

Minutes July 28, 2015 Meeting

The Salem Township Board of Trustees met July 28, 2015 in regular session at the Salem Morrow Fire Station Conference Room for the purpose of transacting the business of the Township. President Ralph Blanton called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with members Heath Kilburn and Kirk Ramsey present. Ralph Blanton led all those present in the pledge to the flag.

Others present: Fire Chief Fred LaFollette, Donald Lynch, Susan Ramsey, Assistant Chief Bill Harrison, Mike Kassalen, Bob Glancy, Debi Blanton, State Representative Ron Maag, Ron Stratton, Beth Harrison, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Camp, Tim & Ginny Williams, Becky Ehling, Peggy Stratton, Scott LaFollette, Richard Oeder, Ron Conger, John Moenster, Mark Greatorex, Matt Voke, Mike Belanger, Gabby Bedinghaus, Justin Principato, Doug Wehmeyer, Jonathan Westendorf, Robert Edmonds, Joe Bean, Scott LaFollette, other fire department personnel and community members that came after the meeting.

The minutes were read and approved, and posted on the bulletin board.

Cemetery Updates

6/30/15 Sandra K. Malott Sec 5 Lot 12 #2 NE Corner Tufts FH

7/23/15 Orlin Smith Sec 5 Lot 150 #2 NW Corner Vales FH

7/25/15 V. Ruth Justison Sec 4 Lot 219 Center East Vales FH

Mr. Blanton stated that this would be an abbreviated meeting in order to honor Chief LaFollette on his retirement from the Salem-Morrow Fire Department after serving over 40 years.

Salt Storage Structure

Mr. Blanton reported that he had received the state bid for the salt storage structure. The bid amount was \$31,126 from Accel Building Systems, which included the structure and installation. Kirk Ramsey made a motion to accept this bid of \$31,126 from Accel. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

There were two bids received for the excavation of the site. These were: \$5800.00 from J.A. Geraci Company and \$2,855 from Freeze Underground. Kirk Ramsey made a motion to accept the bid from Freeze Underground. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

In regards to the appointment of Assistant Chief Harrison as the new chief, Ralph Blanton made a motion to offer him the current chief's pay and benefit package effective 7/31/15. Kirk Ramsey seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton, yea Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea

Zoning

Mike Kassalen, zoning inspector, turned in a permit for a pool.

He then told the board he would like to present Julie Keck as a new member of the zoning board.

Mr. Kilburn made a motion to appoint Mrs. Keck to the Salem Township Zoning Board.

Kirk Ramsey seconded the motion. Vote: Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

Under new business, Debbie presented the board with the liability insurance package.

The amount for the year starting July 28, 2015 will be \$34,188.00. Kirk Ramsey made a motion to approve renewing the liability insurance with OTARMA. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

Ms. Harper also asked the board to approve including Chief LaFollette's last day worked with the payroll ending 7/30/15. He would be paid for 11 days on that pay. Kirk Ramsey made a motion to approve this payment, seconded by Heath Kilburn.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

Assistant Chief Harrison then took the floor to start the proceeding to honor the retirement of Chief LaFollette with 43 years of service and Lt. Gale LaFollette with 38 years of service. He presented them both with plaques

He then asked Jonathan Westendorf, fire chief for the City of Franklin, representing the Ohio Fire Chief's Association to come forward. Chief Westendorf spoke of the many years of service given by Chief LaFollette and presented him with a plaque.

Next Doug Wehmeyer, a member of the Warren County Fire Investigation Team, spoke and presented plaques from the Warren County Fire Association.

Ohio State Representative Ronald Maag then came forward and spoke briefly and then presented a commendation from the Ohio House of Representatives for both Fred and Gale.

Richard Oeder, longtime member of the Salem-Morrow Fire Department came up and spoke of the times spent with Fred and Gale. He then presented a proclamation from the Board of Warren County Commissioners proclaiming July 31, 2015 as Chief Fred LaFollette Day in Warren County. He also presented a proclamation from the commissioners to Gale proclaiming July 28, 2015 as Gale LaFollette Day in Warren County.

Ralph Blanton spoke on behalf of the trustees and presented Fred and Gale with a plaque in honor of their service to the community. He then told how Fred had so much to do with making the new fire house a reality. And because of that, there was a plaque to dedicate the building as the Fred LaFollette Station.

After this both Fred and Gale shared some memories of their times working with all the different men and women who shared in their service to the community. They thanked everyone for the awards and for coming out this evening.

Fiscal Business

The fiscal officer prepared checks #16129-16189, 91991-92003 which totaled \$90,219.44.

The board examined the bills that were ready for payment and Kirk Ramsey made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

For this reporting period the fiscal officer deposited receipts in the amount of \$25,502.24 which included receipts #8707 - #8727.

With no further business to come before the board, Kirk Ramsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 P.M. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea

Everyone was invited to stay and enjoy cake and drinks and visit with Fred and Gale.