

**TWIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES  
2023 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
JANUARY 9, 2023  
MINUTES**

The Twin Township Trustees 2023 organizational meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the office of the Twin Township Trustees, 11474 Keran Street, Bourneville, Ohio.

Roll call: present were Township Officials Trustees Michael Whitt, Michael Darbyshire, Bryan Bethel and Fiscal Officer William Jones. Also present was Fire Chief Marty Johnson and resident Tim Miller.

Fiscal Officer William Jones assumed duties as President Pro-Temp and called for nominations for President. Mr. Darbyshire nominated Mr. Whitt. There were no other nominations. Motion was made by Mr. Bethel and seconded by Mr. Whitt to close nominations. All voted yes. Motion to close nominations passed.

All voted in favor of Mr. Whitt as president for 2023. Based on above voting, Mr. Whitt was declared Twin Township Trustee President for 2023 and, at that point, assumed duties of running the rest of the meeting.

Mr. Whitt asked for nominations for Vice-President. Mr. Bethel nominated Mr. Darbyshire. Motion was made by Mr. Darbyshire and seconded by Mr. Whitt to close nominations. All voted yes. Motion to close nominations passed.

All voted for Mr. Darbyshire. Based on above voting, Mr. Darbyshire was declared Twin Township Trustee Vice-President for 2023.

Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was waived. **Motion** made by Mr. Darbyshire and seconded by Mr. Whitt to approve minutes of the previous meeting with a correction to the correspondence regarding limiting trucks using Queen Drive as a shortcut to reflect that advice is needed from the Ross County Engineers office to make such a change. All voted yes. Motion passed.

The regular monthly meeting of the Twin Township Trustees began. **Motion** by Mr. Darbyshire and second by Mr. Whitt to approve resolutions 2023-01-9-01 through 2023-01-9-07. All voted yes. Motion passed.

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-01**

**SET DAY AND TIME FOR REGULAR MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR AS  
SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. AT  
THE TWIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE OFFICE AT 11474 KERAN STREET,  
BOURNEVILLE, OHIO**

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-02**

**SET MILEAGE RE-IMBURSEMENT RATE FOR OUT-OF TOWNSHIP  
BUSINESS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES AND APPROVED  
VOLUNTEERS AT THE CURRENT I.R.S. RATE**

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-03**

**SET METHOD USED TO NOTIFY PUBLIC OF CHANGE IN MEETING  
TIMES AND/OR DATES BY POST OF PUBLIC NOTICE ON BULLETIN  
BOARD LOCATED OUTSIDE TOWNSHIP GARAGE**

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-04**

**TO JOIN STATE AND LOCAL TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION AND PAY DUES**

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-05**

**TO JOIN ROSS COUNTY ENGINEERS DRUG TESTING AND CDL PROGRAM.**

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-06**

**THAT FISCAL OFFICER BE GRANTED PERMISSION TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL INCREASES/DECREASES TO APPROPRIATIONS AND INTER/INTRA-FUND TRANSFERS AND/OR ADVANCES AS NEEDED TO PAY BILLS, WITH FORMAL APPROVAL TO FOLLOW AT NEXT TRUSTEES' MEETING**

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-07**

**TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATIONS AND ISSUE I GRANTS DURING THE YEAR AS THEY MAY BECOME AVAILABLE.**

Motion by Mr. Whitt and second by Mr. Bethel to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of personnel issues. All voted yes. Motion passed. Remaining in Executive Session with the Trustees was the Fiscal Officer. Executive Session began at 6:05 p.m. The Fire Chief entered the Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. Executive Session ended at 7:40 p.m.

**FINANCIAL**

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-8:**

**MOTION BY MR. DARBYSHIRE AND SECOND BY MR. WHITT TO APPROVE THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW:**

- A. PAY BILLS AS PRESENTED
- B. APPROVE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AS PRESENTED
- C. APPROVE PURCHASE ORDERS AND BLANKET CERTIFICATES AS PRESENTED

ALL VOTED YES. MOTION PASSED.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

NONE

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

none

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:**

The monthly Fire Chief report for December, 2022 was reviewed, as well as the 911 calls and township responses for all of 2022. The EMS Department responded to 6% of the Emergency Runs for all of 2022 (20 out of 355). The Fire Department responded to 83% of all Fire calls during 2022 (40 out of 48).

The Trustees discussed this information and the following comments were made by the Trustees: Many efforts have been tried throughout 2022 regarding the low response by the EMS Department. These included having members be on-station for a specific period of time, increasing the amount of pay for EMS runs taken, and other efforts. None of the changes increased the run response.

Beginning in March of 2022, at the request of neighboring townships, the Trustees began paying a fee for any mutual aid EMS runs made in Twin Township. This fee request was made by the neighboring townships because of the increased volume of

EMS mutual aid runs they were taking in our township, and the expense this involved.

The Fiscal Officer shared the following financial information with the Fire Chief and the Trustees: “So far, the neighboring townships have made over 162 emergency runs in the township following the implementation of fees. Cost to the township for these runs is \$51,300. These fees have been paid from the funds the township received from the American Rescue Act fund provided by the federal government due to the COVID pandemic.”

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-9:**

*Motion* made by Mr. Darbyshire and seconded by Mr. Bethel: Beginning February 1, 2023, the operation of the Twin Township EMS Department shall be suspended. The Ross County Sheriff’s Office shall be notified that Twin Township will no longer have an active EMS Department at that time, and that the appropriate neighboring township shall to be toned out for 911 emergency calls as responders, based on the geographic location of the emergency in the township. Neighboring townships will continue the mutual aid response for Twin Township, but now as first responders based upon the location in the township of the emergency.

During discussion, the Trustees all agreed that it would be preferable to have an active EMS Department that could respond to emergency runs. However, due to the fact that only 20 of 355 emergency runs in 2022 were handled by the township’s EMS members, it is evident that the volunteer on-call response to EMS calls is not working in the township. In May, 2022 a 3 mill levy was presented to township voters for consideration. The funds from this levy would be used to begin funding an on-station paid EMS crew. Unfortunately, the levy was defeated. Current township revenues do not afford the hiring of a full-time EMS crew, and the current method of paying for mutual aid is the only method available to provide emergency services to township residents at this time.

Mr. Darbyshire presented a draft notice to send to all township residents informing them of this change to emergency services in the township. When finalized by the Trustees, this notice shall be sent to all residents of Twin Township as well as posted on the township’s website.

The Trustees also emphasized that this resolution does not affect the volunteer Fire Department, which is still active. The Trustees advised that the Fire Chief explain to all EMS and Fire members of this action and the reasons for it, and to encourage the support of the members in providing this service to the residents of Twin Township. Upon call for vote, all voted yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Bethel left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION 2023-01-9-10:**

Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and second by Mr. Whitt to grant a \$.75 per hour raise for full-time road employees effective with pay period beginning January 7, 2023, and a raise of \$50 per month for Fire Chief beginning February 1, 2023.

During discussion, Mr. Darbyshire and Mr. Whitt both indicated these raises were to try to assist employees in helping address the cost of living increases that have been occurring over the past two years. All voted yes. Motion passed.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. DARBYSHIRE AND SECONDED BY MR. WHITT TO ADJOURN AT 8:12 P.M. ALL VOTED YES. MEETING ADJOURNED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2023 ORGANIZATIONAL and MONTHLY MEETING:

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Michael Whitt, President

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J. Michael Darbyshire, Vice-President

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Bryan Bethel, Trustee-at-Large