

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

1030 NORTH LINCOLN STREET SUITE 1400

GREENSBURG, IN 47240

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

March 28, 2024

Attendance: Bev Rivera- Trustee
Randy Hoeing- Advisory Board Member
Angie Morrow- Advisory Board Member (attended by phone)
Jim Stewart- Advisory Board Member
Reuben Cummings – Accounting Advisor
Lori Garringer -Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 Noon and the pledge of allegiance was said.

The minutes of the February 13th meeting were reviewed.

Jim suggested we change the 1st item "GFD headset delivered and paid for:" in Old Business to say They were approved at the last meeting, rather than voted on at the last meeting.

Jim made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Randy seconded. Jim -aye, and Randy -aye, Angie (was not present for approval of minutes; however 2 board members represent the required quorum.) Motion passed.

Angie joined the meeting by telephone before business of the meeting was discussed.

Old Business:

➤ **2024 Fire Protection agreement:**

- There were 2 changes to the contract proposed by the Board of Works.
 - The township oversees the Cum Fire fund and it will be used to pay the truck loan.
 - The fire protection agreement had a change regarding the ownership of the weather sirens. The city will only own the ones in the city limits.
- Beverly and the board are ok with the changes and expect the new contract to be presented for signature at the April 9 board meeting.

Rueben asked why the sirens are included in the fire contract. Beverly explained the reason for including the sirens is because the ones in the city limits will be owned and maintained by the city going forward.

The ownership for sirens outside the city limits will be transferred to and maintained by the county, not the township.

➤ **New Business:**

Maximum Levy Increase:

Several years ago, the fire district in Charlestown was operating on \$400,000 and needed a levy increase due to the increased population and increased fire coverage provided. The speaker of the house at the time came up with a formula to increase max levies as the population in an area grows.

In the preceding 10 years if your population has grown by 6% you can apply for the increased levy.

In 2023, the population of Greensburg went down and the township went up, thus qualifying our township for the increase.

Year	Total Washington Township Population	Greensburg (City of Greensburg) Population	Washington Township Population (outside of City of Greensburg)	
2023	14,053	11431	2622	
2014	13401	11,823	1578	

When figuring the increase in population you need to consider and take out areas you don't cover – in our case the City of Greensburg.

If there was more than a 6% change we would be allowed to apply for a maximum levy increase.

Maximum would be 15 cents. You don't have to apply it to next year's budget, but you can bank and if you do need it later, you can raise your levy.

It is rare to have the opportunity to raise your levy. Based on this year's Assessed Values it would be approximately \$330,000. Fire levy now is \$225,000. Increasing the max levy protects our right to increase the tax levy for the fire fund if needed.

Jim moved to adopt the levy increase potential. Angie seconded the motion.

Role call vote: Randy – aye, Angie – aye, Randy – aye. Motion passed.

The board signed the petition that is due by April 1st. Angie will sign the petition tomorrow. Reuben will go ahead and send to the state tonight with Jim and Randy's signatures, as 2 was adequate.

Jim adjourned, Angie Second

Randy – aye, Jim – aye, Angie – aye.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Next Meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

2024 Meeting Schedule: (all meeting will be held at 5:00pm at the township office)

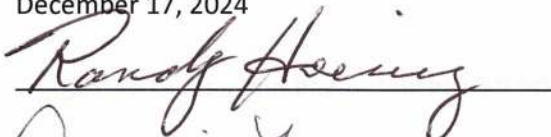
June 18, 2024

August 13, 2024

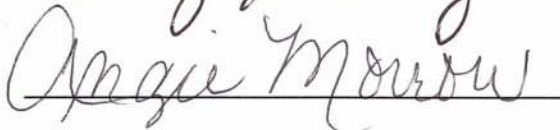
September 24, 2024 (Studebaker Studio Conference Room)

October 15, 2024 (Studebaker Studio Conference Room)

December 17, 2024



Randy Hoeing, President



Angie Morrow, Secretary

Jim Stewart

Date of Approval