

Record of Proceedings: **April 9, 2024**
West Chester Township Board of Trustees - Regular Meeting

Convene: Chairperson Wong convened the meeting at 5:02 p.m.
Roll Call: Mr. Wong, Mr. Welch, and Mrs. Becker responded.
Pledge of Allegiance: Repeated by those present.

MOTION made at 5:04 p.m. by Mrs. Becker, seconded by Mr. Welch, 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); (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). Discussion: none.
Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Wong said the Board would return to adjourn the Executive Session and to resume the Regular meeting. Mr. Wong declared the meeting in recess.

Post Executive Session/ Adjournment

MOTION made at 6:03 p.m. by Mr. Welch Mrs. Becker to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the April 9, 2024. Regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Welch Mrs. Becker. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Citizen's Comments

Roberta Stagge, 6450 West Chester Road, from the Hopewell Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, announced that West Chester Township has been recognized with the National DAR Historic Preservation recognition award through the efforts of the West Chester Historical Society.

Presentations

Dennis Dick, West Chester Township, received a proclamation from the Board for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, recognizing their excellent service. Mr. Dick thanked the Board for the recognition.

Leo Chan, Executive Director of the Asia Chamber of America, gave an update on the Asia/Pacific Regional Cooperation in Trade & Investments.

Personnel Items

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mrs. Becker, to (1) approve a 4% merit pool for the 2024 merit performance increases; and, a not to exceed 4.5% individual increase for qualified

non-contract exempt and nonexempt employees or a 4% lump sum payment for employees who are at the top of their wage scale; and, authorize Township Administrator to approve and apply said merit performance increases effective the pay period closest to July 1, 2024; (2) approve Collective Bargaining Agreement effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026 between West Chester Township Board of Trustees and International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 3518; (3) promote Jason A. Jeffers to the position of Fire Lieutenant effective April 15, 2024 at the hourly rate of \$34.19; (4) promote Marcus E. Fox to the position of Fire Lieutenant effective June 1, 2024 at the hourly rate of \$34.19. Discussion: Mr. Welch suggested the union negotiation was a win-win agreement. He also said the merit pay keeps West Chester competitive, marketable, and sustainable. Lastly, he congratulated Misters Jeffers and Fox for their promotion. Mrs. Becker said the merit pay helps moral, and likewise thanked the two new Lieutenants for their service, and their families. Mr. Wong said West Chester hires the best and deserves to properly compensated. He also appreciated the union negotiation efforts. He also praised the two Lieutenants for their promotion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Thereupon Fiscal Officer Jones administered the Oath of Office to Firefighters Jeffers and Fox, accompanied by Chief Prinz. Subsequently, Jeffers and Fox were pinned by a member of their family.

Action Items – For Approval by Motion

MOTION made by Mrs. Becker, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve the Trustee Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2024. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mrs. Becker, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve payment of bills – March 4, 2024 through March 29, 2024. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

- 9. Adm \$72,520.86 Frost Brown Todd LLC - Legal Services through February 29, 2024 (various departments)
- 10. Fire \$21,739.76 Mobilcomm, Inc. - Upgrade Station Alert systems to interface with Locution Automated Dispatch (CIP 1887)
- 11. Police \$70,686.00 Vance Outdoors, Inc. - Purchase 100 duty pistols (CIP 1960)
- 12. Police \$38,700.20 Bachman’s, Inc. - Replace two HVAC units (CIP 2004)
- 13. Services \$306,511.70 National Shotcrete LLC - Repair storm water pipes (CIP 1613)
- 14. Services \$126,713.30 Kimco USA, Inc. - Purchase conveyor for loading salt dome (CIP 1922)
- 15. Services \$52,813.75 Benchmark Land Management LLC - Replace storm pipe on Sutton Place (CIP 1928)

Requisitions – Greater than \$7,500.00

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mrs. Becker, to approve payment of requisitions 9 through 15. Discussion: In response to Mrs. Becker’s question with item #14, she was advised that there was no savings to having our personnel unload the salt. Mr. Dick then responded to her question about item #10 and the upgrades they’re implementing to our dispatch system. In

response to Mr. Welch's questions, Chief Herzog confirmed the pistols (item #11) would be paid from drug forfeiture funds, and a trade-in of the department's current, dated weapons. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Business Items

MOTION made by Mrs. Becker seconded by Mr. Welch, to advertise Request for Proposals for Collection, Disposal & Processing Residential Solid Waste & Recycling 2025 – 2028. Discussion: Mrs. Becker said this would save residents money. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mrs. Becker, to approve license agreement between West Chester Township Board of Trustees and Union Centre Boulevard Merchant Association for use of Township property at 9285 Centre Pointe Drive and adjacent and ancillary roadways for the Union Centre Food Truck Rally. Discussion: Mrs. Becker said she like the move from August to June because the weather was better in June. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mrs. Becker, seconded by Mr. Welch, to apply for the 2024-2025 U.S. Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest Grant; and, authorize Township Administrator to accept said grant if awarded. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mrs. Becker, seconded by Mr. Welch, to approve agreement between West Chester Township Board of Trustees and McGill Smith Punshon, Inc. for the USS Cincinnati Access Road and Parking lot design not to exceed \$45,980.00; and, authorize Township Administrator to make non-substantive changes with Law Director approval and execute said agreement (CIP 1991). Discussion: Mr. Welch expressed his appreciation for the USS Cincinnati memorial project. In response to Mr. Wong's questions, Mr. Burks explained the positioning of the roadway and the memorial. **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 was no Second Reading & vote on pending resolutions & vote on emergency resolutions.

Discussion Items & Elected Official Comments

Mr. Jones observed the Naturalization ceremony for new American citizens recently conducted at Lakota East. He said Mr. Wong was the keynote speaker and praised him for his message emphasizing assimilation and good citizenship. Mr. Wong said he wrote his speech from his heart.

Mr. Burks observed the eclipse party the day before at the Fitton Center, hosted by Michelle Moody. He also thanked the West Chester communication professionals for their service.

Adjournment

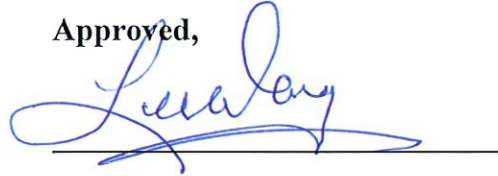
MOTION made at 7:01 p.m. by Mrs. Becker, seconded by Mr. Welch, to adjourn the April 9, 2024 Regular meeting. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bruce Jones", written over a horizontal line.

Bruce Jones, Fiscal Officer

Approved,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lee Wong", written over a horizontal line.

Lee Wong, Chairperson