

CLAY TOWNSHIP

Special Meeting

November 22, 2019

Trustee Woolf called the Special meeting to order at 4:03pm concerning the Fire/EMS contracts. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a moment of silence was observed for our military members, road workers, firefighters, police officers serving here and abroad and for those in harm's way.

Rollcall:

Winner – present Woolf - present Vore - present

Old Business:

Trustee Woolf indicated that the Special meeting was called for the discussion for Fire/EMS contracts. Trustee Woolf reported that Financial Officer Keaton, City of Brookville, had requested a Fire/EMS meeting as the City of Brookville would like to discuss the renewal of the Fire/EMS contract for 2020. Trustee Woolf had called the Special meeting to have the Trustees to discuss Fire/EMS issues and have recommendations prepared for the City of Brookville and Villages of Verona and Phillipsburg in preparing contracts and future planning for the Fire/EMS services.

Trustee Winner and Trustee Vore gave a summary of the Special meeting with the Village of Verona which the Village of Verona needs money, has had a drop in volunteers, need equipment, etc. The Village of Phillipsburg was in the same situation. There was general discussion on Fire/EMS coverage, operating with limited resources and the need for services. Trustee Woolf expressed the need to extend/pass a levy for 2020 to continue the existing monies that had been received in the past. There was general discussion on number of runs provided by the three departments, equipment issues, upcoming challenges, costs of operations, coverage issues and service to Clay Township residents.

Trustee Woolf indicated that the existing levy will end December 31, 2019 and the monies from the levy will be collected through December 31, 2020 in which another levy/renewal is needed to just maintain existing services. Trustee Vore indicated that the Township should not put another levy on the ballot without community support and the other Trustees agree. There was general discussion as to listening to voters, to provide services to residents with the monies approved and future of Fire/EMS services.

Trustee Vore indicated that the Villages of Phillipsburg and Verona can probably proceed with similar contracts as in the past with adjusting coverage verbiage as requested. There was general discussion with a 3 vs 5-year term for the contract noting that there is a 90 day notice clause in the contracts to address issues as they occur. Trustee Woolf indicated there were three options for levies that the Township can pursue: 1) dual levy (total of both the new and renewal) 2) two separate levies or 3) pass one then then another next election. Trustee Woolf shared that \$600,000+ for service to the Township is not enough to maintain any Fire/EMS department services with the population we have. Trustee Vore is doing tax abatement research, what effect the abatements have on the Township and he has a concern Clay Township is subsidizing other taxing districts. Trustee Vore reiterated community involvement is a must for the future of Fire/EMS services for Clay Township.

Trustee Woolf made a motion to prepare contracts for all three entities for 5 years with the same allocation percentages of revenues collected which would include a change in the requested boundary coverage in the contracts effective January 1, 2020 that will be basically the same as previous contracts to be presented to each entity to be in compliance with ORC. Trustee Vore seconded the motion.

Rollcall:

Winner – Yes

Woolf – Yes

Vore – Yes

Trustee Winner indicated the he has electronic copies of the previous Fire/EMS contracts and will work on updating them for legal review. The Trustees will work on the contracts to have them available for the December 2, 2019 Trustee meeting so the three entities have time to act upon them before year-end.

Other Business:

Trustee Winner will work on the Mutual Aide contract with City of Brookville for Trustee and legal review to have ready for the December 2, 2019 meeting.

Trustee Vore moved to adjourn the meeting; Trustee Winner seconded the motion.

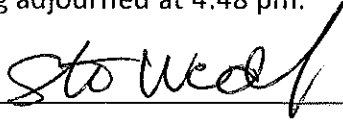
Roll call:

Winner – Yes

Woolf - Yes

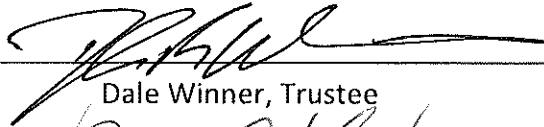
Vore - Yes

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm.

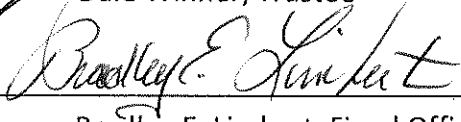


Steve Woolf, Trustee

Dave Vore, Trustee



Dale Winner, Trustee



Bradley E. Limbert, Fiscal Officer