

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
July 7, 2016

The Board of Township Trustees of Anderson Township ("Board") held its regular Interim Workshop Meeting on July 7, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room. Present were the following Board members:

Andrew S. Pappas
Joshua S. Gerth
Robin D. Stone

Mr. Pappas called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees including Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz, Township Administrator Vicky Earhart, Assistant Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers, Assistant Administrator for Human Resources Suzanne Parker, Public Works Director Richard Shelley, Office Manager Betty Cowan, Fire Chief Mark Ober, Fiscal Office Manager Debbie Hucker, Administrative Assistant Molly Mohrfield, and *Forest Hills Journal Reporter Shelia Vilvens*.

Mr. Gerth moved to adopt the agenda with modifications. Ms. Stone seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion.

Mr. Dietz called the roll: Mr. Pappas, yes; Mr. Gerth, yes; Ms. Stone, yes.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

The **Trustees** had nothing requiring discussion.

FISCAL OFFICER

Mr. Dietz announced that the Township had received a "clean audit" from the Auditor of the State of Ohio. The audit report does not contain any material weakness, significant deficiencies, or material citations.

PLANNING & ZONING

Mrs. Cowan had nothing requiring Board discussion.

FIRE AND RESCUE

Chief Ober had nothing requiring Board discussion.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Shelley announced that the Township road inventory had been completed. The report showed that there were less than seven miles of roads in the Township that were poor condition.

ADMINISTRATION

Health Insurance Renewal – **Ms. Parker** stated that the renewal quote through the Center for Local Government’s Benefits Pool (CLGBP) for the upcoming plan year was for a 3.6% premium increase and comes with a change to the current prescription coverage. The current plan pays 100% of the cost of prescriptions once the annual deductible had been met. Starting August 1st, a co-pay would be required after the deductible has been met. **Ms. Stone** asked if other plans had been investigated. **Ms. Parker** responded that the CLGBP does look at all options. **Mrs. Earhart** added that there had not been significant swings in the premium increases since the Township joined the Center for Local Government.

Planning Meeting Follow Up – **Mrs. Earhart** stated that the information provided was the same information shared at planning meeting. The greatest revelation was the limited amount of property tax the Township received. She also pointed out that there was no way to re-coup the revenue that had been lost at the State level from the tangible personal property tax, the Local Government Fund and the estate tax. **Mr. Pappas** asked who the contact was at the State level. **Mrs. Earhart** responded Representative Tom Brinkman, the Executive Director of the Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships (CLOUT), and the Ohio Township Association (OTA). OTA was working on pursuing the ticket tax though feared it may be rejected by the Legislators. She pointed out that if a hotel were to be built in the Township a 3% bed tax could be imposed generating a revenue of approximately \$140,000. OTA suggested looking at what cities do, and restructure home rule power.

Mr. Gerth stated that he would be attending a conference dealing with how to increase revenue. He asked if the Township were to become a city how much more potential revenue would there be. **Mrs. Earhart** responded that there would be revenue generated from income tax. **Mr. Gerth** asked what the General Fund budget was. **Mrs. Earhart** responded that the General Fund budget was just over \$4,000,000, with a projected 60% deficit in annual revenue. **Mr. Dietz** pointed out that inside mileage would not solve the deficit problem in the General Fund. **Mrs. Earhart** stated that incorporation could be a consideration and she would have a discussion with West Chester regarding this topic. **Mr. Gerth** questioned if every Township in the State of Ohio was in the same predicament. **Mrs. Earhart** replied that every Township was dealing with the same issue. **Mr. Gerth** questioned how each of the 1,308 townships, in a critical state, were dealing with the loss of revenue. **Mrs. Earhart** replied some of the choices include incorporation, Joint Economic Development Zones (JEDZ), additional taxes, and a reduction in services. Since the Township was surrounded by the Village of Newtown they would have to agree with incorporation. She believed at some point residents needed to be asked what services are most valued and basic services needed to be defined. The Legislatures also needed to be made aware the critical need for funding since state revenue was reduced for townships. **Mr. Pappas** stated that incorporation needed to be considered as well. **Mrs. Earhart** pointed out that residents needed to be informed about the options, it would be a long educational process, but she was uncomfortable bringing the issue up while going out for Public Safety levy as the two issues were separate. **Mr. Pappas** agreed.

Mr. Gerth stated that Anderson Center was the Townships biggest asset, therefore an increase in rental charges needed to take place. **Mr. Pappas** asked when Anderson Center would be paid off. **Mrs. Earhart** replied in 2020. **Ms. Stone** stated that residents needed to be made aware that every effort had been made to make the necessary cuts. **Mrs. Earhart** replied that cuts had been made for the last five years in the Fire and Rescue Department, now the same needed to take place in the

General Fund. **Mr. Dietz** stated that the concertation at this point needed to be on the Public Safety Levy. **Mrs. Earhart** stated that the management team needed time to look at additional ways to cut expenditures and stretch and increase revenue.

Mr. Pappas moved to retire to Executive Session to consider the appointment and employment of a public employee or official as permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) and to consider the purchase of property for public purposes as permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(2). Mr. Gerth seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion.

Mr. Dietz called the roll: Mr. Pappas, yes; Mr. Gerth, yes; Ms. Stone, yes.

Mr. Gerth moved to return from Executive Session. Ms. Stone seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion.

Mr. Dietz called the roll: Mr. Pappas, yes; Mr. Gerth, yes; Ms. Stone, yes.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

These minutes were approved at the meeting of August 18, 2016.

Andrew Pappas, President

Kenneth G. Dietz, Fiscal Officer

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, duly elected and acting Fiscal Officer of Anderson Township, Hamilton County, Ohio, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true excerpt from the minutes of a regular meeting, including the roll call votes thereat, of the Board of Township Trustees of said Township held on the 7th day of July 2016, and that said minutes have been duly entered upon the Journal of said Township.

This 7th day of July, 2016

Kenneth G. Dietz
Fiscal Officer