

Held

February 26, 2013

OPENING OF MEETING

Mr. Deters called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. All Board members and Mrs. Harlow were present.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Deters said the purpose of the hearing is to consider the retire/rehire of Public Services Director Kevin Schwartzhoff.

Mr. Ritter made a motion to open the public hearing and Ms. Rinehart offered the second. The roll was called:

Mr. Deters. "Aye"
 Ms. Rinehart. "Aye"
 Mr. Ritter. "Aye"

Mr. Rowan said this request is from Mr. Schwartzhoff and there are steps we must follow. There is a statutory requirement to hold this hearing. He said there is a salary reduction as part of the arrangement. He said he knows that retire/rehire situations can be controversial and there are various sides of the issue. He said the Board received some e-mail communication on this issue. His perspective is that we can retain an outstanding director of his caliber and realize a 25% savings, and he doesn't take that lightly. If not filling the vacancy was an option, that would be different, but because of consolidations, we need a director in the role. There will be no recommended action until March 26.

Mr. Robinson said that he understands it and it's legal, but it doesn't make it right. No one is indispensable, so that's not a viable argument. He said this leads to arrogance.

John Kerr spoke in favor, saying that it is legal and proper to do, with a reasonable savings. He said that a replacement would be a junior person who would demand that salary anyway. The concept is a sound one given the restraints. He said that he is looking forward to public employment practices being more in-line with private sector.

Kathy Mohr asked about the effective date. Mr. Rowan said it would be April 1.

Ms. Rinehart made a motion to open the public hearing and Mr. Ritter offered the second. The roll was called:

Mr. Deters. "Aye"
 Ms. Rinehart. "Aye"
 Mr. Ritter. "Aye"

Mr. Ritter said he voted against these requests previously, mostly on principle. He said that this is a close call for him, because Mr. Schwartzhoff is an exemplary employee and continuity very important. However, he is not able to support it out of principle and his distain of the practice.

Ms. Rinehart said that she does not have a problem with this practice. She said it saves a substantial amount of money and it's mutually beneficial. She supports this.

Mr. Deters said that job quality is not in question as Mr. Schwartzhoff has demonstrated this to the highest degree, even taking in a second department. He said that he looks at the merits of each situation. He said that "double dipping" got a bad name with old boys' network. It is important to consider the

Held

February 26, 2013

best interest of the residents, with taxpayer dollars at a premium now. He said that it is a hard, but clear decision for him and the right thing to do for the residents. He said that it is important to have a cohesive leadership team. The rehire will equate to a savings. He said that he is inclined to support this and there will be more time to be able to discuss off-line with taxpayers.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

2012 Township Highway System Mileage Certification

Mr. Schwartzhoff requested the Board approve the mileage certification, indicating that the Township's lane miles have increase one mile from last year.

Mr. Ritter made a motion to accept the mileage certification and Ms. Rinehart offered the second. The roll was called:

Mr. Deters. "Aye"
Ms. Rinehart. "Aye"
Mr. Ritter. "Aye"

Taste of Colerain Update

Mr. Schwartzhoff said that we will hold a combined July 4th and Taste of Colerain on August 9 & 10. We already have \$10,000 committed in sponsorships and are still negotiating with others. He anticipates that the events will not cost the Township this year. He said the band the Rusty Griswolds will perform on Saturday night; other bands will be announced as contracts are signed. He said that Tom Bosarge will be the restaurant coordinator. We will have fireworks each night at 10:50PM with a 10-15 minute display, thanks to the same volunteers as in the past.

ADMINISTRATION

Restructuring of Non-Safety Departments (Roads & Parks, Community Center)

Mr. Rowan said that as we approach the approval of permanent appropriations for 2013, we must make some difficult decisions to drive costs down. With restructuring the service delivery model in parks and public works, we must reorganize and restructure. This is not an easy decision, but the changes will account for a \$400,000 savings.

Mr. Rowan said that there has been discussion of the senior programming options as a 50+ center as well as a community center. We do have COA funds to continue transportation, but this will be reevaluated for the 2014 application. These changes will be effective May 1. This is a means to address the budget shortfalls in the general fund of \$1.4 to \$1.5 million. We will still have a deficit, \$1 million, and will need to find ways to close the gap. There may be Community Center cut backs if it is not self-funded with rentals.

Layoff of Non-Safety Personnel

Mr. Rowan requested the Board approve Resolution 28-13, which he read by caption, "Resolution to Lay Off Part-Time Receptionist."

Mr. Ritter made such motion and Ms. Rinehart offered the second.

The roll was called:

Mr. Deters. "Aye"
Ms. Rinehart. "Aye"
Mr. Ritter. "Aye"

Held _____

February 26, 2013

Mr. Rowan requested the Board approve Resolution 29-13, which he read by caption, "Resolution to Lay Off Permanent Part-Time Employees of the Public Services Department (Roads & Parks) and Community Center."

Mr. Ritter made such motion and Ms. Rinehart offered the second. The roll was called:

- Mr. Deters. "Aye"
- Ms. Rinehart. "Aye"
- Mr. Ritter. "Aye"

Mr. Rowan said there will still be a need for casual employees and we will use these people in this capacity, as needed. We will contract out nuisance abatements.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Rowan requested the Board enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment and compensation of a public official and the purchase of property. Mr. Ritter made such motion and Ms. Rinehart offered the second. The roll was called:

- Mr. Deters. "Aye"
- Ms. Rinehart. "Aye"
- Mr. Ritter. "Aye"


The Board returned from Executive Session at 6:38PM and Mr. Rowan said there was nothing to report.


ADJOURNMENT


With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Ritter motioned for adjournment at 6:39PM. Ms. Rinehart offered the second.

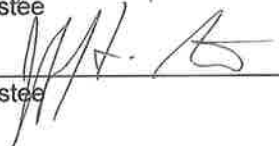
The roll was called:

- Mr. Deters. "Aye"
- Ms. Rinehart. "Aye"
- Mr. Ritter. "Aye"


Fiscal Officer


Trustee


Trustee


Trustee