

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MUNSON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO 10148

Held Monday, March 18, 20 24

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairman Andy Bushman, with Trustees James McCaskey and Nathaniel McDonald and Fiscal Officer Todd Ray present. Mr. Bushman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Bushman opened the meeting by stating that the Trustees would discuss ways they might choose to spend the remaining funds that the Township received from the American Recovery Plan Act, known as ARPA. Munson has spent a portion of the funds, but still has \$565,000 available in Fund 2273. The agenda included a prepared list of items or topics that had been generated at previous meetings Trustees had brainstormed about ARPA fund spending options.

Trustee Nate McDonald acknowledged that he is joining the conversation "midstream" and was not part of the earlier discussions Trustees had when they brainstormed possible spending opportunities. He was interested in hearing about any guiding principles that would assist decision making. He suggested that the Board prioritize decision-making based on two ideas: 1) identifying the most pressing or essential needs in the Township, and 2) identify the biggest, brightest, long-term investment to consider, something that would be good for nearly everyone or a majority of residents in the Township.

Jim McCaskey stated that he feels the money should be considered a gift and would like to see it invested in something that would appreciate or have enduring value to the residents. He noted that many of the items on the brainstorm list have estimates or prices, some of the figures are more than a year old, but noted that most are things that will depreciate over time.

Andy Bushman stated that he felt any expenditure should be "for the greater good of the community."

Mr. McDonald commented that he has heard from several folks, and understands that the condition of roads are a major concern for many residents. Several roads are in rough shape.

Chief Vatty offered information about upgrading/updating some expensive emergency medical equipment that had reached the end of its useable service life, and the Department's efforts to secure grant funding. He discussed the ambulance replacement schedule and the rising cost of a new ambulance that is still a few years out.

Road Superintendent Kirk Walker offered information about how the Road Department crew is extending the useable service life of trucks and machines with proactive and skilled equipment maintenance schedules.

The Trustees noted that two trucks are on order, with one receiving a \$35,000 grant and another has the potential to receive state funding that the Trustees applied for. In any case, the truck purchases will be available for ARPA spending. They also discussed how financing certain purchases would affect the budget, and how allocating some ARPA funds in certain areas will provide budget relief to make other projects affordable with existing revenue.

Fiscal Officer Todd Ray discussed the option of making a contract payment to Munson Fire with ARPA funds, designating the payment for equipment upgrades or replacement, or assignment to the capital reserve fund for vehicle replacement.

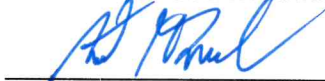
Residents offered comments encouraging the prioritization of maintenance of the facilities the Township already owns, and another favoring resident safety above other considerations.

The Trustees discussed the time frame for making decisions. Chair Andy Bushman indicated that some decisions could be made as early as July, but he would expect all of the funds to be committed by September 1st.

Jim McCaskey and Nate McDonald discussed the need to keep the conversation going in the months ahead as additional information comes in about the costs of re-paving roads this summer, along with exploratory discussion about acquiring a piece of land adjacent to a park.

Motion to Adjourn

Jim McCaskey moved and Nate McDonald seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm, with a unanimous vote. Motion carried.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer