

Record of Proceedings: May 23, 2023
West Chester Township Board of Trustees - Regular Meeting

Convene: Chairperson Becker convened the meeting at 5:00 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 so as to move Personnel Items 4 through 8 to immediately after Citizens Comments. Discussion: none.
Motion carried unanimously.

At 5:02 p.m., Mr. Wong motioned to recess the Regular meeting and go into Executive Session with legal counsel for the purpose of: (1) Conferencing 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); (2) to consider the purchase of property for public purposes, the sale of property by competitive bid, or the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit- for-use property in accordance with section 505.10 of the Revised Code. O.R.C. 121.22(G)(2). Motion seconded by Mr. Welch. Mr. Becker said the Board would return to adjourn the Executive Session and to resume the Regular meeting. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.** Mrs. Becker declared the meeting in recess.

Post Executive Session

MOTION made at 6:08 p.m. by Mr. Welch to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the May 23, 2023. Regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Wong. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Citizen's Comments

Amy Raghuraman, 9705 Timberview Court, expressed her concerns about the small business grants recently given by the township. She was displeased that grants were given outside of the Pisgah/Route 42 area as originally discussed, and that grants were given to established businesses that didn't need the money for improvements. She heard that a second round of grants would be issued and asked that those grants be given to "up and coming" businesses or those with aging infrastructures. She also suggested that the township have a "center" to help businesses.

Personnel Items

Ms. Brown introduced the Personnel Items consisting of, (agenda item #4) promoting Christina Stanley to the position of Administrative Professional III effective May 22, 2023 at the hourly rate of \$24.00; (5) hiring Abigail Cassidy to the position of Seasonal Events Intern effective May 15, 2023 at the hourly rate of \$17.50; (6) hiring Anna Geiser to the position of Seasonal Events Intern effective May 15, 2023 at the hourly rate of \$17.50; (7) hiring Zachary Bayer to the position of Police Officer effective August 14, 2023 at the bi-weekly rate of \$2,622.19;

(8) hiring Jackson Imwalle to the position of Seasonal Laborer effective May 8, 2023 at the hourly rate of \$15.00. These were identified on the agenda as Personnel Items 4 through 8. **MOTION** made by Mr. Welch, to approve Personnel Items 4 through 8, seconded by Mr. Wong. Discussion: The Trustees expressed their observations about and praise for policing, as well as Mr. Bayer's pursuit of a career in law enforcement. The Trustees each expressed praise for the West Chester Police Department and the service performed by police officers. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Presentations

Hamilton Mayor Pat Moeller and Vice Mayor Michael Ryan expressed their best wishes to West Chester Township on its upcoming bicentennial. They then presented a Proclamation from the City of Hamilton to West Chester Township stating their best wishes. Subsequently, a group picture was taken of the Board and Misters Moeller and Ryun. A Proclamation from the Board for National Public Works Week was presented to Services Director Arun Hindupur who expressed his appreciation on behalf of his department.

Action Items – For Approval by Motion

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve the Trustee Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2023. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve the Special Meeting Minutes for May 12, 2023. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve payment of bills - April 28, 2023 through May 11, 2023. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Brown submitted the following requisitions greater than \$7,500:

Requisitions – Greater than \$7,500.00

- | | | | |
|----|----------|--------------|--|
| 1. | Fire | \$12,745.35 | Blust Motor Service, Inc. - Repair Horton medic unit |
| 2. | Fire | \$9,116.00 | Uline, Inc. - Purchase 15 metal uniform lockers (CIP# 1888) |
| 3. | Services | \$155,400.00 | Benchmark Land Management LLC - Increase Purchase Order S230911 to replace catch basins (CIP# 1620) |
| 4. | Services | \$62,278.65 | Precision Mulching, Inc. - Purchase and installation of mulch for various township landscape areas and playgrounds |
| 5. | Services | \$9,415.00 | Pinecrest Nursery - Install landscaping at The Square |

MOTION made by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve payment of requisitions 1 through 5. Discussion: In response to Mr. Welch's question, "not more than 1,100 cubic yards" of mulch would be purchased. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Business Items

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve agreement between West Chester Township Board of Trustees and Sedgwick Claims Management Services, Inc., not to exceed \$17,895.00, for 2024 Bureau of Worker's Compensation third party administrator services; and, authorize Township Administrator to make non-substantive changes with Law Director approval and execute said agreement. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve letter of support for the Butler County Board of Commissioners' Challenge of the State Tax Commissioner 2023 Triennial Reappraisal. Discussion: Mrs. Becker had previously read a portion of the letter. She and Mr. Jones stated their understanding as to the process seeking resolution legislatively, exclusively, going forward. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Welch that, having reviewed the staff report and affidavit, we declare the properties listed on The West Chester Board of Trustees agenda dated May 23, 2023 to be a public nuisance as authorized by the Ohio Revised Code.

Staff is directed to cause removal of the nuisances identified, and monitor this property for 90 days to require continued compliance. An administrative charge of 25% shall be added to the contractor fee for this property. Motion seconded by Mr. Wong. Discussion: none.

Motion carried unanimously.

(Fiscal Officer Note: the listed properties were 8212 Chestnut Hill Court, 7135 Grove Street, 7859 Kingsgate Way, and 9876 Tall Timber Drive.)

MOTION made by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve Statutory Resolution 24-2023 authorizing the Acceptance of the Proposed Agreed Entry Resolving the West Chester Township Board of Trustee's Case Involving the Property at 7163 Dimmick Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve amended license agreement between West Chester Township Board of Trustees and National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting for production of Voices of America Country Music Festival. Discussion: **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve Inter-agency agreement between West Chester Township Board of Trustees, MetroParks of Butler County and National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting for production of Voices of America Country Music Festival. Discussion: Mr. Welch encourage everyone to attend the festival. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to approve Memorandum of Understanding between West Chester Township Police Department and State of Ohio/Adult Parole Authority. Discussion: Chief Herzog had addressed the Board, explaining the features and benefits of this relationship with the Ohio Adult Parole Authority. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to appoint Arun Hindupur, Community Services Director, as Township representative to the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) Intermodal Coordinating Committee (ICC) from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Discussion: none. **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

MOTION to approve Resolution 23-2023 approving Zoning Map Amendment and Preliminary Development Plan for Case # ZMA01-23 Recchie Property; Smith & 747 LLC: Motion retracted by Mr. Wong and Mr. Welch.

MOTION by Mr. Wong, seconded by Mr. Welch, to continue this agenda item (Resolution 23-2023.)

(Fiscal Officer Note: This agenda item was tabled to the next Regular Trustee meeting in order to allow the applicant to respond to Trustee questions.)

Discussion Items & Elected Official Comments

Mrs. Becker responded to the comment from Amy Raghuraman during Citizen Comments, saying grants were awarded based on a scoring system, the Trustees had nothing to do with the scoring, and she would be happy to share the scoring system with her. Mrs. Becker also recognized the upcoming Memorial Day parade and remembrance, and the bicentennial celebrations the following weekend.

Mr. Welch "put in a plug" for the dunking booth at Sozo Hair that Saturday, noting recognizable people to be dunked, with contributions benefiting the Historical Society.

Mr. Wong recognized the shooting death of a Kentucky police officer at the hands of an assailant that had been linked to recent robberies in West Chester. He encouraged our residents to secure our property from theft. Police Chief Herzog said his department would be recognizing the officer at his funeral.

Mr. Jones thanked Mr. Wong for his account of the police officer's death. He also noted the closure of Tylersville Road at the Freshman school for the construction of a roundabout beginning May 30th. Lastly, he expressed his appreciation for those who gave their all for our freedom, and encourage people to bring their children to the parade and ceremony at Brookside Cemetery.

Adjournment

MOTION made at 7:19 p.m. by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Wong, to adjourn the May 23, 2023 Regular meeting. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Bruce Jones, Fiscal Officer

Approved,



Ann Becker, Chairperson