

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

Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2022
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This meeting was open to the public, streamed live and available for viewing after the meeting. 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; 513-561-6046.

Watch Live <https://vimeo.com/513968269>

Watch Later <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLfD5afKymmzsH8L5mLpDaQ>

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, Police Lieutenant Paul Naber, Dustin Montgomery, Chief Medor and Fire Chief Siefke 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 July 12, 2022. All Present voted yes.

Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2022. All Present voted yes.

Open Forum –

Resident Jack Fuchs of Williams Meadow asked for further explanation of the use of General Funds to purchase 2 properties; specifically, what is the plan for these properties and why was it done in an “emergency” meeting? Mr. Kubicki explained that new sources of revenue from JEDZ and Medicinal Marijuana Dispenseries allow us the means to keep an eye on strategic properties and if possible control their use. This is what we intended to do in order to improve the quality of life for residents. As we only had a limited time for appraisal it was necessary to have a special meeting to make the funds available for use. Because we have the ability to make this kind of move we were able to purchase the properties for \$50,000 less than the appraised value. Ms. Taylor further explained the nature of the process and reasoning for needing a special meeting. Mr. Lamar added that we could have let the free market acquire the properties, but this allows some control of use which is what residents have asked for and there will be a chance for feedback from residents on the use of the spaces. Mr. Kubicki added that we have a very respected brokerage firm taking on the project. He also added that any lost CPS taxes should be negated by increased property values.

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Department Reports –

Economic Development Quarterly Report

Mr. Montgomery's next report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection. Mr. Montgomery wanted to add his comments to the Open Forum question posed. Mr. Montgomery pointed out that not many townships he works with are putting new revenues resources in place like Columbia Township is doing. This follows the comprehensive plan that was passed by the community. The use of a commercial broker on the new properties acquired will be a great opportunity. He also pointed to the example of the Township's purchase of the K-Mart building in the Ridge Highland district that now houses CBT's headquarters which continues to bring significant tax revenue.

Fiscal Officer's Report

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

Road Superintendent Report

Mr. Frazier's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection. Mr. Lamar added that he is very pleased with the installation of new bike racks in the public right of way on the bike trail.

Administrator's Report

Ms. Taylor's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection. Ms. Taylor highlighted our successful community events; Bengal's tailgate and the Luminaria are still upcoming. Also noteworthy is the Madison Place Firehouse renovation should have bids going out this fall. The Neighborhood Economic Development (NED) project is currently in full swing and removing damaged trees.

Police Report

Lt. Naber's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection. Lt. Naber shared the DEA Drug Takeback will take place October 29th. Lt. Naber asked residents to be aware of reports of the elderly being targeted by phone scammers asking them to purchase gift cards. He also shared the Commendation of Officer Doug Parton for his part in saving a citizen's life and her leg.

Little Miami JF&R District Report +

Deer Park-Silverton Fire District Report

Mr. Lamar reminded us that there will be a Levy on the Columbia G ballot. Fire Chief Siefke noted that the Billy Joel event was a great time and he enjoyed being a part of it.

Trustees' Reports

Mr. Lamar thanked Chief Medor and his crew for a great event at the fire station. Ms. Hughes was the first to start off the fun and shoot a fire hose.

Ms. Hughes agreed that Neighbor Day at the Fire Station was a great event and appreciated receiving a smoke detector.

Communications –

- Articles and communications – Ms. Taylor highlighted an article from the Business Courier naming Columbia Township's CBT as one of 100 Largest Privately owned companies.
- Podcast Series "Making It Happen" and YouTube Channel Video Series
- Facebook Posts

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Resolutions –

One Reading:

Ms. Taylor provided the 1st and only reading of a Resolution To Supplement Resolution 21-57, 2021 Columbia Township 2021 Annual Appropriation And Supplemental Appropriations 22-13, 22-18, 22-19, 22-27, 22-36, and 22-39, 2022. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes to adopt **RES 22-42**. All present voted yes.

Emergency:

Ms. Taylor provided the first reading of a Resolution Authorizing The Columbia Township Administrator To Enter Into A Contract With Shawnee Tree Company To Remove Diseased And Damaged Trees As Part Of NED – Neighborhood Economic Development Program, Dispensing With The Second Reading, And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar to dispense with the second reading. All present voted yes. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes to pass **RES 22-43**. All present voted yes. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes to declare an emergency. All present voted yes.

Ms. Taylor provided the first reading of a Resolution Authorizing The Administrator To Enter Into A Contract With The Hamilton County Engineer To Improve Walton Creek Road, Declaring An Emergency, And Dispensing With The Second Reading. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar to dispense with the second reading. All present voted yes. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes to pass **RES 22-44**. All present voted yes. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar to declare an emergency. All present voted yes.

First Reading:

Ms. Taylor provided the first reading of a Resolution Authorizing The Administrator To Sign Necessary Agreements For Annual Commercial Property And Liability Insurance and Pay The Annual Premium. The second reading will take place at the September meeting.

Approve Payment of Bills, Bank Reconciliation and Financial Reports –

Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to approve payment of bills, Bank Reconciliation and Financial reports for August. All present voted to approve.

Signing of Minutes and Resolutions – Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to sign the Minutes and Resolutions. All present voted yes.

Adjournment – Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Ms. Hughes to adjourn. All present voted to adjourn.

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Susan Hughes

Date

David Kubicki

Date

Brian Lamar

Date

Caroline Heekin

Date