

**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
5686 KENWOOD ROAD CINCINNATI, OHIO 45227**

**Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
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***Due to COVID, this meeting is open to the public but will be streamed live on Vimeo. It will also be available for viewing on YouTube.***

*Live@ <https://vimeo.com/497381711>*

*After Meeting@ <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLfD5afKymmzsH8L5mLpDaQ>*

*Columbia Township residents and businesses were also invited to email or call with comments or questions to be read and answered during "Open Forum". [GrowingTogether@ColumbiaTwp.org](mailto:GrowingTogether@ColumbiaTwp.org); 513-561-6046.*

The Columbia Township Regular Board meeting was called to order by Trustee David Kubicki at 4:00 p.m.

**In attendance**

Those Trustees in attendance were Susan Hughes, Brian Lamar and David Kubicki. Township Administrator Melissa Taylor, Fiscal Officer Caroline Heekin and Police Lieutenant Enderle were also in attendance. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Approval and Signing of Minutes –**

Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 13, 2021. All Present voted yes.

**Open Forum –**

Resident Carl Jones sent an email regarding the Little Miami Fire District. Mr. Jones suggested using TIFF economic development funds, as well as existing money in the township general funds. He also proposed that Columbia Township build its own fire station at Ridge-Highland and lease it back to LMJFRD at a low cost. Mr. Kubicki thanked Mr. Jones for his comments and invited him to call for further discussion. Mr. Kubicki explained that while Columbia Township belongs to LMJFRD, they do have their own board who make the decisions regarding services.

Ms. Taylor noted that while Mr. Jones had accurately cited budget numbers he was not correct in suggesting the township may use any public funds such as the general fund for just any purpose. She added public finance is complicated and that the township staff have more than a hundred years of public finance experience combined.

Mr. Lamar, who serves on the LMJFRD board, noted the importance of building relationships with other communities to provide better services for all. Mr. Lamar continues to be optimistic about negotiating affordable contracts with Golf Manor and Deer Park/Silverton fire departments. Mr. Kubicki maintained that building a new fire house creates more problems and consolidating is simply a better financial and managerial solution than creating new independent entities. Mr. Kubicki concluded that township trustees are committed to making informed non-political transparent decisions for the good of the township and region.

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**Department Reports –**

Fiscal Officer's Report

Ms. Heekin's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection.

Road Superintendent Report

Mr. Servizzi's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection.

Administrator's Report

Ms. Taylor's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection.

Police Report

Lt. Enderle's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection. Lt. Enderle noted the importance of keeping your car locked, especially at night to help deter would be thieves. The Lieutenant also suggested that if you think you might have video from a Ring or other recorded doorbell service please call the non-emergency police number to share the information; these videos do help solve cases.

LMJF&R Fire District Report

Mostly covered in Open Forum but Mr. Lamar did report that negotiations continue and there will be more to share soon.

Deer Park-Silverton Fire District Report

Covered in LMJF&R Report

Trustees' Reports

Ms. Hughes reported that from her own recent observations and in speaking with residents there is a need for some sidewalk repair and a study of conditions throughout the township would be helpful. Ms. Taylor noted that while sidewalk installation/maintenance is not required of townships we can survey the conditions and request estimates.

Mr. Lamar witnessed Sherriff's Officers providing good service in the community and wanted to share his observations. Mr. Lamar also encouraged residents to attend an event called "Art Garage" put on by local art teachers on May 14<sup>th</sup> on Kenmore Avenue from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**Communications –**

- Ohio Plans to Double Number of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries, Community Press/USA Today
- Mr. Crab House and Scramblers New Additions to Columbia Township, Cincinnati Enquirer
- New Podcast Series "Making It Happen" and YouTube Channel Video Series
- New Facebook Posts

**Motions –**

Ms. Taylor read a motion to Appoint Ms. Hughes and Mr. Lamar to Hamilton Co. Tax Incentive Review Council. Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Ms. Hughes to approve the motion. All present voted Yes.

Ms. Taylor read a motion to Authorize the Administrator to extend the part-time contract for administrative support services with Lauren Allison from May 17 to June 11.

Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to approve the motion. All present voted Yes.

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**Motions –(cont.)**

Ms. Taylor read a motion to Add to the agenda Emergency Resolution 21-23, 2021 Authorizing payment of \$16,262.09 to Duke Energy to Relocate Electric Service at the Madison Place Firehouse. Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Ms. Hughes to approve the motion. All present voted Yes.

**Resolutions –**

*One Reading Only (Appropriations):*

Ms. Taylor provided the 1<sup>st</sup> and only reading of a Resolution Authorizing a Resolution to Supplement Res. 21-01, 2021 "Columbia Township 2021 Annual Appropriation" and Supplemental Appropriation Resolutions 21-04, 21-08 and 21-15. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar to pass the **Resolution21-21**. All present voted yes.

**Resolutions**

*Emergency:*

Ms. Taylor provided the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of a Resolution Authorizing Payment of \$16,262.09 to Duke Energy to Relocate Electric Service at the Madison Firehouse Dispensing with The Second Reading, And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes, to pass the **Resolution21-23**. All present voted Yes. Ms. Hughes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kubicki, to suspend the rules and to declare an emergency. All present voted yes.

*1<sup>st</sup> Reading:*

Ms. Taylor provided the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of a Resolution Authorizing An Agreement For Professional Engineering Services For Transportation Safety Initiatives; Authorizing Administrator To Enter Into Agreement With TEC Engineering Inc., Dispensing With The Second Reading, And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar to pass the **Resolution21-22**. All present voted yes. Ms. Hughes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kubicki to suspend the rules and to declare an emergency. All present voted yes.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:*

Ms. Taylor provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of a Resolution Creating Full-Time, At-Will Position Of Customer Service Coordinator/Event Center Coordinator And Adopting Job Description For Such Position. Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to adopt the **Resolution21-16** All present voted Yes.

*Executive Session:*

At 4:50 p.m. for the purpose to Consider the Appointment, Employment, Dismissal, Discipline, Promotion, Demotion, Or Compensation of a Public Employee or Official Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar that the Trustees go into executive session under ORC 121.22(G)(1) and (8). All present voted yes.

At 5:25 p.m. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes to leave executive session and return to regular meeting. All present votes yes.

