

Spencer Township Trustee Meeting May 5, 2016

Trustee Hood asked that a moment of silence be given for the 240th anniversary of the United States of America via National Day of Prayer

Chairman of the Board, Michael B. Hood called the meeting to order a 7:06pm.

Roll Call

Trustee Michael B. Hood	present
Trustee Teresa M. Bettinger	present
Trustee Shawn P. Valentine	military leave

Pledge to the Flag

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to go into executive session to discuss fire personnel issues, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to come out of executive session, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to come out of executive session, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

Financials

Receipts	\$48,480.31	
Payments	\$52,171.90	
 Fund Balances		
	General Fund	\$1,091,364.87
	Motor Vehicle	\$ 13,966.91
	Gas Tax	\$ 46,027.15
	Fire District	\$ 38,838.21
	Permissive Motor	<u>\$ 10,627.64</u>
		\$1,200,824.78

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to accept the financials, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes

Trustee Hood reviewed proposals for fencing for the old newly purchased property on the corner of Angola and Crissey Roads, and doors on the back of the maintenance building. The bids were reviewed. There were questions about the number of doors requested for the maintenance building.

Trustee Bettinger made the motion to accept the bid from Toledo Fence for \$5,423.00, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

There was more discussion on the number of doors for the maintenance barn by Darkinson Doors. There will be 10 garage doors installed at \$12,440.00. Trustee Bettinger made the motion, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

Pay the Bills

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to pay the bills for the month, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes

Fire

Fire Chief, Carl Arnold, gave the fire report.

	Fire	EMS
Spencer	6	20
Harding	1	6
Swanton	2	32
Mutual Aid	0	1

Total Runs = 50

Chief Arnold made recommendations for personnel changes in the department. Trustee Bettinger made a motion to accept the appointments, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

Chief Arnold read a prepared statement regarding the signed fire contract with Springfield Township. That gave 3 options including the department personnel taking pay cuts.

Trustee Bettinger gave her opinion on the benefits of partnering with Springfield Township, better protection for less money.

Trustee Hood asked the value of all current fire equipment. Chief Arnold gave a run down. Total value is around \$1,000,000 according to Chief Arnold.

Trustee Hood expressed there should have been a discussion and dialogue before any decisions were made on partnering with Springfield. He expressed once this is done, there will be no going back.

Resident, Dean Anderson, gave a personal story and the need of our own fire department. The Township is not broke he explained.

Jeff Michael, Swanton Township Trustee, explained his Township does not have a fire department. He thanked Spencer for the job they have done as Swanton Township's fire contracted service provider. He added the contract with Springfield is good for Springfield, not Spencer. He gave other opinions on this matter.

Trustee Hood said everything is not dollars and cents, what about the lives of our residents.

Chief Arnold explained more financials and the benefits of the proposed partnership with Swanton Township.

Trustee Bettinger explained the combining of services is encouraged by the State of Ohio with funding.

Trustee Hood said these talks should have occurred before any contracts were signed.

Ray Palawczyk explained Johnson Controls is going to close the factory in the Industrial park. What would the Township do if the plant closed and the fire department stayed open he asked?

Trustee Hood explained Johnson Controls invested \$35 million in the facility in 2013. We should now look at our own revenue streams and diversify the Township's revenue.

Resident, Mr. Randles, asked do the residents have a say in what happens with the fate of the fire station. Trustee Bettinger explained the contract has been signed with Springfield. She stated this is what's best for our Township.

Carol Shull, resident, stated the contract does not say what equipment will be turned over to Springfield at the end of the contract. She feels the contract should be more specific.

Gary Schroeder, Trustee Swanton Township, explained how pleased Swanton Township is with the service Spencer Township is providing. He feels this is a backdoor deal.

Ms. Orner, Springfield Township resident, asked could the contract be rescinded. Trustee Hood said that question needs to be explored.

Trustee Hood once again stated he has an issue with the process that was taken.

Resident, Mrs. Dale, stated the value of our equipment should cover 2 to 3 years' service from Springfield Township.

Mr. Anderson asked if the Jeeps can be taken down to the city of Toledo celebration.

Pam Williams, residents, asked what is next.

Ms. Shull asked who is responsible for the upkeep of the building. Spencer will be responsible Chief Arnold explained.

Mrs. Randles, resident, asked why this matter was not open to discussion to the public. Trustee Bettinger stated she was elected to do what is best for the Township and the finances support the decision.

Clynell Robinson, resident, expressed frustration over the matter.

Mrs. Dale stated Trustee Valentine just set the fire station back.

Kate Roth, resident, stated legal counsel should be contacted to rescind or change the language of the contract.

Ms. Orner stated this should not have been a hush hush matter.

Mrs. Yoder, Springfield Township Trustee, was told that she was not to be told about these dealings by the other 2 Trustees of Springfield Township.

Jessie Geiss, Springfield Township resident, stated the Fire Chief of Springfield told her he was told not to tell Mrs. Yoder about fire contract with Spencer Township.

Ms. Shull said the fire station was set up for failure in the beginning since the levy failed and the JEDZ dollars were allowed to keep it running.

Trustee Hood asked Trustee Bettinger if she is willing to rescind the contract and she said she is not.

Chief Arnold reminded all of resolutions Trustee Valentine voted not to close the fire department.

Trustee Hood read a question of Trustee Bettinger from Mr. D.H. Smith. He asked at that time if she would close the fire department.

Trustee Bettinger said once again, this will be better service and Spencer Township will not close down. She also explained there will be an opportunity for Spencer personnel with Springfield.

Trustee Hood asked Trustee Bettinger when she received the fire contract. Trustee Bettinger could not recall the exact date she received the contract.

Trustee Hood explained on April 20, 2016 he was not at the meeting because he does not recognize Trustee Valentine as a lawful Trustee. He is waiting on the Supreme Court's opinion. Trustee Hood stated there is a legal challenge coming on the actions that were taken at that meeting. He again stated he does not recognize the meeting that occurred on April 20, 2016.

Public records request was made for all correspondence regarding the fire issue from Dawn McDonald, Michael Hood, Teresa Bettinger and Shawn Valentine by Chief Carl Arnold.

Jack Gulvas, resident, stated there have never been any decisions made without public comments on this fire matter.

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Hood seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Valentine: yes.

X

Dawn E. McDonald
Fiscal Officer

X

Michael B. Hood
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

X

Teresa M. Bettinger
Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees

