

Allen Township Trustees

November 5, 2019

The Allen Township Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Allen Township Center with all members present. The minutes of October 1, 2019 were read and approved.

The Fiscal Officer presented a list of warrants and electronic payments totaling \$39,614.38 for outstanding bills. Stacy moved to pay these bills with Huffman seconding. Roll call - all yes.

Fire Chief Hickman gave an update on the fire department operations. Gary presented a quote dated 10/24/19 from CE Solutions to provide on-line training for ATVFD members. This would allow the fire fighters to keep up their training without traveling to training facilities. Flanagan moved to have the township pay for the 2 year renewal option at a cost of \$3,420.00. Huffman seconded the motion. Roll call - all yes.

Tony Humphrey reported on road and cemetery operations.

Flanagan moved that the trustees go into executive session to discuss personnel issues at 7:52 p.m. Executive session ended at 8:19 p.m.

The Fiscal Officer advised that one sealed bid from Whitta Construction was received on the fire station project before the deadline of 11/5 at 7:00 p.m. The Whitta Construction bid was \$379,520. This bid well exceeded the Base Bid Estimate of \$267,500. Therefore, the bid was rejected. After a brief discussion, the trustees will contact the county prosecutor's office to determine what the next step may be.

The Fiscal Officer advised that a Final Determination dated 10/24/2019 was received from the Ohio Department of Taxation regarding R/E properties owned by Allen Township. The original application was filed on 4/20/2017 requesting all Allen Township parcels be exempt from R/E taxes. The Tax Commissioner has granted an exception on all parcels except the 14 acres of farm ground that is leased to a private entity. When public property is leased to private sector it loses its identity as public property. Therefore, the township will be required to pay property taxes on the 14 acres of farmable land that it owns. Previously paid R/E taxes on the other parcels will be returned back to the township by the Hancock County Auditor's Office retroactively back to include tax years 2017 & 2018.

The Fiscal Officer presented a letter dated 10/1/19 from Matt Stacy regarding a proposal to rent the 14.0 acres of farm ground north of the Allen Township Center for \$1,500 per year for the 2020 and 2021 farming seasons. Flanagan moved to accept Matt Stacy's offer. Huffman seconded the motion. Flanagan – yes; Huffman – yes; Stacy - abstained. The Fiscal Officer will provide Matt with an acceptance letter.

Stacy moved to renew the Fire Protection Contract with Cass Township at \$21,000.00 for 2020. Huffman seconded the motion. Roll call - all yes.

The Fiscal Officer presented the 2020 Health Insurance Renewal package from Medical Mutual (Each Trustee was sent a copy of the package prior to the meeting). The health care insurance premiums for 2020 will be increasing by 15.9%. The life insurance policy premiums will remain unchanged for the next 2 years (2020 & 2021). Stacy moved that Health Insurance continue to be made available to all township trustees and the fiscal officer for the year 2020 in accordance with Resolutions 12-01-15, 12-28-15 and 12-28-15. Huffman seconded the motion. Roll call – all yes.

Flanagan moved that Life Insurance continue to be provided by the township for the trustees and the fiscal officer for the year 2020. Stacy seconded the motion. Roll call – all yes.

Schimmoller advised that he met with Becky Ames of KLA Risk Consulting on 9/23/19 to perform a risk assessment (Loss Control) on Allen Township. OTARMA has contracted with KLA Risk Consulting to perform risk assessments periodically to provide townships with recommendations to limit their liability exposure. The Fiscal Officer provided each of the Trustees with a copy of the 9/30/19 letter from Becky Ames listing eleven (11) recommendations. The recommendations were reviewed by the Trustees. Responses were developed for each of the recommendations and the Fiscal Officer will prepare a written response to Becky before the end of the year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be December 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved,

Mark J. Schimmoller, Fiscal Officer
(Proper notice given by publishing & posting with agenda.)

Kevin Flanagan, Chairman