

Minutes

February 13, 2024

1. Opening of Meeting

Ms Ulrich called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

All trustees and the fiscal officer were present.

2. Executive Session 6PM

Mr Weckbach recommended the board of trustees go into executive session in accordance with ORC section 121.22 (G)(3) to discuss pending or eminent litigation and also in accordance with ORC section 121.22 (G)(8) to consider confidential information relating to specific business strategy and to discuss negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

Vote - Ms Ulrich - Yes, Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Executive session convened at 6:02pm.

Ms Ulrich called the meeting back to order at 7:00pm.

All trustees and the fiscal officer were present.

Mr Weckbach had nothing to report from executive session.

3. Pledge of Allegiance 7PM

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Meditation (Moment of Silence)

5. Approval of Minutes

Mr Baker recommended a motion for the approval of the minutes from the board of trustees meeting on 1-23-24

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

All voted Yes. Minutes approved.

6. Presentations

- a. Presentation by Chief Walls Introducing and Swearing-in a Newly Promoted Employee

Chief Walls introduced and administered the Oath-of-Office to the department's newest Career Firefighter:

- Patrick Murray



b. Retirement Proclamation – Firefighter/EMT Steve Lawson
Chief Walls recognized retired Firefighter/EMT Steve Lawson for 31.5 years of service to the community.

Mr Unger read the proclamation into the record.

Motion to approve proclamation Mr Unger, Seconded Ms Ulrich
All voted Yes. Proclamation approved.

c. Proclamation - Elder Stephen F. Brown for Years of Service to Abundant Life Ministries
Abundant Life Faith Fellowship is located at 2740 Hyannis Dr and has served residents of Colerain for over 40 years, with Elder Stephen Brown serving as their pastor.

Ms Ulrich read the proclamation into the record.
Motion to approve proclamation Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert
All voted Yes. Proclamation approved.

7. **Citizens Address**

Ned Heeger-Brehm - Thanked Colerain Township for making the Groesbeck Branch Library the busiest library in the region.

8. **Administrative Reports**

Fire Chief Walls - For the month of January we had 868 EMS incidents, 184 fire incidents. We made 42 responses into the Springfield Township /Pleasant Run EMS contract area. There was a significant building fire at the 2300 block of Galbraith Rd. with a \$150,000 loss. Average response time for the arrival of the first unit was 5:06.

Police Chief Cordie - For the month of January we responded to 3818 calls for service, 123 calls per day, which is over last year in January. We conducted 364 traffic stops, handled 117 crash reports, made 8 OVI arrests. In general, we made 90 arrests. We had 4 uses of force, no vehicle pursuits and 1 internal investigation.

Assistant Administrator Mays - For January, we had 16426 park visitors with Heritage Park being the busiest. These are only calculated by vehicles. Bags of litter was 58 for the month.

Development Director Miller - Zoning certificates were 37 for January. 2 BZA cases and none in zoning commission. Applications were 18 for January. We also had 3 new homes.

Administrator Weckbach - Update on overall township business.

9. **Trustees' Report**

Ms Ullrich - Happy Valentines. Keep up the positive vibes. She thanked Ned from the



Library for coming out.

Mr Wahlert - Thank you to the staff at Colerain Township. Also thank you tot he volunteers.

Mr Unger - He spoke about the cost of electric and gas. He also spoke about the amount of time it takes for Nuisances and abatements. He talked about 9854 Lorilinda being up for sale with he Sheriffs Department.

10. New Business

Public Safety

a. Motor Vehicle Crash Billing Update

Fire & EMS Chief Allen Walls provided an update on the potential for motor vehicle crash billing.

Discussion:

Mr Weckbach - The next steps would bring a contract forward that would have rates set.

Mr Unger - My inclination would be to bill non-residents. I don't want to bill residents.

Chief Walls - That's my inclination too.

Ms Ulrich - Who is responsible for debris after an accident?

Chief Walls - Typically we could bill, but generally speaking when it comes to debris, that's going to be the towing and vehicle operator.

Mr Wahlert - I agree with the non resident assessment. Since we have an interstate, what about chickens or something.

Chief Walls - Something that we do already is hazardous materials. We already bill for that.

b. Resolution Declaring Nuisance and Ordering Abatement

Chief Cordie recommended ADOPTION of Resolution #15-24.

Rationale: This resolution allows for the removal of uncontrolled vegetation and/or refuse at the following properties:

8439 Colerain Ave 510-0090-0018-00

9690 Colerain Ave 510-0103-0117-00

2782 Hazelton Ct 510-0041-0303-00

2955 Jackfrost Way 510-0042-0258-00

10266 Pottinger Rd 510-0113-0211-00

3323 West Galbraith Rd 510-0083-0135-00



All properties that are abated by the Township will have their property taxes assessed in order to reimburse the Township for the abatement services. This resolution and the Township's abatement process comport with the Ohio Revised Code for nuisance violations.

