

Minutes

June 22, 2021

1. **Opening of Meeting**

Mr Rajagopal called the meeting to order at 7:03pm
All Trustees and Fiscal Officer were present.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Meditation (Moment of Silence)**

4. **Fiscal Office – Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes from the June 8, 2021 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.
Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Rajagopal.
All voted Yes. Minutes approved.

5. **Presentations**

a. **Presentation of Medal of Valor Award**

Colerain Police Officer Zach Elston Awarded for Bravery stemming from line of duty shooting on November 30, 2020.

Chief Denney presented the Medal of Valor Award to Police Officer Zach Elston.
Chief Denney made comments about Police Officer Zach Elston.

Mr Rajagopal - This is a very proud moment in Colerain Township. You sacrificed your life in a split second to protect other officers. That is a remarkable thing you did sir. And you make us proud.

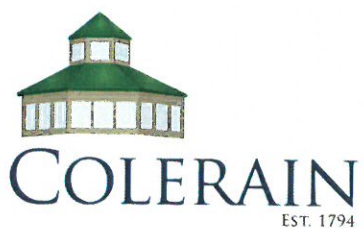
Mr Unger - I called you the next morning and I knew you were ok, but I asked how your wife was. How is she?

Officer Elston - She's good, she's here.

Mr Wahlert - I'd just like to echo that. I think I called a couple days later. I asked about your wife too. Usually I'm not at a loss for words but I remember before I made the call I thought, What do I say to this man that I've never met that did such a heroic thing? It's so illustrative of the entire force. I'm so appreciative. Thank you.

b. **Presentation of Retirement Proclamation to Firefighter/EMT Shannon Hayden**
Recognize retired Firefighter/EMT Shannon Hayden for 31 years of service to the community.

Proclamation available in agenda packet on line.



Chief Walls made comments about the dedicated career of Firefighter/EMT Shannon Hayden.

Mr Unger read the Proclamation into record.

Motion to approve Proclamation Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert

Discussion:

Mr Unger - You've worked for 10 to 12 trustees, 2 fiscal officers and a clerk and a number of administrative personnel and that is an accomplishment in itself

Mr Rajagopal - You've helped build the finest department in the country. Also thanks to your family for their support.

Mr Wahlert - Thank you seems inadequate. The past several weeks seeing the people that have spent their lives helping people makes me want to be a better person.

All voted Yes. Proclamation Approved.

Chief Walls presented Firefighter/EMT Shannon Hayden with a plaque.

Firefighter/EMT Shannon Hayden made comments about his 31 year career.

6. Public Hearings

a. 2022 Tax Budget

Projected fund detail for tax budget available in agenda packet on line.

Mr McElravy gave an overview of the 2022 tax budget.

Motion to open Public Hearing Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Rajagopal.

All voted Yes.

No one requested to speak.

Discussion:

Mr Wahlert - I would like to make one comment for people watching. These numbers are just placeholders and they can change.

Motion to close hearing Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Unger

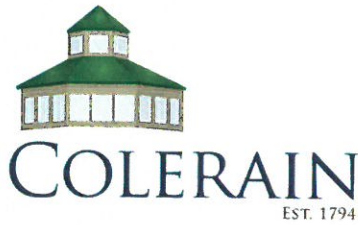
All voted Yes. Public Hearing closed

7. Citizens Address

Shelly Bouldin - I'm here to find out information about obtaining a property

Mr Rajagopal - We will address that in administrative reports.

Bernie Fiedeldej - talked about a letter he received from the Ohio Dept of Health dated March 2nd. Says for 2 months the Board didn't have to keep residents from the board meetings. Talked about a situation he had with trash and furniture being dumped on East



Miami River Rd. No one did anything about it other than Trustee Rajagopal. He said the trash was picked up today. He says it's a problem that nobody called to report it. Regarding building a fire station, he doesn't agree with the approach the township is taking. He said a new fire station isn't urgent enough to build it with the expense incurred now.

Kathy Mohr - Said she requested invoices regarding Muni-Reg and was told we don't have records responsive for that. She asked who wanted to change the vacation policy for military employees. She mentioned an employee that is receiving 4 weeks of vacation after returning from retirement. Regarding the parcels on the agenda. Are we going to give them to the port authority. She talked about the invoices for Plattenburg for accounting services.

James Wells - Looking for advice as to how to handle the group home for addicted minors coming into their neighborhood.

Discussion:

Mr Rakagopal - It was brought to our attention the last meeting and we are looking to our options.

Mr Unger - It sounds like you've done the homework and I'm interested in seeing what you came up with. I would ask if we could have our law director talk to them.

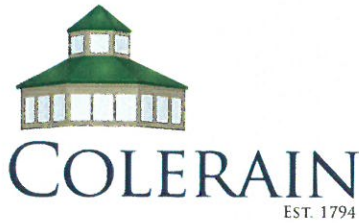
8. **Administrative Reports**

Mr Milz - Mentioned to Ms Bouldin that the board of trustees will be taking action on the property she mentioned tonight. Regarding the Muni-Reg invoices. We haven't received invoices from Muni-Reg so we can't provide them. Partnering with Plattenburg allows us to not have to hire a full time accountant which saves the township a lot of money. He talked about the Colerain Chamber of Commerce and the Home Town Hero's event they had last week. In particular the acknowledgement of Nora Dashley.

