

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

MUNSON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES SPECIAL

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO 10148

Held Monday, July 17, 20 17

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Irene McMullen with Trustees Andy Bushman and Jim McCaskey and Fiscal Officer Judy Toth present. The Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

FIRE DEPARTMENT WORKSHOP

Fire and EMS Administrator Mark Lynn gave an overview of the fire department. They were doing well and were projecting no raises or increases to the budget. Health insurance premiums increased 6 percent. Workers compensation recouped \$33,000 from a third party for the ladder truck incident which helped to reduce the worker's comp premium. Mr. McCaskey asked for clarification on some of the items in the expense worksheet. Chief Lynn noted that the EMS grant was extremely helpful to offset the cost of some of the items that are not provided by the hospital. They have received this grant for the past 10 years. The Board asked how wages compared to the rest of the county. The Chief responded that there were three full time departments in Geauga County. Bainbridge is in the high 50's to start. Chester has a full time chief and the rest are paid part time. Chardon Township is in the mid 50's. The only remaining true volunteer fire departments are Newbury and Thompson – the rest are staffed. Because of the health care facilities located in the township, Munson is in the top four busiest departments. The Notre Dame project may increase calls up to 25 percent. A decision will need to be made about the third squad. The turbos clog up on the two older squads, because they go and then idle. He will consider a gas engine squad if they can meet ambulance requirements, when the squad is replaced. Springs and shocks need to be replaced, not unusual for a 9-year-old vehicle. The doors will need to be touched up as they are starting to rot. When the third squad begins to show a cost for maintenance, it will be time to get rid of it. Funds need to be set aside for a new squad. Mr. McCaskey inquired how many employees are on health care and was told nine. He noted that the Fire and EMS Administrator became a township employee in 2012. He asked about the interview process. Three chiefs are invited to sit in on an interview and the applicant is graded. The officer positions will be filled next year to allow current employees to get the certifications they need to apply. The fire department will be out of the group rating for worker's compensation for another four years. They are currently placed with groups in similar experience situations. Mr. Bushman inquired about overtime versus regular time and was told it becomes an expense if a part time employee calls off and a full time employee is asked to stay for an additional shift. The fire department has three cell phones as the hospital prefers this for reporting – radios don't always work in the buildings. Cell phones are placed in each squad and in the command car. The fire department got a good price to upgrade the computers in the vehicles. Mrs. McMullen asked if the fire department recommended any changes to the fire contract. The Chief replied it was a matter of updating and Assistant Chief Mike Vatty added that the verbiage should be incorporated with the bylaws. Mrs. McMullen suggested that the contract be extended while the paperwork was being addressed. Mr. Bushman agreed the bylaws and personnel manual should be in sync with the contract.

Jim McCaskey moved and Andy Bushman seconded to hold a special meeting for a workshop and other regular business on September 12, 2017 at 6pm, with a unanimous vote. Motion carried. A contract addendum will be prepared for the months of August and September.

PUBLIC COMMENT

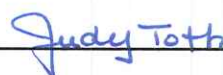
Mrs. McMullen opened the floor for public comment. Resident Rich Ferlin asked if the Township had compared the cost of a township fire department with the cost of contracting with a private corporation and was told it had been brought up a few times in the past. Fire districting was also discussed. The Trustees thanked the fire department for their participation in the Community Picnic which was held at the town hall this year.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Jim McCaskey moved and Andy Bushman seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm, with a unanimous vote. Motion carried.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer