

The Chester Township Board of Trustees met in regular session **Thursday, August 25, 2022** in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 6:30 P.M. Chairman Ken Radtke presided.

Roll Call: All Trustees and the Fiscal Officer were present.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Board led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Barry Leven – pickleball court update

Three courts would be installed in Parkside Park, near the volleyball courts. They are five weeks into the fundraising effort. Next week a Go Fund Me page would start, along with a social media blitz. A fundraising dinner event is being considered for the winter time. At this time, \$20,040.00 has been raised toward the \$50,000.00 goal. Total cost estimate at this time is \$119,887.00. A minimum of three bids are sought for each court, with the exception of having the Township road department do the excavation, drainage and grading work. The Township contributed \$25,000; the Park Board contributed \$10,000; fundraising is at \$20,040. The NOPEC lighting grant is \$28,000 if awarded. NatureWorks ODNR grant has been applied for, and the maximum is \$16,402.00 for the entire county. Mr. Leven provided a timeline for getting associated projects done for the courts. The hope is that the courts will be ready for summer 2023. Mr. Leven requested the Trustees give the go-ahead to the Road Department to begin prep work when time permits and apply for the NOPEC grant. Mr. Richter asked what the money could be used for if the project were not successful. Extension of the parking lot or a basketball court were suggested.

2022-356. Mr. Radtke moved to authorize Road Superintendent John Onyshko to begin basic prep work for the pickleball courts. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

2022-357. Mr. Radtke moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings dated 8/11/22, 8/15/22 AM and 8/15/22 PM as presented to the Board by the Fiscal Officer. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

Public Comments/Questions

Dal Lanese asked if Administrator Purchase was assisting the Department Heads with doing budgets, why would the Township need an outside firm to help the Administrator do the reserve funds. Mr. Radtke said they would be assessing all the Township buildings to project out failures, maintenance and repairs. Mr. Richter stated it is beyond the scope of any of us to be able to make those assessments. A report was done in the past but is considered outdated at this point.

Mrs. Lanese asked why there was a need for an assistant Zoning Inspector. Mr. Purchase stated that it is a struggle to examine and enforce zoning complaints and doing follow ups. An assistant would help in that capacity.

Ven Paoletto asked if Miller Dodson's evaluation would be a one-time thing, or if it would be repeated yearly. Mr. Purchase said it is a combination of both. The first study would be in depth, and then another study years later would focus on adjusting numbers from the first study. A reserve fund is to accumulate money for eventual or emergency repairs. The cost of the studies would decrease after the first study. The reserve funds can also be applied to purchasing equipment, per the Ohio Revised Code.

Township Administrator's report

Mr. Purchase reported that the Park scoreboard has been removed; he has put the word out to Newbury that he is interested in their electronic scoreboard. The picnic tables and the bleachers have been painted. A fence post has been replaced. Playground parts are on order to repair playground equipment. A quote is anticipated for painting the gazebo. Access to Park Board minutes were discussed. Dal Lanese asked if the public could be emailed when the Park Board is having a meeting; Mr. Richter stated they are a separate entity. Contact information for the Park Board members would be supplied.

In zoning, Michael Speyer has an Eagle Scout project to replace the sign at the Baptist Church across the street. No application was needed as the size would not change. A permit was issued.

Regarding the Henry house, the County has received grant money and Chester is in the loop for receipt. The Township has been requested to not take down the house until the rules for distribution are in place. It should be done by the end of the year.

Three new security cameras have been installed in the Township complex, for the Fire Department and the front and back of the Road Department. Kelly Paulic will start as the new Administrative Assistant on September 1. Mr. Purchase has joined the Ohio Township Association, the Ohio Township Administrator's Network, the Ohio Zoning Inspector's Network and the West Geauga Chamber of Commerce. Assistant County Prosecutor Sheila Salem has been contacted regarding Mr. Purchase's participation on social media. Although he should not respond to different things posted on social media, information could be passed along. The website update is moving right along, and the new website will be quite an improvement over the existing site.

