

Colerain Township Financial Advisory Committee (FAC)

Minutes

January 14, 2014

OPENING OF MEETING

Mr. Michel called the meeting to order at 7:07PM with the following members present: Dan Armbruster, John Kerr, and Doug Michel. Dennis Mason Scott Taylor were absent. Heather Harlow, Township Fiscal Officer, and James Rowan, Township Administrator, were also in attendance.

WELCOME

Mr. Michel welcomed Mr. Armbruster to the Committee. He is replacing Mr. Moore as Ms. Rinehart's appointment. Mr. Armbruster is a life-long Township resident and currently lives off of Hanley Road. He said has worked at US Bank for 25 years.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kerr made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2013 meeting and Mr. Michel offered the second.

All voted Aye, with Mr. Armbruster abstaining.

REPORT FROM INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Ryan Nelson from Baird Public Investment Advisors offered a presentation on the investment portfolio, attachment 1 to these minutes.

Mr. Armbruster asked about how much trading goes on throughout course of year

Mr. Nelson said that is driven by types of security they buy, as callable ones are reinvested. Treasuries are more liquid. He said it is about 25% trading in and out. He said that he must be careful to trade to take a gain.

Mr. Kerr asked about interest rates, compared to year ago.

Mr. Nelson said that last year for a five-year, the rate was 1%. Now, you only need to go out three years to get 1%; five-years are at 2% now.

FOLLOW-UP ON JEDZ

Mr. Rowan distributed a response prepared by Mr. Birkenhauer to questions from last meeting.

PROPOSED 1.95 MILL POLICE/EMS LEVY

Mr. Rowan shared a handout (attachment 2 to these minutes), as displayed at last Board of Trustees meeting. He said that the final resolution is being prepared for board consideration on January 28. He said that this model pays back the TIF loan and is modeled to last five years. He said that the goal is to stretch the fire department's levy to 2020 or 2022. He said that the levies are permanent, but inflation/spending catches up with you.

Mr. Rowan said they were hoping to do public safety levy, but do this, it can only be for five years and all proceeds must go to the general fund. However, we can do a police & EMS levy, but for the EMS, it's only if delivered by a police officer. This is an opportunity to train police as EMTs, which could result in a lower cost and possibly shorter response time.

Mr. Rowan said that Director Meloy has been tasked with looking at how to deliver services differently and more economically.

Mr. Kerr said it is admirable what Mr. Rowan and the department heads have done and he has no doubt that they are working smarter than before. He said he is not in favor of raising taxes, but we talked about it long enough that we should let the voters decide.

Mr. Kerr made the following motion:

The FAC recognizes that the Township has been impacted by the recent recession, stifled economic growth, reduced property values, significant reductions in state funding and reduced services from the HCSO. Further, the FAC recognizes the ongoing efforts made towards aggressive cost management and the development of new revenue streams. The FAC therefore recommends the Board proceed with placing a 1.95 mill Police/EMS levy on the May 2014 ballot with the goal of restructuring the Public Safety Department in such a way to promote long-term financial sustainability. Every effort should be made to reduce reliance on the traditional five-year property tax cycle and extend the usefulness of this levy to 2022.

Mr. Michel offered the second and a lengthy discussion ensued.

The roll was called and all voted "aye."

Vote: all aye

BENCHMARKING REPORTS

Mr. Rowan distributed the benchmarking reports. He said the FAC will discuss the Fire and Police reports on February 25 and will schedule Zoning and Public Services at a later date.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

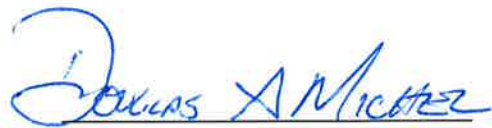
Mr. Rowan distributed a list of future meeting dates and topics, attachment 3 to these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:44PM, Mr. Michel made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Kerr offered the second. All voted aye.



Fiscal Officer



Committee Chairman