

The Chester Township Board of Trustees met in regular session **Thursday, August 24, 2023** in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 5:30 P.M. Chairman Craig Richter 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.

Leading Motion #: 2023-322

Executive Session

2023-322. Mr. Richter moved to enter into executive session at 5:31 P.M. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G) (1) To consider the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, or compensation of public employees.

Mr. Mazzurco seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Radtke, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Richter, yes. Motion passed.

Invited into the executive session is Chief William Shaw, and later Road Superintendent John Onyshko and Township Administrator Mark Purchase with Fiscal Officer Patricia Jarrett. The Board reentered public session 6:04 P.M. Chief Shaw left at 5:53 P.M. and Mr. Onyshko joined in at 5:54 P.M.

- Metzenbaum - Current, Proposed and Planned Use For Property & Buildings

Mr. Richter opened stating it was brought to the Board's attention that there were several houses that were being leased out to another outside care provider (non-profit). Don Rice from Metzenbaum and Commissioner Dvorak spoke briefly to the Board and public. The public shared their concern with the residents of the homes, the zoning, and the difference in opinion of approaching care. A concern was having out of county residents living in the Chesterland homes. Another resident questioned the care the residents were receiving. Mr. Richter said whether a government employee or an elected official, everyone is always trying to find a way to save money. He said the Board does not have control over this, the Commissioners do. Cindy Valentine, a resident of Chesterland is concerned that there may not be any accountability to the community regarding what is going on. She is concerned with sub-leasing to someone that does not follow zoning regulations and she is concerned how her tax money is being spent. Joy Black, a resident of Chardon and a nurse stated her residents are taken care of and take medication. They know how to communicate to people and she noted how things have changed for the better from years ago. Developmentally disabled includes mental retardation, down syndrome, autism, ADHD, spina bifida, etc. Mental health includes schizophrenia, bi-polar, depression, postpartum, and PTSD. Some cross over and have more than one (1) diagnosis. Joy Black reminded everyone that mental health issues can affect anyone. Another resident stated they are mourning losing the beautiful Metzenbaum Center and that over the last decade things were not explained to residents as to what happened to the center. Mr. Rice stated they do hold meetings and the public shared they were not very publicized. Dal Lanese asked what the Commissioners responsibility is since they have control of Metzenbaum. It was shared the tax dollars go towards a system of services. There are two (2) continuous levies now. Mr. Rice shared Board meetings are open to the public and he encouraged attendance. Meetings are not advertised in the paper, but always on their website. Trustee Richter said

the Commissioners approved the lease agreement, but the Board of Developmentally Disabilities signed the lease back in early 2019. This can be found looking back at their minutes.

Department Business – Road

2023-323. Mr. Richter moved to approve up to \$20,000.00 to install two (2) guardrails on Cedar Rd and one (1) on County Line by Hawken School. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-324. Mr. Richter moved to approve after the fact the hiring of Steve Voigt as the Road Department's Mechanic II at a rate of \$36.72 an hour, three (3) prorated weeks paid vacation from the date of hire and accrued sick time of 560 hours starting August 21th 2023. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

Mr. Richter added that work has been done and the Township has some questions on the billing amount with Cerni. Therefore, the two (2) checks to Cerni will be voided.

A discussion concerning the rehiring of Steve Voigt took place. A resident asked how he had 560 hours of sick time. It was explained that it is part of the union contract. He left Chester Township, went to the City of Kirtland, and is now back with our Township. Mr. Radtke shared he will be saving the Township money since we will not have to outsource so much work.