Motion Mr Wahlert, Seconded Ms Ulrich

No discussion:

Vote - Ms Ulrich - Yes, Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Resolution passed

c. Resolution Declaring a Junk Motor Vehicle - 2415 Lynnfork Ave. - 1 of 3

Chief Cordie recommended ADOPTION of Resolution #16-24.

Rationale: Recommend Adoption of the Motion to Declare and Order Abatement of the Junk Motor Vehicle at the Following Property: 2415 LYNNFORK AVE.

Cincinnati, OH 45231 1. (NO PLATE), 2017, WHITE, VOLVO, S60.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

No discussion:

Vote - Ms Ulrich - Yes, Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Resolution passed

d. Resolution Declaring a Junk Motor Vehicle - 2786 Rumford Ct. - 2 of 3

Chief Cordie recommended ADOPTION of Resolution #17-24.

Rationale: Recommend Adoption of the Motion to Declare and Order Abatement of the Junk Motor Vehicle at the Following Property: 2786 RUMFORD CT. Cincinnati,

OH 45251 1. (OH) HHZ6147, 2007, ORANGE, FORD, EDGE.

Motion Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Unger

No discussion:

Vote - Ms Ulrich - Yes, Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Resolution passed

e. Resolution Declaring a Junk Motor Vehicle - 9661 Weik Rd. - 3 of 3

Chief Cordie recommended ADOPTION of Resolution #18-24.

Rationale: Recommend Adoption of the Motion to Declare and Order Abatement of the Junk Motor Vehicle at the Following Property: 9661 WEIK RD. Cincinnati, OH

45252 1. (OH) Q908071, 2004, BLACK, HUMMER, H2.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Ms Ulrich

No discussion:

Vote - Ms Ulrich - Yes, Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Resolution passed

Public Services

a. Motion Authorizing the Township Administrator to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with AFSCME Labor Union

Ms Mays recommended ADOPTION of the Motion.

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Rationale: This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) updates the original language regarding Article 21 - Longevity to better define the eligibility requirements for staff to receive longevity pay. As it stands without the MOU, the language is broad and does not address specific requirements which has created confusion for staff.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

No discussion

All voted Yes. Motion approved

Development

- Resolution to Extend Moratorium on New Establishments That Primarily Sell Or
- a. Distribute Electronic Smoking Devices And/Or Vapor Products Within Colerain Township by One-Year

Mr Miller recommended ADOPTION of Resolution #19-24.

Rationale: The Township adopted a resolution placing a moratorium on establishments that sell vaping products in 2022. That one-year moratorium was subsequently extended in 2023, with the anticipation that full language would be included with the update to the zoning code that is currently in draft form. This additional one year extension should permit the Township to include finalized language in the new code that is anticipated to be adopted in 2024.

Motion Mr Wahlert, Seconded Ms Ulrich

Discussion:

Mr Unger - As I've done in the past, those products are available at UDF and other locations. I think the products are horrible, but the other big chain stores are allowed to sell these things.

Mr Wahlert - I just think, when you have a lot of these establishments, it's just unwanted.

Vote - Ms Ulrich - Yes, Mr Unger - No, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Resolution passed.

- b. Resolution Requesting Zoning Commission to develop Amendment to Colerain Township Zoning Resolution, Article 7.4.13, Group Homes for Children

Mr Miller recommended ADOPTION of Resolution #20-24.

Rationale: Colerain Township Development staff have had a significant increase in applications for Group Homes for Children, Adult Family Homes, and Adult Group Homes since November, 2023. There have been numerous complaints at these homes, including kidnapping, drug usage, and a blatant disregard for child welfare, which has also resulted in a significant increase in calls for service from the Colerain Township Police Department. The Board of Trustees is requesting that the Zoning Commission and the Development Department staff prepare zoning text amendments to the Zoning Resolution to properly address these issues, including regulations for Group Homes for Children, Adult Family Homes, and Adult Group Homes. Such changes would be in

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the best interest of the Township and the health, safety, morals and welfare of the public and would be consistent with the Colerain Township Comprehensive Plan previously adopted by the Township.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

Discussion:

Ms Ulrich - Can we approximate how many calls from EMS services we had?

Mr Weckbach - So it varies by the group home. There are some that we've seen large amounts of calls.

Ms Ulrich - This is a very profitable business. They get how much per day?

Mr Weckbach - Depending on the number of kids, but some kids, you could get up to \$1000 per day.