2022-358. Mr. Radtke moved to approve pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 515.10 (A) (7) the disposal of the old scoreboard previously used in Parkside Park. Said equipment has no value and will be disposed of. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

Department Business – Road

2022-359. Mr. Radtke moved to approve that the payment for the Drainage Improvements of Various Roads project CU-CHE-V-2022 be paid from 2273-330-360-2073 Contracted Services/ARP/Stormwater & Contracted Services. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Radtke, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Richter, yes. Motion passed.

2022-360. Mr. Radtke moved to accept the resignation of Nikki Gotch effective August 22, 2022. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-361. Mr. Radtke moved to approve the hiring of Husam Alabasi as a part-time seasonal worker starting at a rate of \$17.00/hr. effective August 29, 2022 pending successful completion of a drug test and background check. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-362. Mr. Radtke moved to approve Road Department expenditures as listed below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
180-2022	T&N	5700.00	Cerni Motors Sales Inc.	Repair of injectors on truck #9

Department Business – Fire

2022-363. Mr. Radtke moved to approve \$1600.00 payable to Truck MD for repairs on vehicle #3482 from 2281-230-323-0301 Repairs and Maintenance/Motor Vehicles. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-364. Mr. Radtke moved to accept the resignation of part-time FF/EMT Jesse Scarvelli effective August 26, 2022. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-365. Mr. Radtke moved to accept the resignation of part-time FF/EMT Frank Virant effective August 22, 2022. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-366. Mr. Radtke moved to approve the hiring of Eric Harb as a part-time FF/EMT-B at the rate of \$18.08/hour, effective August 26, 2022. Mr. Harb has successfully passed a drug test and background check. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-367. Mr. Radtke moved to approve the hiring of Keith Kanner as a part-time FF/EMT-P at the rate of \$21.57/hour effective August 26, 2022. Mr. Kanner has successfully passed a drug test and background check. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

Mr. Kanner was in the audience and was welcomed back; he had worked for Chester Township some years ago.

2022-368. Mr. Radtke moved to approve Fire Department expenditures as listed below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
182-2022	Reg	16638.54	Brite Computers	Six (6) mobile data terminals
187-2022	T&N	6820.00	Cornerstone Architecture	Services from 3/15/22 to 7/31/22

Department Business – Police

2022-369. Mr. Radtke moved to accept the resignation of Officer Mark Rich from the Chester Township Police Department effective August 26, 2022. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-370. Mr. Radtke moved to approve Police Department expenditures as listed below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
181-2022	Reg	10320.21	Hall Public Safety Upfitters	Tear out & upfitting of 3 new cruisers
184-2022	Reg	1500.00	The Forensic Group	Employee evaluation/assessment

Department Business – Zoning

RESOLUTION 2022-371. Mr. Radtke moved to amend resolution 2022-252 to allocate up to \$4,000.00 for the services of Lorrie Sass-Benza for the Chester Township Zoning Commission. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

New Business

2022-372. Mr. Radtke moved to amend motion 2022-279 to hire Kelly Paulic to the position of Board of Trustees Administrative Assistant effective September 1. The original motion did not specify the position to be held. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-373. Mr. Radtke moved to not request a hearing with the Ohio Division of Liquor Control for a transfer of liquor license from 8389 Mayfield Pizza LLC, dba Danny Boys Chesterland, 8389 Mayfield Rd., Suite A8-A13 to El Paraiso Inc. at the same address. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

2022-374. Mr. Radtke moved to amend resolution 2022-340 to reflect an increase in appropriation 1000-130-311-0010 Acct. & Legal Fees/Legal Fees. An incorrect appropriation was named in the original motion. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Radtke, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Richter, yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2022-375. Mr. Radtke moved to approve the Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as determined by the Geauga County Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor. Note: this resolution is for the 2022 tax year, which is collected in 2023. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Radtke, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Richter, yes. Motion passed.

