

RUSSELL TOWN HALL

August 18, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Trustees Mueller, Port and Rambo were present. Fiscal Officer Karen Walder and Board Administrator Melissa Palmer were also present.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**SWEARING IN CEREMONY:** Oaths were administered by Chief Swaidner to Lieutenant Lillash and Sergeant Valerio.

On behalf of the whole township, Chief Swaidner offered his sincere congratulations to Lieutenant Lillash and Sergeant Valerio on their promotions. The board expressed appreciation for Lieutenant Lillash and Sergeant Valerio's hard work all these years, and for the support of their families.

**LEADERSHIP GEAUGA:** *Ms. Port made the motion to approve tuition and membership fees for Police Chief Tom Swaidner to attend the Leadership Geauga Adult Program beginning in September 2022 and ending June 2023. Mr. Rambo seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**ADMIN BLDG PKNG LOT CRACK SEAL: Reserve:** *Mr. Rambo made the motion, at the request of the Facilities Manager, to approve the seal coating, crack sealing, & striping of the Administration Building parking lot, per the proposal from Vitale Asphalt & Trucking Inc., for \$3,090.00 dated August 8, 2022. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**ZONING DEPARTMENT:** Mrs. Palmer advised the trustees that the Army CORPS of Engineers was out with the Zoning Inspector Monday reviewing some troubled properties, and that there would be a report coming with the findings.

**2023 BUDGET:** *Fiscal Officer Walder recapped the results of the Budget Hearing and Trustee Port thanked the fiscal office staff for their efforts in preparing the budget and the budget binders.*

**RESOLUTION 2022-18: BUDGET AMOUNTS & RATES:** *Mr. Rambo made the motion to approve Resolution 2022-18: a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**CERTIFICATE OF ESTIM RESOURCES:** *Mr. Rambo made the motion to accept the Certificate of Estimated Resources for Russell Township for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023, as approved by the Budget Commission, and dated August 15, 2022. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

The Fiscal Officer advised the trustees that there were still NOPEC grant funds available for this year for energy saving projects.

The Fiscal Officer advised the trustees that Miller Dodson will be scheduling two days for onsite visits that the department heads should be available for. This is so they can update the townships reserve study. The trustees would like to have a representative from Miller Dodson attend an upcoming meeting to hear the trustees' thoughts and projects to help with the reserve study update.

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**BANK RECONCILIATION & FINANCIAL REPORTS:** *Ms. Port made the motion to acknowledge receipt of the monthly bank reconciliation and financial reports for July 2022, as submitted by Fiscal Officer Karen Walder. Mr. Rambo seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC WERE RECEIVED.**

The trustees discussed the 1545 Park's request for undivided local government funds. The Board is dissatisfied by the lack of information they received, lack of information available to the public about park meetings, minutes and budget, and the lack of need shown by the park. They are requesting that a representative from the 1545 Park board attend a trustee meeting and present their need and answer any other questions the trustees have.

The board discussed the two liquor permits that are in the township. The Police Chief has not had any problems or complaints with the two vendors. The trustees have no problem with the permits being renewed.

The trustees were advised of Public Records Training opportunities, and it was recommended that they all register to attend this local session. Ms. Port also informed everyone that the OTA has monthly training sessions that could be beneficial to trustees and employees.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** *Mr. Rambo made the motion to move into executive session to discuss the employment and compensation of a public employee pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(1). Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

The meeting moved into executive session at 7:00 pm.

*Mr. Rambo made the motion to return to regular session. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

The meeting moved into regular session at 7:07 pm.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT PARAMEDIC:** *Ms. Port made the motion to approve a revised retroactive starting date of January 1, 2022, for Mr. Casey McCarthy's advancement from EMT to part-time Paramedic due to his successful completion of the Paramedic Program. New pay scale, starting date, & experience level for Mr. McCarthy will be based on the January 1, 2022, start date. Mr. Rambo seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**TEAM DEVELOPMENT/EXECUTIVE COACHING:** *Mr. Rambo made the motion, at the request of the Fiscal Officer, to approve a 2 part, four-month engagement of Lori Gorrell, of Upward Solutions Coaching & Consulting, for team development for the Fiscal Office members & for executive coaching for Karen Walder, for a cost of \$5,000.00 per the proposal dated August 15, 2022. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed.*

The vote: Mr. Rambo – Yes, Ms. Port – Yes, Mr. Mueller – Abstain.

**AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY: TEAM DEV/EXEC COACH:** *Mr. Rambo made the motion to authorize Fiscal Officer Karen Walder to act as Russell Township's authorized signatory for the Upward Solutions Coaching & Consulting proposal, dated August 15, 2022. Ms. Port seconded the motion and it passed.*

The vote: Mr. Rambo – Yes, Ms. Port – Yes, Mr. Mueller – Abstain.

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

REGULAR

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*Ms. Port made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed.*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 pm.

James Mueller, Chair

Karen Walder, Fiscal Officer

Recorded by: J. Dorka