

February 14, 2023

Salem Township Trustees - At the Salem Township Conference Room

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The Salem Township Board of Trustees met on January 24, 2023 in regular session at the Salem Township Fire Station Conference Room for the purpose of transacting the business of the Township. Trustee Susan Ramsey called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with Trustee Heath Kilburn and Ralph Blanton present. Mrs. Ramsey led all those present in the pledge to the flag.

Meeting Minutes:

- The trustees read the minutes from the January 24, 2023 meeting. Mr. Blanton made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea

Fire Department: Asst. Fire Chief Moenster Reported:

- Received Fitness Grant in the amount of \$33,000.00.

- Presented Russell Wampler resignation. Mr. Kilburn made a motion to accept Russell Wampler resignation. Mr. Blanton seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea

- Presented to add two cadets – Savannah Hill and Hunter Spencer. Mr. Kilburn made a motion to add two cadets – Savannah Hill and Hunter Spencer. Mr. Blanton seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea

Zoning Update: No update at this time from Zoning inspector Stephanie Austin

Guest comments:

- Mr. Joe Garrett with Trebel Energy attended tonight’s meeting to give an update on the electric charges for the township for the past 2 ½ years during our three-year contract.
 - At this time there is 70% participation
 - July 2021 to Nov 2022 savings for Salem Township residences in the program of \$197,000.00
 - Current contract pricing is at \$.046 (at every 1000 kw that is a savings of about \$19.60 per month) Duke was at \$.0569.

Prices are increasing daily and could see rates as high as \$.08 to \$.11 We are scheduled to renew as of July 1st. There are great concerns with renewal rates and how much they are increasing every day. Would like to suggest that we lock in a renewal rate at an earlier date (sometime March/April) to lock in a decent rate. Our rate will not change until our renewal date of July 1st, but at least we will be locked in – when that time comes. Mrs. Ramsey made a motion for Mr. Blanton to be the contact person on behalf of the Township Trustees to lock in a rate when the time comes. At this time a decent rate we can hope for would be under \$.08 Also look at renewing with a 2-year contract to be conservative in hopes that rates will come back down at that time. Mr. Blanton second the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – nay

Trustee Heath Kilburn Reported:

- Contractor will be starting on the new building this week. Gravel was ordered for the foundation.

Trustee Ralph Blanton Reported:

- Cemetery has a dead tree that is leaning over the road. Our crew tried and can’t get it. Mr. Blanton made a motion to hire Flint to have it taken down. Mr. Kilburn second that motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea

- New Building update – Would like to talk to architect to prepare for Water, Sewer and Electric. Everyone agreed.

Trustee Ralph Blanton Reported - continued:

- Received quote to purchase a used batwing for new tractor in the amount of \$11,500.00. When we receive our new batwing that is on order, we can trade this one in at the price of \$10,000.00. Mr. Kilburn made a motion to purchase the used batwing mower. Mrs. Ramsey second the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea

- Discuss salt order request from WC Engineers office for 2023/2024. We have about 325 to 350 ton on hand at this time. Mr. Blanton made a motion to not order for the 2023/2024. Mr. Kilburn second the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea

- F550 Steering booster is being worked on at John’s Auto Service
- OTARMA Insurance came out and did their Risk Survey (Every three years). We received the Risk control recommendations back today. Everyone received a copy and can read through it. There are a few things that we will for sue need to put into place. We can table this until everyone has had time to read through it. Everyone agreed.
- Received 2023 quote from Schneiders Lawn Care Service. Price has increased \$3,850.00 from last year. Mrs. Ramsey said she is please with their work, but would like to know why such a large increase. They increase last year during their contract for fuel increase. Mr. Kilburn made a motion to accept the 2023 quote from Schneiders lawn Care in the amount of \$48,490.00. Mr. Blanton second the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea Mrs. Ramsey – nay

Trustee Susan Ramsey Reported:

- We need to keep the cemetery in mind for re-pavement. Mr. Blanton said we will have to add it to the 2024 list since 2023 has already been submitted. Everyone agreed.
- Received invitation to the 2023 Annual Warren County Engineer’s Report to Township Trustees on Thursday march 9 at 6:00pm. Will be held at the Shaker Run Golf Club. Mr. Blanton already sent in his RSVP.

Fiscal Business: Vicky VonHolle, Fiscal Officer

- Presented the trustees with payroll and bills that are ready for payment. Mr. Blanton made a motion to approve the payroll and to pay the bills as presented. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the board, Mr. Kilburn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm. Mr. Blanton seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton – yea Mrs. Ramsey – yea Mr. Kilburn – yea