2022-376. Mr. Radtke moved to approve the use of the Chester Township properties as listed below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

Individual/Organization	Date(s)	Location	Time(s)	Event
WGHS Ice Hockey team	9/10/22	Town Hall Parking Lot	11AM – 3PM	Fundraising car wash
W. Geauga Wrestling	9/24/22	Town Hall Parking Lot		Fundraising car wash

Financial Items

2022-377. Mr. Radtke moved to approve the financial transactions below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous; motion passed.

INTRA-FUND TRANSFERS				
Fund	Amount	From Account	To Account	Purpose
PD	10320.21	2081-930-930-0000 Contingencies	2081-760-750-0302 Motor Vehicle Accessories	Tearout/upfit 3 new cruisers
Gen	1000.00	1000-930-930-0000 Contingencies	1000-120-190-0000 Other/Salaries	To process 8/30 payroll

PURCHASE ORDERS					
Dept	PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
ARP	183-2022	Reg	467162.26	Mr. Excavator	CU-CHE-V-2022

CHECKS		
Date	Starting No.	Ending No.
8/30/22	85531	85536
8/25/22	85537	85578

Fiscal Officer's note: the last check number used on **8/11/22** was **85530**

EFT DIRECT DEPOSITS			
Date	Starting No.	Ending No.	Description
8/30/22	1236-2022	1301-2022	Regular payroll

VOUCHERS & WITHHOLDINGS				
Voucher	Payee	Amount	Dated	Description
1303-2022	First National Bank EFTPS	17915.76	8/30/22	Employee & employer withholding – Federal
1234-2022	Public Employees Retirement System	44464.85	8/29/22	Employee & employer withholding – Retirement
1235-2022	Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund	17954.32	8/29/22	Employee & employer withholding – Retirement
1304-2022	FNB Commercial Credit Card	212.84	8/25/22	VISA bill July 2022

Fiscal Officer's Report

Fiscal Officer Jarrett is continuing to work with the State Auditor. The completion of the Township's audit is being held up by the FEMA audit.

Donations Received

Received from	Amount	Description
Craig Richter/Betsy Margolin	100.00	Pickleball court donation
John Price	250.00	Pickleball court donation
Joan & Kirk Morgenstern	25.00	Pickleball court donation
Turney's Home & Auto	50.00	Pickleball court donation
Denise & Douglas Breucker	100.00	Pickleball court donation
Guidos & Generations	100.00	Pickleball court donation
Bob & Lynne Quail	100.00	Pickleball court donation
Derek & Janet Taylor	100.00	Pickleball court donation
Dave & Susan Geither	100.00	Pickleball court donation
Bud & Debi Kinney	100.00	Pickleball court donation
Desiree Sullivan	20.00	Pickleball court donation
Total donations to date:		
\$29,890.00		

Discussions

NOPEC has made an announcement regarding electric customer transitions in response to the recent hike in rates. They are converting customers back to their original electric companies in response to the increase in prices. The hope is that the increased rates will decrease in early spring 2023.

Mr. Richter voiced a concern with accessory buildings; a real estate website listing in Chesterland was advertising an accessory building as a potential in-law suite, which is not permitted by zoning. Mr. Richter suggested contacting the realtor to remove that statement from the listing, and perhaps an article on the website relative to zoning concerns.

Executive Session

2022-378. Mr. Radtke moved to enter into executive session at 7:34 PM pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G) (1) to consider the compensation and demotion of public employees, 121.22 (G) (2) to consider the purchase of property for public purposes and 121.22 (G) (4) preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Radtke, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Richter, yes. Motion passed.

Fiscal Officer Jarrett and Administrator Purchase were invited into the executive session. Mr. Purchase left the session at 8:02 PM and the Trustees reentered public session at 8:14 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Radtke adjourned the meeting at 8:14 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jarrett, Fiscal Officer

August 25, 2022 Motion # 2022-380

Approval Date

Ken Radtke, Jr., Chairman

Joseph C. Mazzurco, Vice-Chairman

Craig S. Richter, Trustee