

**Record of Proceedings: March 14, 2023**  
**West Chester Township Board of Trustees - Regular Meeting**

Convene: Chairperson Becker convened the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Roll Call: Mrs. Becker, Mr. Wong, and Mr. Welch responded.

Pledge of Allegiance: Repeated by those present.

**MOTION** made by Mrs. Becker, seconded by Mr. Welch, to amend the agenda to move Personnel Items 12 through 16 to before Action Items. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

At 5:05 p.m., Mr. Wong motioned to recess the Regular meeting and go into Executive Session with legal counsel for the purpose of: (1) Considering confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance, or to negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance (provided both of the criteria specified in O.R.C. 121.22(G)(8); (2) Conference with an attorney for the Township concerning disputes involving the Township that are the subject of pending or imminent court action. O.R.C. 121.22(G)(3); (3) Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment. O.R.C. 121.22(G)(4). Motion seconded by Mr. Welch. Mrs. Becker declared the meeting in recess and said the Board would return. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Post Executive Session/ Adjournment

**MOTION** made at 6:14 p.m. by Mr. Welch to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the March 14, 2023. Regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Wong. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Citizen's Comments

There were no citizen's comments.

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Personnel Items

Mr. Burks introduced Personnel Items 12 through 16 consisting of hiring Samuel Condrón to the position of Career Firefighter/Paramedic effective March 27, 2023, at the hourly rate of \$24.68; hiring Thomas Fleming to the position of Career Firefighter/Paramedic effective March 27, 2023, at the hourly rate of \$24.68; hiring Tyson Farlino to the position of Career Firefighter/Paramedic effective March 27, 2023, at the hourly rate of \$24.68; hiring Alysha Lawson to the position of Career Firefighter/Paramedic effective March 27, 2023, at the hourly

rate of \$24.68; and agenda item #16, hiring Trevor Rohe to the position of Police Officer effective April 10, 2023 at the bi-weekly rate of \$2,778.17.

**MOTION** made by Mr. Wong, to approve Personnel Items 12 through 16. seconded by Mr. Welch. Discussion: The Trustees each expressed praise for the service performed by our First Responders. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Thereupon, Fiscal Officer Jones administered the Oath of Office to Firefighter Paramedics Condron, Fleming, Farlino, and Lawson.

Action Items – For Approval by Motion

**MOTION** made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve the Trustee Meeting Minutes for February 14, 2023. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION** made by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve payment of bills - February 24, 2023 through March 2, 2023. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Burks submitted the following requisitions greater than \$7,500:

Requisitions – Greater than \$7,500.00

1. Adm \$24,339.12 Butler County Emergency Management Agency - Submit 2023 annual fee for operational services
2. Adm \$14,081.00 SPARK Grant – Increase Purchase Order S222878 for SPARK Grant Award Funding(CIP# 1812)
3. Comm Dev \$16,300.00 Emcor Facilities Services, Inc. - Renovate Community Development breakroom per specifications (CIP# 1840)
4. Fire \$192,936.70 Fire Safety Services, Inc. - Purchase 50 sets of turnout gear (CIP# 1543)
5. Fire \$8,600.00 Vogelpohl Fire Equipment, Inc.- Purchase 25 Cairns 880 fire helmets (CIP# 1781)
6. Services \$125,827.27 Neyra Construction - Repave drives and parking lots at Township Administration and Baseball Complex (CIP# 1105 & 1454) March 14, 2023
7. Services \$25,000.00 Emcor Facilities Services, Inc. - Allocate cleaning fees for Muhlhauser Barn
8. Services \$21,565.50 TNT Floor Coatings LLC - Refinish concrete floor in Muhlhauser Barn (CIP# 1820)
9. Services \$13,452.00 Ace Steel Carports LLC - Install dugouts on Keehner Park baseball fields (CIP# 1460)
10. Services \$11,715.00 Soccer Plus, Inc. - Purchase four soccer goals for Beckett Park East
11. Services \$9,222.00 Mills Fence Company, Inc. - Install fencing at Keehner Park pickleball Courts

**MOTION** made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve payment of requisitions 1 through 11. Discussion: Mr. Burks confirmed for Mr. Wong that 18 businesses were awarded grants, adding that they would be identified the next day. At Mrs. Becker's request, Fire Chief Prinz gave an update on his department's current and ongoing staffing. In response to Mr.

