

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Jerome Township Board of Trustees

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS &amp; SUPPLIES 211-221-3330 FORM NO. 16148

Held December 17, 2019 20

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on December 17, 2019 at 9:13 p.m. following two public hearings. Board Chairman Joe Craft called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ronald Rhodes, Joe Craft and C.J. Lovejoy answered the roll call. Also in attendance were Robert Caldwell (Fiscal Officer), Eric Snowden (Zoning Coordinator/Inspector), Doug Stewart (Fire Chief/Director of Departments) and members of the public.

Mr. Craft presented the agenda which was reviewed, modified as necessary and approved.

Robert Caldwell, Fiscal Officer, provided the Board with updated financial reports (receipt account status, appropriation status and fund status). Mr. Caldwell presented the pending warrants as detailed in the "Pending Warrant Report," for payment. The Fiscal Officer certified that there were sufficient funds to pay the bills. It was moved by Ron Rhodes and seconded by Joe Craft that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

**The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve warrants 40638 through 40678 and 99090 through 99094 for payment.**

The vote resulted as follows:

Ronald Rhodes, yes  
Lonnie (Joe) Craft, yes  
Charles (C.J.) Lovejoy, yes

**The resolution carried. (Res. 19-131)**

#### Department Reports

##### Planning/Zoning

Kermit Morse, Chairman of the Zoning Commission, provided the Board with a summary of the Zoning Commissions activity for 2019. He highlighted the work and regular sessions conducted by the Zoning Commission. He emphasized the need to update the comprehensive plan by working with Eric Snowden and the LUC. He concluded by asking the Board to have a joint meeting again with both boards and recommended April 13, 2020.

##### Fire Division

Doug Stewart, Fire Chief, addressed the Board by stating the Fire levy placed on the November ballot of 5.5 mills failed. He outlined the needs of the department in light of response times in excess of ten to twelve minutes and the inability to fully staff multiple vehicles. He reviewed the strategic plan highlighting fiscal responsibility, community involvement, lack of staffing and the need for new facilities. He reminded everyone that the Department had not asked for additional other than once since the original levies were passed in 1991 and 1992. He emphasized that the need of the Department is \$2.3 million which would call for a levy of 6.6 mills. Instead the levy placed on the ballot in November asked for 5.5 mills to raise \$1.9 million. He presented the Board with the Certificates of Estimated Property Tax Revenue certified by the Union County Auditor. The certified amounts were as follows:

- 2.5 mills       \$ 1,040,813
- 2.9 mills       \$ 1,207,343
- 3.5 mills       \$ 1,457,139

Chief Stewart urged the Board to proceed with a 3.5 mill levy.

It was moved by Ron Rhodes that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees proceed with a levy of 3.5 mills. Mr. Lovejoy indicated that 3.5 mills was cutting it tight and the Board could not go less. Mr. Craft indicated that 2.5 mills would provide enough revenue to over the nine new positions created with the Safer Grant. Based on discussion, Mr. Rhodes withdrew his motion. Chief Stewart indicated that a levy of 2.5 mills was not enough and the area cannot count on continued growth at the current rate. It was moved by Ron Rhodes and seconded by C.J. Lovejoy that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

**The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve the Resolution to Proceed With on Levy a Tax in Excess of the Ten Mill Limitation for an additional 3.5 mills for Fire, Ambulance, and Emergency Medical Equipment and Related Services.**

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Jerome Township Board of Trustees

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS &amp; SUPPLIES 844-224-3538 FORM NO. 1614B

Held December 17, 2019 20

The vote resulted as follows:

Ronald Rhodes, yes  
 Lonnie (Joe) Craft, no  
 Charles (C.J.) Lovejoy, yes

**The resolution carried. (Res. 19-132)**

New Business

Mr. Caldwell presented the Board with the 2020 budget for passage of the annual appropriation resolution. Mr. Caldwell highlighted the following items:

Property tax estimates for 2020 have not as of yet been provided by the Union County Auditor

General Fund

This will be the final year of contributions from the Jerome Village Community Authority in the amount of \$400,000 and noting the fund would still be reflecting receipts over disbursements without the contribution.

Budget provides for improvements to the Township Hall which were not completed in 2019.

Road & Bridge Fund

Lease on snow plow ends mid-year.

Budget has been provided for the purchase of a new truck in the amount of \$100,000 from the Gasoline Tax Fund.

No increase has been provided for permanent staff additions.

Police Fund

Significant carryover balance which needs to be addressed by considering reducing collections in 2021 unless additional services are anticipated.

Fire Fund

Safer Grant reported at 75% of nine new hire salaries and benefits.

Include nine new hires for part of the year.

Provides for the replacement of SCBA units but no additional capital reserves.

Zoning Fund

Carryover balance needs to be addressed.

It was moved by Ron Rhodes and seconded by Joe Craft that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

**The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve the 2020 Appropriations Resolution.**

The vote resulted as follows:

Ronald Rhodes, yes  
 Lonnie (Joe) Craft, yes  
 Charles (C.J.) Lovejoy, yes

**The resolution carried. (Res. 19-133)**

Mr. Craft indicated the need to set the date for the organizational meeting. It was moved by Joe Craft and seconded by C.J. Lovejoy that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

**The Jerome Township Board of Trustees conduct the organizational meeting for 2020 on January 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Jerome Township Hall.**

The vote resulted as follows:

Ronald Rhodes, yes  
 Lonnie (Joe) Craft, yes  
 Charles (C.J.) Lovejoy, yes

**The motion carried.**

Executive Session

At 10:27 p.m. it was moved by Joe Craft and seconded by C.J. Lovejoy that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Jerome Township Board of Trustees

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS &amp; SUPPLIES 2-14-224-2333 FORM NO. 1014B

Held \_\_\_\_\_ December 17, 2019 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment and compensation of public employees.

The vote resulted as follows:

Ronald Rhodes, yes  
Lonnie (Joe) Craft, yes  
Charles (C.J.) Lovejoy, yes

The motion carried.

At 10:52 p.m. it was moved by Joe Craft and seconded by Ron Rhodes that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn from executive session.

The vote resulted as follows:

Ronald Rhodes, yes  
Lonnie (Joe) Craft, yes  
Charles (C.J.) Lovejoy, yes

The motion carried.

As a result of discussion in executive session, it was moved by Joe Craft and seconded by C.J. Lovejoy that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve the Wage and Benefit Agreement between the Township of Jerome and the Fire Chief for the period July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020.

The vote resulted as follows:

Ronald Rhodes, yes  
Lonnie (Joe) Craft, yes  
Charles (C.J.) Lovejoy, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 19-134)

As a result of discussion in executive session, it was moved by Ron Rhodes and seconded by Joe Craft that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

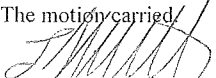
The Jerome Township Board of Trustees appoint John Wirchanski as an alternate to the Zoning Commission.

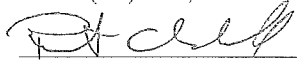
The vote resulted as follows:

Ronald Rhodes, yes  
Lonnie (Joe) Craft, yes  
Charles (C.J.) Lovejoy, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 19-135)

At 10:54 p.m. it was moved by Joe Craft and seconded by C.J. Lovejoy that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn. The motion carried.

  
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Lonnie (Joe) Craft, Chairman

  
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Robert Caldwell, Fiscal Officer