in another community and her hope to bring the same experience to veterans in Plymouth Township. Trustee Curmi recommended that the Veteran Commission include others that may not be veterans but are willing to serve. Trustee Buckley was open to others that may not be a veteran serving on the Commission.

Moved by Trustee Stewart and supported Trustee Buckley to adopt Resolution #2023-04-25-33 for the First Reading of an Ordinance Creating a Plymouth Township Veterans Commission, to be chaired initially by Township Trustee Jennifer Buckley.

~~5. Purchase of New Generator for Fire Station #2, **Resolution # 2023-04-25-34**, Fire Chief Patrick Conely~~

6. Resolution Authorizing a Study for the Construction of a New Fire Station #2, **Resolution # 2023-04-25-35**, Supervisor Kurt Heise and Fire Chief Patrick Conely

The feasibility study will include Supervisor Heise, Planner Laura Haw, and Engineer Jeremy Schrot. Trustee Curmi inquired if a budget was established. Supervisor Heise's responded that there is no budget as it is only a feasibility study that will include collecting data for consideration of a new fire station and will include individuals who are paid by the Township already. Trustee Stewart also suggested that data is available from Lake Superior State free of charge.

Moved by Trustee Stewart and seconded by Treasurer Doroshewitz that the Board of Trustees approve the attached Resolution 2023-04-25-35 regarding a feasibility study for a possible new Lakepointe Fire Station due by December 1st.
All Ayes.

7. Salary Adjustments for Non-Union Employees, **Resolution # 2023-04-25-36**, Supervisor Kurt Heise, Treasurer Bob Doroshewitz, Clerk Jerry Vorva

Supervisor Heise shared that the salary adjustment request will not be retroactive moving forward. Trustee Curmi expressed he was happy to hear that the adjustments would not be retroactive.

Moved by Treasurer Doroshewitz and seconded by Trustee Stewart that the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees hereby adopt Resolution #2023-04-25-36 by authorizing pay adjustments for various non-union employees as determined by the Supervisor and authorizing the Finance Director or designee to amend the FY2023 General Fund budget

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for the Township Supervisor's Office in the amount of \$1,500 and the Finance Office in the amount of \$2,000 for wages, social security and 401(a) defined contribution to the appropriate expenditure accounts, in the total amount of \$3,500 effective May 1, 2023.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Clerk Vorva, Treasurer Doroshewitz, Trustee Buckley, Supervisor Heise, Trustee Stewart, Trustee Curmi
Nays: None
Absent: Trustee Monaghan

8. Salary Adjustments for the Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer, **Resolution # 2023-04-25-37**, *Supervisor Kurt Heise, Treasurer Bob Doroshewitz, Clerk Jerry Vorva*

Moved by Treasurer Doroshewitz and seconded by Clerk Vorva to adopt Resolution 2023-04-25-37 authorizing a fixed salary adjustment to \$80,000 for the offices of Deputy Clerk and Treasurer, effective May 1, 2023; further that the Premium Pay option for the Deputy Clerk be discontinued and authorizing the Finance Director or designee to appropriate fund balance amending the 2023 General Fund's fund balance in the amount of \$13,400.

Trustee Stewart suggested the salary adjustments are modest and comparable to the salaries found with the Municipal Township Association and Michigan Municipal League. other municipalities of the same size. Trustee Curmi indicated with contract negotiations coming up he wants to consider the impact of binding arbitration of Act 312 which will allow the union a double-digit pay increase.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Clerk Vorva, Treasurer Doroshewitz, Trustee Buckley, Supervisor Heise, Trustee Stewart
Nays: Trustee Curmi
Absent: Trustee Monaghan

9. Establishment of New Base Salaries for Full- and Part-Time Elected Officials, **Resolution # 2023-04-25-38**, *Treasurer Bob Doroshewitz*

Moved by Trustee Stewart and seconded by Clerk Vorva to adopt Resolution 2023-04-25-38 establishing new base salaries for the Township's full-time elected officials as follows: Supervisor \$130,000; Clerk \$120,000; Treasurer \$120,000; Trustee \$13,200, effective May 1, 2023, and authorizing the Finance Director or designee to appropriate fund balance in the of \$14,200 amending the 2023 General Fund affected wage and FICA account budgets as need to provide for salary adjustments for the elected positions

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of Supervisor, Treasurer, Clerk, and Trustee. Furthermore, these base salary amounts remain unchanged through January 1, 2025.

Treasurer Doroshewitz provided context and history as to why the Board of Trustees is allowed to vote on salary raises of the elected officials. He shared that a previous Board of Trustees eliminated the Compensation Committee in 2016 at the end of their term. The Compensation Committee met every two years to consider raises for elected officials and has not been re-established. The Supervisor and the other full-time elected officials' salaries were not increased from 2015 through 2021. It was stated if raises were given from 2015 to present at 2.25% would be more than then the current raise requested. Trustee Curmi expressed concern for the percentage of the raise.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Clerk Vorva, Treasurer Doroshewitz, Trustee Buckley, Supervisor Heise, Trustee Stewart

Nays: Trustee Curmi

Absent: Trustee Monaghan

PUBLIC COMMENT *(Limited to 3 Minutes)*

The community member reiterated his concern for the discharge of a police officer and requested an investigation.

G. BOARD COMMENTS

- Trustee Curmi inquired about the status of the labor negotiation. Supervisor Heise advised there are some talks about contract amendments that include lateral transfer agreements for fire and police being considered. He also inquired about the Smart Meter proposals review status. Supervisor Heise would like a study session on the Smart Meters. Treasurer Doroshewitz and Mr. Fellrath are working on the project. Trustee Curmi also asked about the audit. It was shared that the audit is ongoing. There will be a presentation from the auditors that will take place on June 13th.
- Trustee Stewart attended the seminar that took place in the Township Hall which was extremely informative. He thanked Chief Knittel.
- Supervisor Heise shared that the next Board of Trustees meeting will be on May 9th. He shared agenda items for the next meeting including the second reading of the Veterans Ordinance, and the MDOT Agreement for higher-grade fences, at

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275 and Ann Arbor Road. The bid awards for the next Sidewalk Gap Projects will be given out as well as the Pulte Sheldon 72 Unit PUD will be before the Board at the next meeting.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Stewart and supported by Clerk Vorva to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting of April 25, 2023, at 9:37 p.m.

All Ayes.



Jerry Vorva, Clerk

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township Meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the Meetings/Hearings upon two weeks' notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the following: Human Resource Office, 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number (734) 354-3202 TDD units: 1-800649-3777 (Michigan Relay Services)