

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

1030 NORTH LINCOLN STREET SUITE 1400

GREENSBURG, IN 47240

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

August 15, 2023

Attendance: Bev Rivera- Trustee Randy Hoeing- Advisory Board Member
Angie Morrow- Advisory Board Secretary Jim Stewart- Advisory Board President
Lori Garringer- Trustee Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Jim Stewart at 12:00 pm asking everyone in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Previous minutes from meeting held on July 11, 2023, were available for review. Randy made a motion to approve the minutes. Angie seconded the motion. Jim stated that everyone who approves signify by saying aye. Randy- Aye, Angie- Aye, Jim-Aye.

- **Old Business:**
- The board opened five bids for the demolition and clean up at Lake McCoy removing 7 structures on township properties. Bid #1 Allen Transport/Allen Excavating bid of \$49,800 was accepted. Other bids are #2 Johannigman Excavating \$51,550; #3 RSquared \$63,750; Other bids were received from Green City Demolition \$137,880 and Wesseler Excavating \$120,000. Angie made the motion to accept the Allen bid; Randy accepted. All responded Aye.
- **Fire Contract:**
 - *\$160,000 will be the financial amount of the contract for 2023. Bev requested we also do the 2024 amount so both the township and city can plan for that in their budget. Discussion from the board suggested we wait until January to officially approve the 2024 amount once we know the approved budget. The amount we will put in the 2024 budget is \$170,000 for the contract amount. The total firefighting budget will be proposed for \$240,000. In the current contract, the fire trucks are insured by the city and the township reimburses the city. We can continue this. The issue was brought to the table that all other fire equipment purchases are currently being covered by the city under the larger umbrella of all fire fighting equipment in the building and on the trucks. This could be a problem if there was ever an insurance claim. The board agreed that all small equipment and asset purchases for the fire department below \$40,000 will be a gift to the Greensburg Fire Dept and become their property to insure, maintain and replace. Randy made that motion. Angie seconded. All responded Aye. With regard to the fire truck coverage, Jim stated the contract needs to read that any proceeds from insurance claims on the trucks need to go to the township.*
 - *In the 2023 budget, the fire fighting fund still has \$26,500. I have asked the chief if he has any particular needs or requests. He does not at this time.*

Fire contract details – We accepted the scenario of percentage of runs for the calculation of the cost of coverage. The city still does not accept our reasoning of including the value of the fire trucks in our annual contract amount to them. The city includes their fixed assets; we should include ours. The city and board of works may never agree to that, so we just moved on. The city acknowledges that they will really only be able to get what we can collect in our budget. We can make an effort to increase it, but we still will only get what the state approves.

New Business:

2024 Budget. Bev presented some proposed figures for the 2024 budget for discussion. She is working with Reuben to see where our levies are and if we can increase any to get the maximum benefit for the township. When the fire levies are raised, it increases our certified shares, giving us more money in the general fund. In 2024 we may only receive \$5,400 in township assistance so those requests will have to be paid out of the general fund. There will be some left in the township assistance fund that we can move forward too. Jim asked if we should keep township assistance as it's own fund. We can with the amount of income we will get, but the majority of the funds will go into general and we will have a line item there for it.

2024 budget will also increase for the office rent and utilities, which were not included on the 2023 budget. Those had been paid in 2022.

Bev addressed the line for employee health benefits that had been on the budget for 2021 and 2022 but never used for insurance. It has been determined that the township cannot have a health insurance policy for the trustee only and a group policy will be too expensive. Therefore, Bev proposed removing this line from the budget and adding \$10,000 to her salary to allow her funds to purchase her own health insurance. Staff salaries have also been increased \$3,000 for each employee, due to the large number of hours each has worked in 2023.

Worker's Compensation policy – we worked with Encore Insurance to complete all past audits that had not been done for our township for the past four years. Lori was able to bring us up to date and bring us into compliance. The audits had not been completed and the state overestimated our income. With the new information, we actually received a small refund. We have not paid the 2023 amount and are up to date.

Lori presented a computer back up policy for board information only. We will keep this policy in our board book and comply to the policy weekly. No motion needed.

The State Board of Accounts auditor in our office suggested that Lori needs to be bonded as well since she has access to the accounting package. The board approved us to bond Lori for \$15,000.

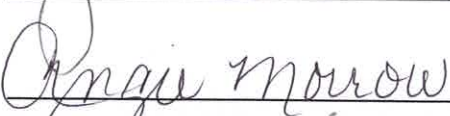
Additional Appropriation:

At the September meeting, we will need to do an additional appropriation for the cost of the Lake McCoy demolition. This in the general fund, with income from the interest income from Trust Indiana.

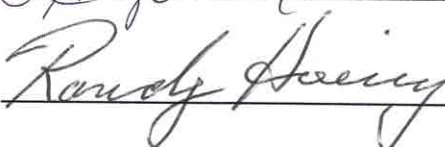
- **Next meeting is for September 26th at 5:00pm.**
- Jim opened the floor for discussion.
- Randy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angie seconded. Randy -Aye, Angie -Aye, Jim - Aye. Meeting ended at 6:15 pm.



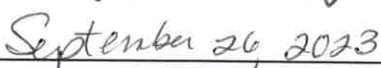
Jim Stewart, President



Angie Morrow, Secretary



Randy Hoeing



Date of Approval