

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Jerome Township Board of Trustees

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held

November 8, 2023

20

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on November 8, 2023, at 7:01 p.m. Board Chairman Wezlynn Davis called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Megan Sloat, Barry Adler and Wezlynn Davis answered the roll call. Also in attendance were Robert Caldwell (Fiscal Officer), Brandon Standley (Township Administrator), Eric Snowden (Zoning Inspector / Coordinator), Jennifer Huber (Brosius, Johnson & Griggs), and members of the public.

Wezlynn Davis addressed the failure of the Board's request for limited home rule. She thanked the residents for their active participation in the election and noted the Board heard their wishes. She noted however, that the request for limited home rule was initiated due to the pressures being placed on the Township from growth and development.

Wezlynn Davis presented the agenda which was reviewed, modified as necessary and approved.

Robert Caldwell presented minutes for approval. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees waive the reading and approve the following minutes:

- Special meeting of October 3, 2023
- Regular meeting of October 3, 2023
- Special meeting of October 5, 2023
- Special meeting of October 16, 2023
- Special meeting of October 17, 2023
- Regular meeting of October 17, 2023
- Special meeting of October 25, 2023

Being no opposition, the motion carried.

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 Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve warrants 44113 through 44171 and 93085 through 93093 for payment.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

Robert Caldwell asked the Board to approve the following amendments to the 2023 Appropriations Resolution. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees amend the 2023 Appropriations Resolution as follows:

- Appropriate \$42,595 from previously un-appropriated funds to appropriation 01-B-02 "Improvement of Sites" General Fund
- Appropriate \$35,000 from previously un-appropriated funds to appropriation 13-A-04 "Contracts" Zoning Fund

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 23-106)

Old Business

Eric Snowden stated that the Township has been approached by individuals regarding pool barriers. As a result, he has crafted a text amendment. He noted the building code has changed over the years. Currently the Townships' code requires a four-foot barrier whereas current building codes allow for automatic pool covers. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt Resolution 23-105, A Resolution to Initiate an Amendment to the Zoning Resolution and Certify the Change as a Zoning Amendment to the Zoning Commission for Public Hearing

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The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried. (Res. 23-105)

Brandon Standley noted the Board has taken time to consider the request to purchase an aerial ladder truck for the Fire Division. He noted that since the first discussions took place the prices for such equipment continue to increase. He noted several benefits of such a purchase including:

- Improved ISO rating
- Decreased insurance rates for home owners
- Quicker response time
- Improved safety of residents and firefighters

He concluded that he supported to purchase.

Robert Caldwell noted the Township had received quotes for two units, Sutphen (\$1,959,930) and Pierce \$1,960,000). These quotes included various financing options. He stated the best option for the Township would be to pay for the unit at the time of delivery, estimated to be eighteen to twenty-four months, and invest the moneys in the interim to earn interest. He stated the Board has discussed the use of the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery moneys amounting to \$524,171 along with a remaining commitment from Jerome Village to purchase the unit rather than using any funding from taxpayer levies.

Wezlynn Davis and Megan Sloat noted their desire to purchase the Sutphen unit. Barry Adler stated he has spent a considerable amount of time researching the units. He noted the need for the unit based on soon to be constructed three story buildings in the Township. He also noted that since the Board first started discussion this purchase the cost has risen from \$1.6 million to \$2.0 million. He concluded he has reviewed both options and gives a slight advantage to the Pierce unit based on its monitoring controls. He did not the advantage that Sutphen was produced locally. Megan Sloat stated the decision has been discussed extensively in public meetings, that she has researched each unit and supports the purchase of the Sutphen. Wezlynn Davis stated she has spent a year studying this and supports the purchase of the Sutphen. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve the purchase of the Sutphen aerial ladder unit at a cost of \$1,959,930.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 23-107)

Barry Adler noted his hesitation in voting for the Sutphen unit.

Executive Session

At 7:36 p.m. it was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(3) with legal counsel to discuss pending or imminent court action.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

At 8:05 p.m. it was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Barry Adler 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:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

No action was taken as a result of executive session.

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At 8:06 p.m. it was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn. The motion carried.



Wezlynn Davis, Chairman



Robert Caldwell, Fiscal Officer