

Island Creek Township
Regular Monthly Meeting
February 13, 2024
6:00 p.m.
Island Creek Community Building

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by Chairman Sam Grafton at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call Present: Sam Grafton, *Chair*, Thomas Phillips, *Vice-Chair* and Brenda Powley, *Trustee*

Also in attendance: Darla VanFossen, *Fiscal Officer*, Amy Browning, *Fiscal Officer Elect*, Brian Sayers, *Road Foreman* and Jeffrey Brown, *Solicitor*

FROM THE FLOOR

Paul Yontz, pre-registered, questioned when the paving of Backbone Road would be complete. Sam and Brenda clarified that they spoke with Ed Doleman, I.E. Pallet. Logging company will be obtaining their own sub-contractor to repair road damaged as a result from logging trucks. Chip and seal will be from approximately the post to driveway. Township will be taking care of the ditch as soon as possible.

Sam opened the floor to discussion.

Mr. Longo requested clarification on funding for the Community Building remodeling and walking paths. He also explained that his neighbor was concerned over an unknown vehicle that came to her house. Sam stated that the same vehicle came to his house claiming to do driveway repairs. Mr. Longo also expressed annoyance over recent media coverage and social media posts as well dissatisfaction with the snow removal on Kings Drive including size of cinders used.

Sam stated that Pleasant Hill Fire Department will be starting their annual Fish Fry.

OLD BUSINESS

ODOT Mileage Certification – Thomas made a motion to accept the updated mileage report of 58.268, seconded by Brenda.

Roll Call: Sam – yes; Thomas – yes; Brenda – yes. Motion passed.

Conforti Letter – letter was sent by Jeff Brown but no response.

NEW BUSINESS

Road Foreman – Brian gave an overview of completed projects as well as ongoing projects.

JSWCD MS4 Report – Brian is in the process of completing the required report due March 1.

AT&T Bill – Township received a bill for \$1,654.19 for repairs to a line hit on Grafton Road. Darla will send a letter to the company stating it was mismarked.

Credit Card Policy – Darla updated the policy and took off Bub and added Brenda

JB Green Team Schedule – Thursday, May 23rd, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Island Creek Township Garage. Brenda is going to reach out to JB Green Team about adding a Saturday and a dumpster just for electronics. Thomas will post schedule on website.

Fire Contracts – Brenda has been meeting with local fire departments and expressed concern over the current contract requirements. Brenda will reach out to Bill Lucas, OTARMA, for further clarification on coverage.

Brenda will also be posting for an Island Creek Township Fire Prevention Officer once position requirements are established. Thomas will post information on website.

MISCELLANEOUS

Thank You – Brenda stated that she received a card from June Myers thanking the trustees for the completed Four Seasons Road as well as the excellent job of snow removal on TR375 during and after the recent snow.

Township Winter Conference – Brenda and Thomas also thanked the township for sending them to the recent conference in Columbus and stated that they gained valuable information and networking.

Capital Funds – Thomas stated that he would like to submit a request for Capital Budget funds for community projects to Senator Chavez for consideration. If granted, the funds would be used for community park improvements such as playground equipment and/or covered shelter houses.

Someone in attendance asked about the price to rent the Community Building. Current prices are available on the Townships website.

Sam and Brenda agree to apply for the funds but only use for projects that can be fully funded.

Energy Efficiency Grant – Thomas stated that he will be looking into grants to make the township building more energy efficient.

CDL Grant – Thomas looked into getting grant money to complete a CDL. Employee would have to be the one to pursue that funding.

Pine Lane – wants to be a dedicated township road. Sam directed them to contact the Commissioners office.

Priority Roads – Sam requested that the trustees find roads that need the most attention before the next meeting. Chip and seal is an anti-dust control.

Road Budget – Darla notified the trustees that there will be approximately \$300,000 in the budget for roads in 2024.

Playground Safety Check – Sam asked Thomas to complete a safety check on the playground equipment. County will reimburse for certain items needed. Safety checklist on the OTARMA website.

Signage – Brenda will look into getting weight limit signs from the county engineers office.

Regional Planning – Trustees signed Jefferson County Regional Planning agreement. Sam will continue as the appointed attended with Thomas as alternate.

MS4 Increase – Darla notified the Trustees of the upcoming MS4 fee increase of 2.5%/year thru 2029.

Employee Policy Update – Darla stated that the employee policy was changed to read that all employees get holiday pay. Sam and Brenda volunteered to meet with employees and review the policy.

Thomas stated that he will be looking into grants to make the township building more energy efficient

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Thomas moved to enter into Executive Session for matters of personnel issues, seconded by Brenda.

Roll Call: Sam – yes; Thomas – yes; Brenda – yes. Motion passed.

Returning from Executive Session with no action taken.

Brenda made a motion to return from Executive Session, seconded by Thomas.

Roll Call: Sam – yes; Thomas – yes; Brenda – yes. Motion passed.

Brenda made a motion to make the following wage changes effective next pay period, seconded by Sam.

- Brian - ~~\$12,000~~
- Jake - ~~\$20,000~~
- John - ~~\$18,000~~
- Floyd - ~~\$18,000~~ and after completion of CDL \$~~18,000~~
- Don - ~~\$20,000~~

Part time employees will earn 60% of vacation and personal leave as well as 4.6% hours of sick leave.

Roll Call: Sam – yes; Thomas – yes; Brenda – yes. Motion passed.

Brenda also made a motion for the Township to pay for Floyd to obtain his CDL Class A, seconded by Thomas.

Roll Call: Sam – yes; Thomas – yes; Brenda – yes. Motion passed.

7 Ranges Meeting – Brenda requested that someone take her place at the 7 Ranges meeting to take place on March 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the 911 Call Center due to a scheduling conflict. Sam said he would take her place.

FINANCIALS

Thomas moved to approve the January Trustee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Brenda.

Roll Call: Sam – yes; Thomas – yes; Brenda – yes. Motion passed.

Brenda made a motion to approve the Reorganization Minutes, seconded by Thomas.

Roll Call: Sam – yes; Thomas – yes; Brenda – yes. Motion passed.

Correction on Medical Mutual, the information was incorrect.

Thomas moved to accept the Financials as presented, seconded by Brenda.

Roll Call: Sam – yes; Thomas – yes; Brenda – yes. Motion passed.

PERMANENT APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

Sam moved to accept the Permanent Appropriations Resolution of \$1,701,413.07, seconded by Brenda. All in favor.

Signed Checks, PO's

ADJOURNMENT

Thomas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brenda. All in favor.

Next scheduled meeting March 12, 2024

Chairman

Fiscal Officer