2023-325. Mr. Richter moved to approve the recommendation of the Road Superintendent in the hiring of Frank Artino to the full-time position of Road Worker I at a rate of \$23.42 per hour starting on September 11, 2023 pending background check. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-326. Mr. Richter moved to approve Road Department expenditures as listed below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
226-2023	Reg	\$3,200.00	Ciro's Sewer Cleaning	Investigate underground storm line on Oak Hill
228-2023	Reg	\$6,119.25	Cleve Plumbing Supply Co	Pipe supplies
233-2023	Reg	\$5,200.00	Van Curen Services	REM & cleanup of trees on Wyandot Rd

Department Business – Fire

2023-327. Mr. Richer moved to approve after the fact a leave of absence for PM/FF Joe Pavilonis effective August 10, 2023 and ending August 31, 2023 due to a medical issue. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-328. Mr. Richter moved to accept the resignation of part-time PM/FF Curtis Bittner effective August 2, 2023. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-329. Mr. Richter moved to approve Fire Department expenditures as listed below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed

PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
227-2023	Reg	\$600.00	Glenn's Property Services	FD share of pump house maintenance through Y/E

Department Business – Police

2023-330. Mr. Richter moved to amend motion 2023-308 to reflect an effective date of August 9, 2023 for the hiring of Jordan L. Alaqua. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-331. Mr. Richter moved to approve the purchase of (16) Motorola hand-held radio batteries. Batteries will be purchased from our Motorola vendor (Communications Services) in Painesville Twp., Oh. The purchase order shall be generated from police appropriated line 2081-210-430-0000 (Small Tools and Equipment) in the amount of \$2,259.36. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-332. Mr. Richter moved to provide after the fact police service to assist with pedestrian traffic from 7 AM to 2 PM on August 19, 2023 for the Historical Foundation flea market community event. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

Jamie Saric, a resident questioned why our police are utilized for a private event. Mr. Richter said it is a community event and it is non-profit. A safety concern for pedestrians for sure.

2023-333. Mr. Richter moved to approve Police Department expenditures as listed below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
229-2023	Reg	\$2,259.36	Communications Services	16 Motorola hand held radio batteries
230-2023	Reg	\$18,687.60	Highcom	18 ballistic helmets/18 rifle rated body armor
231-2023	Reg	\$1,408.25	Tuff Products Brand LLC	18 medical kits

Department Business – Zoning

2023-334. Mr. Richter moved to approve to set the variance stipulation (Z-2023-1) public hearing for Chester Township Board of Trustees to September 21, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-335. Mr. Richter moved to approve and appoint Mindy Denamen of 13011 Stratford Trail, Chesterland, Ohio to serve as an alternate to the Chester Township Board of Zoning Appeals, effective immediately. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

2023-336. Mr. Richter moved to approve, after the fact any zoning fees waived by the zoning inspector, as determined necessary to facilitate compliance to our Zoning Resolution or in response to correcting a prior zoning office error. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

The budget was approved with two small adjustments.

RESOLUTION 2023-337. Mr. Richter 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 2023 tax year, which is collected in 2024. Mr. Mazzurco seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Richter, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Richter would like to have a special meeting next week to talk budget, levies and HB 140. Also discussed was a flyer Mr. Purchase prepared for the levies and noted it is not too late to make any

changes. October 10, 2023 is the West Geauga League of Women's Voters Night and Trustee Richter plans on attending.

Trustee Richter shared that a motion can be put on to appoint non-collective bargaining employees. It was done in the past and is usually done at the organizational meeting. This would include the Chief of Police and the Captain. Mr. Purchase feels all four (4) positions should be considered including the Township Administrator with the three (3) department heads. In reference to zoning, a discussion regarding Air BnB's agricultural and agritourism took place. Also, Trustee Richter shared years ago there was a street that the neighbors got together and placed a deed restriction to not allow oil and gas exploration.

Township Park

Mr. Purchase shared that the drainage project in the parking lot is complete. Work has begun on the two (2) drains on the red brick walkway. A plan includes that every two (2) years to have the drains snaked. The bleachers will be getting put together soon. Another lamp post in the park was damaged and it will be replaced. Excavating for the pickleball courts should begin by the end of next week, beginning with the excavation. The asphalt work would then follow. Mr. Richter would like to order two (2) sets of Military Flags including the poles with attachments to put on the fence on Cedar, on Mayfield and on Route 306. Trustee Radtke said he would donate \$100 to the cause.

