

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

**Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 14th, 2023
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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 and Fire Chief Mike Siefke were also in attendance. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Approval and Signing of Minutes –

Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 1, 2023. All Present voted yes.

Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2023. All Present voted yes.

Open Forum –

The Road Crew wanted to thank resident Rebecca Ford of Mariemont Landing for providing baked goods and residents of William's Meadow for providing lunch as a "Thank You" for going above and beyond the call of duty during the recent storms.

Resident Jack Fuchs praised the township for the exceptional services and road work. Mr. Fuchs for a status update on the former fire house renovations and a series of questions regarding the township's purchase of properties including why there was no public discussion and what is the plan for usage.

Ms. Taylor addressed the Firehouse question noting that the final plan will be reviewed in just a few days and then will go out for an open 30 day bid process. After that there will be public meetings and finally the acceptance of the lowest/best bid. The total timeline could be 4 to 6 months.

Mr. Kubicki address the purchase of properties explaining that we have the ability to protect the future use of these strategic properties. Ideally a great business will locate there or we can explore a secondary use if necessary. We are working with consultants and are poised to provide architectural drawings.

Additionally we are always interested in strategic properties in Madison Place as they relate to parking and water run off issues. Mr. Lamar added that it would be preferable to have 30 days to make these calls but that is almost impossible and we have heard from residents many times their major concerns are water run off and parking and real estate purchase such as these have the potential to alleviate these issues.

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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. Frazier'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.

Mr. Kubicki thanked Ms. Taylor for her excellent management of the Wooster Road Abandonment Plan Modification.

Always noteworthy is the Columbia crew's regular services and special storm services. December and January alone required frequent road treatment using 166 tons of salt. Over 300 new street trees were planted in 2022 as part of the Neighborhood Economic Development Program and Ridgewood's Gaslight Upgrades were completed in November.

Economic Development Quarterly Report

Mr. Montgomery's next report will take place in April (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct)

Police Report

Lt. Naber's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection. Lt. Naber noted that there will be an AG Takeback February 25th from 10 to 2 at the Silverton station on Montgomery Road.

There will also be a DEA Takeback April 22nd. Thefts of cars, specifically Kia's and Hyundai's continue to be an issue.

Little Miami JF&R District Report +

Deer Park-Silverton Fire District Report

Mr. Lamar noted that the board approved a new ambulance. Mr. Lamar also thanked Chief Siefke for his fiscal responsibility specifically noting the 10 year capital expenditure budget he provided.

Trustees' Reports

Mr. Lamar encouraged residents to listen to the latest podcast with a historian Beth Sullebarger talking about the history of the Madison place firehouse. Mr. Lamar also encourage everyone to attend the 2023 community events.

Communications –

- Articles and communications
- Podcast Series "Making It Happen" and YouTube Channel Video Series
- Facebook Posts

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Resolutions –

Emergency:

*Ms. Taylor explained that this resolution required “emergency” status due to the depleted inventory of equipment available through the state bid process. Ms. Taylor provided the first reading of a Resolution Authorizing The Purchase Of One 2023 Bobcat Skid Steer Loader And Trailer To Replace 1992 Model For Street Repairs, Snow And Ice Program, And Yard Waste Collection And Recycling Program, Dispensing With The Second Reading, And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to pass **RES 23-05** and dispense with the second reading. All present voted yes. Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to declare an emergency.*

*Ms. Taylor explained that this expenditure of funds comes from a grant proposed by Columbia township that became the model for other communities and in fact was doubled by Hamilton County. Ms. Taylor provided the first reading of a Resolution Authorizing The Expenditure Of Hamilton County CDBG-CV Grant Funds For The Purpose Of Financing The Construction, Improvement And Furnishing Of An Outdoor Dining Seating Area, Authorizing The Execution Of A Construction Easement Or Similar Right To Construct, And Other Matters Related Thereto, And Dispensing With The Second Reading And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to pass **RES 23-06** and dispense with the second reading. All present voted yes. Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to declare an emergency.*

Regular:

Ms. Taylor explained that the purchase of this vacant lot is to be held for future public services to be determined. Mr. Lamar noted that he believes this purchase is an incredible opportunity to make a substantial improvement in the lives of residents and he is proud to vote for this.

*Ms. Taylor provided the first reading of a Resolution Authorizing Administrator To Enter Into Agreement For The Purchase Of Real Estate For Public Purposes At 4053 Grove Avenue, And Dispensing With The Second Reading. Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to pass **RES 23-07** and dispense with the second reading. All present voted yes. This resolution will take effect in 30 days.*

Ms. Taylor provided the first reading of a Resolution Authorizing An Advance Of Funds From General Fund 1000 To Finance Certain Reimbursable Expenditures Related To The Purchase Of Real Property For Public Purposes At 4053 Grove Ave., And Dispensing With The Second Reading.

*Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Mr. Lamar to pass **RES 23-08** and dispense with the second reading. All present voted yes. This resolution will take effect in 30 days.*

One Reading:

Ms. Taylor provided the reading of a Resolution To Supplement Resolution 22-68, 2022 “Columbia Township 2023 Annual Appropriation” And Supplemental Appropriation 23-03.

*Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lamar to pass **RES 23-04**. All present voted yes.*

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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. 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 Mr. Lamar to adjourn. All present voted to adjourn.

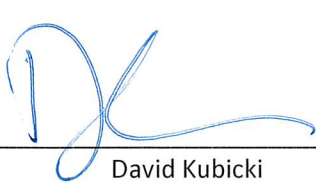
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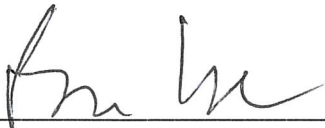
Susan Hughes

Date

 3/14/23


David Kubicki

Date

 3/14/23

Brian Lamar

Date

 3.14.23

Caroline Heekin

Date