

TWIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 26, 2018

**MEETING LOCATION: TWIN TOWNSHIP GARAGE,
11474 KERAN STREET, BOURNEVILLE, OHIO 45617**

President Michael Whitt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Officials present at roll call were: President Michael Whitt, Vice-President J. Michael Darbyshire, Trustee Bryan Bethel, and Fiscal Officer William Jones. Guests present were: Bill Ford, Jr., Mike Norman, Dylan Estep, Joe Alexander, Amy Mendenhall, Marty Johnson, George Mendenhall, Nick Mendenhall, Andrea Ford, Michaela Sumner

STATED PURPOSE OF SPECIAL MEETING:

Appointment of officer(s) to volunteer Fire and Life Squad and conduct other business of the township.

Resolution 2018-03-26-01:

Motion by Mr. Whitt and second by Mr. Bethel to accept the written resignations of Channing and Nicole Shepherd from the Twin Township Volunteer Fire and Life Squad. Their reason for resigning is that they have moved out of the district. There was no discussion. Upon call for vote, all voted yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2018-03-26-02:

Motion by Mr. Whitt and second by Mr. Bethel to accept the written resignations of Andrea Ford and William Ford, III from the Twin Township Volunteer Fire and Life Squad. During discussion, Mr. Darbyshire thanked William and Andrea Ford on behalf of the Board, for their service to the township. Upon call for vote, all voted yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2018-03-26-03:

Motion by Mr. Whitt and second by Mr. Bethel to appoint Marty Johnson as Fire Chief for the Twin Township Volunteer Fire and Life Squad. Discussion:

Mr. Whitt read the following written statement from Joe Alexander, Assistant Chief, who was functioning as Acting Chief, as the previous Chief had been out-of-state on business for his full-time job:

“Upon the acceptance of the current chief’s resignation, as Acting Fire Chief since 3/17/2018, per SOG Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph 1.7, I appoint Marty Johnson as the new department Fire Chief. I am doing so as I am not interested in remaining in the position of Fire Chief, but returning to my position of Assistant Fire Chief, supporting our department in this capacity.”

Mr. Darbyshire detailed how the Board of Trustees has supported the Volunteer department, through the approval of requests for equipment and supplies if within the budget that existed, and gave examples of that, such as approving purchasing an “ice” machine so the volunteers would have a source of replenishment after fighting fires and handling emergencies. He also mentioned that he did not think that machine has yet to be purchased by the department. He also commented that he felt the Board had handled all issues concerning the department that has come before the Board to the best of their abilities and in a timely manner. He also gave his personal opinion that he thought there had been a “mutiny” taking place in the past few weeks, and as a result, he would vote accordingly.

Upon call for vote, Mr. Whitt voted yes; Mr. Bethel voted yes; Mr. Darbyshire voted no. Motion passed.

Resolution 2018-03-26-04:

Motion by Mr. Bethel and second by Mr. Whitt to have the Chief schedule a training, handled by a qualified individual or company not associated with the department, for all volunteer fire and life squad members that would include the topics of: professional conduct in the workplace, harassment and discrimination in the workplace and other topics of this nature. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Other Business:

Mr. Darbyshire made the following motions:

- 1) "I so move that the Twin Township Board of Trustees, after having a complaint filed and an investigation ensue, and offered the opportunity for the Fire Chief to come before the Board concerning the allegations, issue a written reprimand to Bill Ford, III, former Fire Chief. Said reprimand is for the violation of policy, more specifically that he was in violation of conduct un-becoming of a member as set forth in the department's Standard Operating Guidelines, Section VII class 2 #12. A copy of said reprimand will be sent to him by regular mail and a copy of the discipline be placed in his personnel file. If no other discipline is issued within a 2 year period, the discipline will be removed from his personnel file".
There was no second to the motion. Motion died for lack of a second.
- 2) "I so move that the Twin Township Board of Trustees notify the complainant by US mail of the Board's decision concerning the complaint. Basically informing the complainant that the majority of the Board simply does not find sufficient evidence to support any disciplinary action."
There was no second to the motion. Motion died for lack of a second.

The Fiscal Officer presented A Work Experience Program (WEP) Agreement between Twin Township and South Central Ohio Job and Family Services to the Board for consideration. **Motion** to accept from Mr. Bethel and seconded by Mr. Whitt. All voted yes. Motion passed.

The Fiscal Officer reported that a tree in the cemetery has grown to the point where it is covering up a military marker of a veteran buried in the cemetery. **Motion** made by Mr. Whitt and seconded by Mr. Bethel to inform Township employee Chad Miller to have the tree removed.

Mr. Darbyshire reported he had received a call from Ross County Engineer Charles Ortman. Mr. Ortman has prepared a plan to help stabilize Poplar Ridge Road and has asked if the Trustees are willing to apply the funds received in the next round of the Community Development Block Grant toward this project. The Trustees were all in agreement with the proposal from the Ross County Engineer.

Mr. Darbyshire told the Board that the leaf blower used in the township cemetery is not powerful enough to be used to "blow out" pot holes on township roads prior to patching them.
Motion by Mr. Darbyshire and second by Mr. Whitt to purchase a blower for this purpose. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Bethel moved to approve a motion written by Mr. Darbyshire but not yet introduced, specifically: "I so move that the Twin Township Board of Trustees issue a letter and send by U.S. mail to the complainant. The letter will explain that the Twin Township Board has issued discipline concerning the complaint that was filed. The Board's goal is to bring this matter to a conclusion." Motion seconded by Mr. Darbyshire.

During discussion, Mr. Bethel said he would prefer that instead of using the word "discipline", use the word "findings". After discussion, motion made by Mr. Darbyshire and seconded by Mr. Whitt to table the motion. All voted yes. Motion to table passed.

Trustee President Mike Whitt asked those guests present if any wished to address the Board of Trustees.

Nick Mendenhall addressed the Board. He said he was concerned about how guests who were present acted at the Special Board of Trustees meeting held Thursday, March 22, 2018. He asked for a copy of the official minutes of the meeting be sent to him. The Fiscal Officer replied that the minutes would be considered for approval by the Board at the next regular Board meeting, and Mr. Mendenhall would have a copy mailed to him after they are approved by leaving his mailing address with the Fiscal Officer.

Mike Norman, Twin Township Squad Captain, addressed the Board. He is requesting a re-instatement of the "pay per run" policy for squad runs, at the same rates as listed in the department's Standard Operating Guidelines, with one exception: if a member is listed on the run schedule, he or she would receive an extra \$10.00 for that run. He

said this would encourage the members to be on the run schedule, which would make emergency response more efficient. He also requested the "pay per run" policy be re-instated retroactively to January 1, 2017.

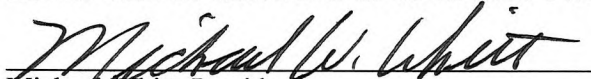
Motion by Mr. Whitt and second by Mr. Bethel to create a committee to determine the feasibility of re-establishing the "pay-per-run" policy. Members of the committee will be: Fire Chief, Squad Captain, Fire Captain, Fiscal Officer, and Mike Darbyshire representing the Trustees. The committee is to report their findings back to the Trustees at a future meeting.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

Before closing the meeting, Board President Mike Whitt thanked all guests for coming.

With no other business to come before the Trustees, motion made by Mr. Bethel and seconded by Mr. Whitt to adjourn at 7:37p.m. All voted yes. Motion passed.


APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 03-26-2018 TWIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES MEETING:



Michael Whitt, President



Michael Darbyshire, Vice-President



Bryan Bethel, Trustee