Financial Items

2023-338. Mr. Richter moved to approve the financial transactions below. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

INTRA-FUND TRANSFERS				
Fund	Amount	From Account	To Account	Purpose
FD	\$600.00	2111-930-930-0000	2111-220-352-0000	Share of pump house through Y/E

PURCHASE ORDERS					
Dept	PO #	Type	Amount	Payable To	Purpose
Gen	232-2023	Reg	\$6,151.92	Illuminating Co	Electricity

CHECKS		
Date	Starting No.	Ending No.
8/16/23	87104	87118
8/24/23	87115	87160
Fiscal Officer's note: the last check number used on 8/10/23 was 87103		

EFT DIRECT DEPOSITS			
Date	Starting No.	Ending No.	Description
8/29/23	1294-2023	1359-2023	Regular payroll

VOUCHERS & WITHHOLDINGS				
Voucher	Payee	Amount	Dated	Description
1361-2023	First National Bank EFTPS	\$18,656.38	8/29/2023	Employee & employer withholding – Federal
1362-2023	Ohio Department of Taxation	\$120.26	9/15/2023	Employee & employer withholding – Local School Dist
1363-2023	Treasurer, State of Ohio	\$9,774.51	9/15/2023	Employee & employer withholding – State
1293-2023	First National Bank	\$9,294.32	7/10/2023	July 2023 Visa payment
1364-2023	Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund	\$18,816.14	9/22/2023	Employee & employer withholding – Retirement

2023-339. Mr. Richter moved to void warrant 87149. Mr. Mazzurco seconded. Vote unanimous.; motion passed.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Fiscal Officer Jarrett said she has been moving money to gain higher interest.

Chester Township Bank Reconciliation			
Reconciled date		7/31/2023	
Prior UAN Balance			5,680,728.64
Actual Receipts	+	5,674,864.15	
Transfers for UAN Only	+	0.00	
Total Receipts	=		5,674,864.15
Payments	-	3,199,983.77	
Transfers for UAN Only	-	0.00	
Total Payments	=		3,199,983.77
Adjustments	+		694.95
Adjustments	-		0.00
Current UAN balance as of	7/31/2023		\$8,156,303.97
Other adjusting factors	+		-
Other adjusting factors	-		-
Adjusted UAN balance as of	7/31/2023		\$8,156,303.97
Entered bank balances as of	7/31/2023		\$8,263,682.93
Deposits in transit	+		0.00
Outstanding payments	-		107,378.96
Outstanding adjustments	+		0.00
Outstanding adjustments	-		0.00
Other adjusting factors	+		0.00
Other adjusting factors	-		0.00
Adjusted bank balances as of	7/31/2023		8,156,303.97
		Check	0.00

Chester Township Bank Balances			
As of		7/31/2023	
Business Banking			\$400,000.00
FNB Sweep Account			742,673.97
Star Ohio			7,121,008.96

Total			\$8,263,682.93
	Check		0.00

Donations Received		
Received from	Amount	Description
Chesterland Lions	\$950.00	Safety Town Donation

Open/Ongoing Items

Long Range Plan: The proposals regarding the Road Department buildings should be arriving next week. Trustee Richter said he is in favor of a new town center. The discussion of selling Fire Station 2 needs to continue. It can be addressed in more detail at the next meeting.

Jamie Saric, a resident had some corrections for the website that she gave to Mr. Purchase.

Discussions

Government Update – 8/24 Mr. Radtke; 9/7 Mr. Mazzurco; 9/21 Mr. Richter

Executive Session

2023-340. Mr. Richter moved to enter into executive session at 8:05 P.M. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G) (1) To consider the compensation of public employee. Mr. Mazzurco seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Richter, yes; Mr. Mazzurco, yes; Mr. Radtke, yes. Motion passed.

Invited into the executive session is Township Administrator Mark Purchase with Fiscal Officer Patricia Jarrett. The Board reentered public session 8:33 P.M with no additional motions.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Richter adjourned the meeting at 8:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jarrett, Fiscal Officer

September 7, 2023 – motion # 2023-346

Approval Date

Craig Richter, Chairman

Joseph C. Mazzurco, Vice-Chairman

Ken Radtke, Jr., Trustee