

JANUARY 4, 2024

The Margareta Township Trustees met on January 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Present were Mr. Bias and Mr. Pooch and Mr. Cullen. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mr. Cullen moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2023 meeting as presented by Fiscal Officer Robert Day. Vote: all ayes

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to approve, and sign the warrants and EFTs submitted for payment by the Fiscal Officer. Vote: all ayes

Mr. Cullen moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to approve the financial reports submitted by the Fiscal Officer. Vote: all ayes

Kelly Ried, Road/Cemetery Admin Asst:

Mrs. Ried requested to update the Township website. She will request photos from the community as well as information from each Board.

Chris Schaeffer, Zoning Inspector:

Mr. Schaeffer provided an update on the return to work status of Katie Maloney (Compliance Officer). She will return to work shortly.

Mr. Schaeffer discussed a complaint filed by Jeff Killingsworth regarding a shed located in the driveway of a house on Bardshar Road. He will address the issue with the property owner.

Mr. Schaeffer reported on the denial of the conditional use permit for Anthony's Villa which was to be located at Kendra Didion's property on St Rt 269.

Bob Biglin, Road & Cemetery Department:

Mr. Biglin provided updates and MT3 (new springs are installed) and MT4 (radios have been installed).

Mr. Biglin discussed pricing for the Brine System and a possible EPA grant. This will be for the 2024-2025 season. The cost will be approximately \$46,512.00 which includes a 5% savings from Sourcewell.

Mr. Biglin reported that Adkins Fence has not responded on the billing for the damage they caused to Snow Drive. Mr. Biglin will contact Erie County Asst. Prosecutor Charles Bennett to pursue legal action.

Kelly Ried provided an update on the Wreaths Across America program for 2024. She indicated that the initial fund raising is off to a great start.

Thomas Johnson, Fire Chief:

Chief Johnson discussed the need to replace damaged Microsoft Surface tablet. He will get pricing.

Chief Johnson discussed the reimbursement practices for firefighters that pass their paramedic exams/classes.

Firefighter Justin Galloway recently passed his paramedic exam and requested reimbursement of \$8,475.00. Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to approve the reimbursement to Justin Galloway for the full amount of \$8,475.00 as this is consistent with past practice. Vote: all ayes. It was further discussed that Fire Chiefs Johnson and Jett will develop a policy for future reimbursements to those that pass the paramedic exams/classes.

Chief Johnson requested to hire additional part-time firefighters. The Board requested that Chief Johnson and Chief Jett set up an employee threshold for the Fire Department and the Board will authorize the Department to higher up to that approved limit without having to request to hire being presented to the Board each time. Chief Johnson provided an update on the new squad. He anticipates delivery around March 1, 2024.

Chief Johnson provided an update on the transition of Chief Jett.

Chief Johnson presented the resignation of Firefighter Shawn Hunsicker from his full-time position effective 1/18/2024. Chief Johnson requested to have Mr. Hunsicker remain on the roster in a part time position. Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to accept the resignation of Shawn Hunsicker from his full-time firefighter position and be retained in a part time status. Vote: all ayes.

Board Items:

Mr. Day presented Resolution 2024-01: A Resolution to approve Permanent Appropriations for the calendar year of 2024 not to exceed \$3,780,551.00. Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to approve Resolution 2024-01. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Cullen – yes; Mr. Pooch – yes; Mr. Bias – yes.

Mr. Bias requested to have Mr. Day provide an update of upcoming levies at the next meeting to allow for advanced planning.

Mr. Cullen moved, seconded by Mr. Pooch to approve the payout of 24 hours of unused vacation leave to Mr. Biglin and to allow him to carry-over 40 hours of unused leave. Vote: all ayes.

Mr. Cullen motioned to move to Executive Session for the discussion of personnel related issues, seconded by Mr. Pooch. Roll Call Vote: : Mr. Cullen – yes; Mr. Pooch – yes; Mr. Bias – yes.

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to return to Regular session. Roll Call Vote: : Mr. Cullen – yes; Mr. Pooch – yes; Mr. Bias – yes.

Mr. Pooch moved to recess the Regular session until 10:00 AM Tuesday 1/9/24. Vote: all ayes.

Mr. Bias re-opened the Regular session at 10:00 AM on 1/9/24.

Mr. Cullen motioned to move to Executive Session for the discussion of personnel related issues, seconded by Mr. Pooch. Roll Call Vote: : Mr. Cullen – yes; Mr. Pooch – yes; Mr. Bias – yes.

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Cullen to return to Regular session. Roll Call Vote: : Mr. Cullen – yes; Mr. Pooch – yes; Mr. Bias – yes.

Mr. Bias discussed pay increases for the 2024 calendar year: The following increases were recommended: Bob Biglin will increase to a salary of \$67,000/year; Matthew Studer will increase to \$26/hour; Caleb Lane will increase to \$23/hour; Brenda Ried will increase to \$16/hour; snow plow drivers will increase to \$18/hour. Summer help wages will be discussed prior to their hiring.

Mr. Pooch moved, seconded by Mr. Bias to adjourn. Vote: all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 1140 AM.



Chairperson



Fiscal Officer