Mr Wahlert - I don't have a problem with profit, but you have to bring results.

Unger - The bottom line on this, is these are juveniles and they're going to age out.

These places are not doing what's needed.

Vote - Ms Ulrich - Yes, Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Resolution passed

Administration

- a. Motion Authorizing Township Administrator to Execute a Grant Agreement with SORTA for Joseph Sidewalk Project

Ms Mays recommended ADOPTION of the Motion.

Rationale: The Township was notified that the grant request from SORTA to install a new sidewalk on Joseph Road between Colerain Avenue and Compton Road was approved. Attached is the draft agreement from SORTA. The Township will be awarded \$173,250 (50%) for construction of the sidewalk and the total project is estimated to cost \$346,500.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

No discussion:

All voted Yes. Motion approved

11. Old Business

- a. Resolution Modifying Resolution 109-22 Regulating Nuisance Properties

Chief Cordie recommended ADOPTION of Resolution #21-24.

Rationale: This resolution had its first reading at the January 23, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting. For background, in 2022, the Township adopted Resolution 109-22 that regulated nuisance properties. The full resolution can be found here for reference: <https://www.colerain.org/DocumentCenter/View/3856/RES-109-22---Resolution-forNuisance-Properties>.

After having this resolution in effect for a one-year period, staff has evaluated and is



recommending a change to the original version to include the following additional offense categories:

- Missing persons, runaway persons, AWOL person

Police and EMS responses to the above listed incidents create a significant strain on resources and decrease our ability to provide effect response to the remainder of the community.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

No discussion:

Vote - Ms Ulrich - Yes, Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Resolution passed

12. Consent Items

- a. New Hire - Management Analyst - Administration - Christiana Cabrera - \$26/hour

The full-time position of Management Analyst was posted, applications were received and interviews conducted. A conditional offer of employment was extended to the following individual:

Christiana Cabrera.

The wage for this position is \$26 per hour for up to 40 hours per week. Contingent upon Board approval, they would be eligible to begin work on or near February 28, 2024.

- b. New Hire - Bus Driver - Public Services - Thomas Botkin - \$17.31/hour

The position of Bus Driver was posted, applications were received and interviews conducted. A conditional offer of employment was extended to the following individual:

Thomas Botkin.

The wage for this job is \$17.31 per hour for up to 30 hours per week. Contingent upon Board approval, he would be eligible to begin work on February 14, 2024.

- c. Promotion - Full-time Firefighter/EMT - Department of Fire and EMS - Cody Wright - \$22.43 per Hour

The position of Firefighter/Paramedic was posted, applications were received, and interviews were conducted. A conditional offer of employment has been extended to the following individual:

- Cody Wright

The wage for this job is \$22.43 per hour for 52 hours per week. Contingent upon Board approval, he would be eligible to begin work on February 18, 2024.

- d. Contract - Strkyer - Equipment Maintenance - \$8,540 - Expires 2028

The attached agreement with Strkyer will provide maintenance for needed EMS equipment through 2028 at a total cost of \$8,540.

- e. Contract - Buckeye Power - Generator Maintenance - \$4,925

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The attached contract will provide for generator maintenance at Station 109 for three years at a cost of \$4,925.

f. Contract - Deer Park - Station 25 Roof Repairs - \$900

This contract with Deer Park is for roof repairs at Station 25 for a total of \$900.

g. Contract - Deer Park - 4160 Roof Repairs - \$2,678

The attached agreement is for \$2,678 to make repairs on the roof at 4160 Springdale Road with Deer Park.

h. Contract - Hamilton County Land Reutilization Corporation - Fire Training at Sears - \$0

The attached agreement with the Hamilton County Land Reutilization Corporation allows our Fire & EMS staff to conduct tactical medic training inside of the former Sears store.

i. Contract - Winelco - Septic System Maintenance - \$300 - 1 Year Term

The attached contract provides the required maintenance on the septic system at the Fire Training Center. This is a requirement of Public Health while we own the building. This contract is for one year and costs a total of \$300.

Motion to approve all consent items Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

No discussion:

All voted Yes. All consent items approved.

13. Fiscal Office Report

An update on public records requests. As of February 13th, we have received 62 records requests. The financials for January cannot be completed until the year end financials are completed and that should be done soon.

14. Executive Session – if needed

Not needed.

