

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MUNSON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held Tuesday, February 28, 20 23

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Chair Irene McMullen, with Trustees Andy Bushman and James McCaskey and Fiscal Officer Todd Ray present. Ms. McMullen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was identified as a workshop to allow the Munson Road Department to discuss Department equipment status and the need to replace aging trucks. Chair Irene McMullen invited the Road Superintendent Kirk Walker to open the discussion.

Road Superintendent Kirk Walker called attention to a spreadsheet created by Road Department crew members that provided various statistics on the oldest trucks in the fleet. The document listed seven International trucks, a 1993, 95, 2000, 2001, 2003, 20009, and 2012 model years, and one 2019 Ram 5500, and the mileage, engine hours, and itemized list of the most significant repairs that each truck had required, along with the cost and the date of the repair, and anticipated repairs. Individual members of the road crew were given opportunities to contribute to the discussion and offer clarification and additional details relating to the trucks they operate, how the trucks are allocated to different jobs, and the ways the day-to-day operation decisions are made based on the unique limits of certain trucks. They also highlighted potential safety problems and the potential for major breakdowns that will become increasingly likely as the trucks get older.

Much of the discussion focused on clearing snow from township roads. The Trustees asked questions about route times and staffing, and noted the safety concerns involved with having roads passable for emergency responders and school busses. The crew explained the complications that result when a truck breaks down, how plow routes are revised and lengthened, causing delays in completing routes. They pointed out that timing is important because routes are set to be completed before school bus runs and heavy commuter traffic starts each morning.

Superintendent Walker reported that the Township has had one truck on order since May 2021, and everyone is aware that it has been delayed in manufacture and delivery due to the coronavirus pandemic. The most recent projection from the vendor gives a 2024 delivery date. The truck is not likely to be available for the 2023-24 snow season. (The Township holds purchase orders totaling \$153,330 for this truck.)

Preliminary research into options for other truck vendors has only found one manufacturer, Mack Truck, that could produce and deliver a truck this year, but complications with funding will make a second truck purchase in 2023 difficult. A new truck, outfitted with a dump bed, snow plow and salt spreader will cost in the vicinity of \$190,00- – \$200,000. There is almost nothing available on the used, heavy-duty trucks market suitable for Township use. Mr. Walker will gather information and provide an update on firm prices for the possible purchase of a new truck.

The Trustees agreed to consider the information presented, and will address the matter in an upcoming regular meeting.

Jim McCaskey moved to adjourn the Special meeting at 6:25pm. Andy Bushman seconded. Motion carried with a unanimous vote. The Chair noted that the Trustees Regular meeting would begin at 6:30pm.

Irene H. McMullen Chairman Todd R. Ray Fiscal Officer