Welch's inquiry, Chief Prinz said they have 20 part-timer positions, of which they only have nine currently filled. He said the reason for hiring the part-timers was twofold: (1) so they could demonstrate their qualifications for being hired full-time, and (2) the part-timers would help reduce overtime pay. He said the new hires would attend West Chester Fire Academy from 8 to 4 daily for six weeks, as well as outside training. Mrs. Becker asked about the condition of the Administration Building parking lot. Services Director Hindupur explained the need for resurfacing the parking lot. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Business Items

**MOTION** made by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve 2023 financial contribution to the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in the amount of \$50,000.00. Discussion: Mr. Wong began a discussion as to the continued contribution to the museum. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION** made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, on the agenda item to approve 2023 Gold Sustaining Sponsorship of \$10,000.00 to the West Chester Liberty Chamber Alliance; and, authorize Township Administrator to sign Memorandum of Understanding setting the terms for the investment, was tabled in a **MOTION** to table the item until the next meeting; motion made by Mr. Wong and seconded by Mrs. Becker. Discussion: Prior to the motion to table, Mr. Wong said the Township should contribute to all chambers equally, and critiqued the West Chester/Liberty Chamber for not recognizing him and other elected officials individually at Chamber functions. Mr. Welch questioned what the different Chambers did for West Chester. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION** made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve Resolution 15-2023 and amend Lease and Joint Operation of Range Agreement between West Chester Township Board of Trustees and Butler County Board of County Commissioners. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION** made by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to not object to a New D5 liquor permit for My Lotus Events LLC 9145 Cincinnati Columbus Road. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION** made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to not object to a TRFO D5 and D6 liquor permit from MetroParks of Butler County & Patio, 7850 VOA Park Drive, to Abner Property Management LLC, The Lodge & Patio, 7850 VOA Park Drive. Discussion: Mrs. Becker noted that this was a for-profit entity at the VOA MetroPark. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### First Reading of Resolutions & Reading of Emergency Resolutions

There were no first readings of resolutions or readings of emergency resolutions.

Citizen's Comments

There were no citizen's comments.

Second Reading & Vote on Pending Resolutions & Vote on Emergency Resolutions

There were no second readings & vote on pending resolutions, or vote on emergency resolutions.

Discussion Items & Elected Official Comments

Mr. Welch said the following Friday was St. Patrick's Day.

Mrs. Becker observed the annual Butler County Health Department's meeting that included representatives from entities throughout the county was held the previous week.

Mr. Wong noted the Naturalization Ceremony conducted earlier that day at Lakota East, adding how special it was for him because he was a naturalized citizen. He also noted that the Pickle Lodge was now open in West Chester.

Mr. Jones said the importance of citizenship was recognized in the Naturalization Act of 1798. He appreciated the speaker's emphasis on sharing our backgrounds and experiences. We're a melting pot where we assimilate, adding that's how you get to know your neighbors. Mr. Wong added that Chinese were once oppressed in the United States.

Mr. Burks noted that West Chester was recognized by the Ohio City County Managers Association for career development and mentoring with our staff. On April 6<sup>th</sup> they will have the awards ceremony.

Adjournment

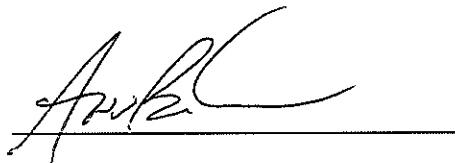
**MOTION** made at 7:16 p.m. by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to adjourn the March 14, 2023 Regular meeting. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,



**Bruce Jones, Fiscal Officer**

Approved,



**Ann Becker, Chairperson**