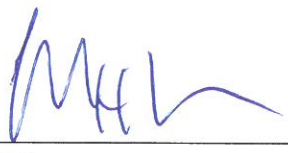
15. Adjournment

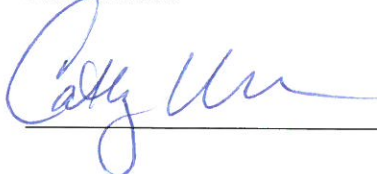
Motion to adjourn Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Unger

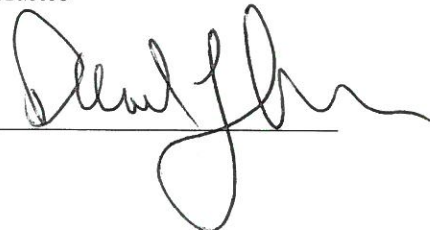
All voted Yes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm



Fiscal Officer

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

**PROCLAMATION FOR
FIREFIGHTER/EMT STEVE LAWSON
FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE
TO COLERAIN TOWNSHIP, OHIO**

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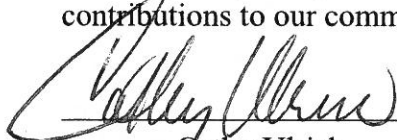
Whereas Firefighter/EMT Steve Lawson was hired on June 9th of 1992, as an employee of the Colerain Township Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services; and

Whereas Firefighter/EMT Steve Lawson has demonstrated professionalism, allegiance, service, commitment, and excellence through his contributions as a firefighter, emergency medical technician, lieutenant, captain, leader, mentor, colleague, and friend during his tenure with the Department; and

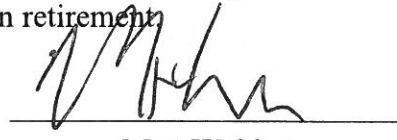
Whereas Firefighter/EMT Steve Lawson retired on December 24th of 2023, after 31.5 years of commendable dedication to providing fire protection, emergency medical, and community risk reduction services to the Colerain Township community.

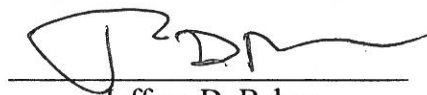
Therefore, be it resolved, that the Colerain Township Board of Trustees recognizes Firefighter/EMT Steve Lawson as an outstanding employee and that he contributed greatly to our community during his long public service tenure.

Be it further resolved that in recognition of all that Firefighter/EMT Steve Lawson has done for Colerain Township, the Colerain Township Board of Trustees hereby proclaim Tuesday, February 13th, 2024, as a special day of recognition for Steve Lawson to acknowledge his contributions to our community and wish him continued success in retirement.


Cathy Ulrich
Trustee


Daniel Unger
Trustee


Matt Wahlert
Trustee


Jeffrey D. Baker
Fiscal Officer

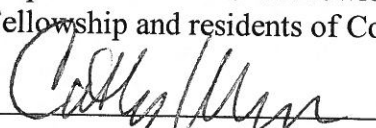
Date: February 13th, 2024

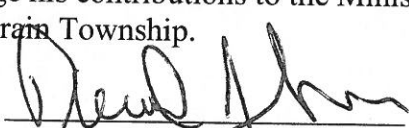
PROCLAMATION FOR
ELDER STEPHEN F. BROWN
MINISTRY OF ABUNDANT LIFE FAITH FELLOWSHIP
FOR 43 YEARS OF SERVICE
IN COLERAIN TOWNSHIP, OHIO

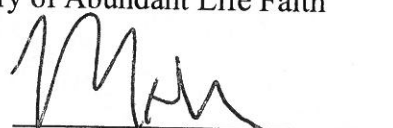
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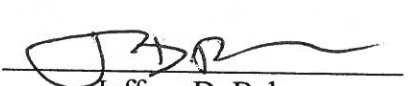
- Whereas** Elder Stephen F. Brown founded the Ministry of Abundant Life Faith Fellowship on April 26, 1981 and has faithfully devoted his prayers, time and leadership to serve as Senior Pastor and Elder for 43 years; and
- Whereas** Elder Stephen F. Brown has worked in Colerain Township for 43 years and has been an upright and contributing citizen to his community; and
- Whereas** Elder Stephen F. Brown has served his family well as a husband to his wife of 54 years, and as father to four children and grandfather to 19 grandchildren; and
- Whereas** Elder Stephen F. Brown has labored faithfully to lead and teach his community.

Be it resolved that in recognition of Elder Stephen F. Brown, the Colerain Township Board of Trustees hereby proclaim Friday, April 26, 2024, as a special day of recognition for Elder Stephen F. Brown to acknowledge his contributions to the Ministry of Abundant Life Faith Fellowship and residents of Colerain Township.


Cathy Ulrich
Trustee


Daniel Unger
Trustee


Matt Wahlert
Trustee


Jeffrey D. Baker
Fiscal Officer

Date: February 13, 2024