Jackie O'Connell - Reminded everyone of the Fireworks on July 3rd. Talked about the neighborhood parks. The little library at Clippard Park has already given out 1000 books this year.

9. **Trustees' Report**

Mr Unger - responding to Mr Feideldey - He talked about the the pick up truck donated to the township for litter pick up and said to call the township when items are dumped and it will get picked up. He mentioned that a licensed CPA is good to have at the township's disposal. Said the reason we don't have invoices from Muni-Reg is because we haven't



received any. Mentioned the long running issue that Ms Mohr has with the former employee that was retired and then rehired. I'm excited about the Fireworks on the 3rd and mentioned the shuttles that are available from Colerain Middle School and Northgate Mall.

Mr Wahlert - Muni-Reg works on a cut of what they collect. The attractive thing for them is that if they do nothing and drop the ball, we won't owe them anything. Talked about the discussion about former military employees and trying to attract them here and that is the reason he supported the vacation policy. Talked about the direction the township is going in regarding a new fire station. He mentioned the Saturday Northbrook clean up day. He spoke about the issue with traffic and buses with Chief Denney.

Motioned that Colerain Township purchase/rent 3 temporary speed devices, Seconded Mr Unger

Discussion:

Mr Unger - He said there are companies that rent/lease them. Asked Mr Milz to look into the availability with those devices.

All voted Yes. Motion approved.

Mr Rajagopal - He talked about everyone following the the strategic plan, including the Chamber of Commerce, and other businesses that are partnering with Colerain Township. He mentioned we've already seen a lot of results.

10. New Business

Public Safety

a. Motion to Issue Noise Resolution Permit

Chief Denney recommends ADOPTION of the Resolution.

Rationale: Home Depot has requested permission to operate outside the resolution hours on June 30, July 1 and July 2, 2021.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Rajagopal

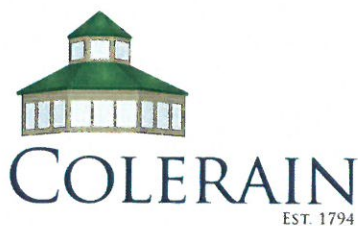
No Discussion.

All voted Yes - Noise Permit approved.

Noise permit available in agenda packet on line.

Public Services

a. Motion to Authorize Township Administrator to Execute Agreement with



Strawser Construction for 2021 Cape Sealing

Ms O'Connell recommends ADOPTION of the Motion.

Rationale: As part of this year's road program, the Colerain Township Board of Trustees approved a resolution to opt in to the ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Program, where they were able to receive state pricing on cape sealing under ODOT Contract 101G. This process guarantees the same pricing the State of Ohio receives for the same service/product. This year's cape sealing low-bid for the State was Strawser Construction. Several streets within the Township are proposed to be cape sealed in 2021, subsequently prolonging their lifespan. These streets are:

- ☐ Bentbrook Dr
- ☐ Whitley Ct
- ☐ Willowridge Dr
- ☐ Voyager Way
- ☐ Wetherly Ct
- ☐ Peeblecreek Ln
- ☐ Pebbleknoll Dr
- ☐ Dennler Ln
- ☐ Castlestone Ln
- ☐ Philnol Dr
- ☐ Indianwoods Dr

Proposal available in agenda packet on line.

Motion Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Unger

Discussion:

Mr Unger - The weather is good so hopefully they'll be able to get in here and get it done soon.

Ms O'Connell - They did a great job for us. We're very happy with their service.

All voted Yes. Motion approved

- Motion to Authorize the Township Administrator to Execute an Agreement
- b. with the Hamilton County Engineers for the Installation of a Flashing Pedestrian Sign at Kemper and Wincanton.

Ms O'Connell recommends ADOPTION of the Motion.

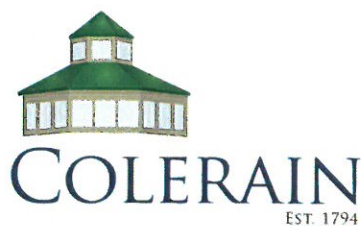
Rationale: This is the second of two agreements necessary to install a flashing pedestrian signal at the intersection of Wincanton and Kemper. This agreement is with the Hamilton County Engineers Office. The first agreement was with NWLSD who will pay for the construction of the project. The Township will assume maintenance of the project after the 1-year warrantee period.

Agreement available in agenda packet on line.

Motion Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Unger

Discussion:

Mr Unger - To me this is another example of the great relationship with the



Northwest School District.
All voted Yes. Motion approved

- c. Resolution to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the Transit Infrastructure Fund Program and to Execute Contracts as Required

Ms O'Connell recommends ADOPTION of Resolution #42-21.

Rationale: Effective January 2021, the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) is funded by a 0.8 percent county sales tax for the next 25 years. Twenty-five percent of the sales tax levy (0.2 percent) has been allocated toward infrastructure improvements within Metro's service area. Colerain Township is preparing an application to improve bus stops along Colerain Avenue by constructing bus bays, per the Colerain Corridor Plan. The construction of the bays will alleviate traffic, reduce accidents, improve the ridership experience and improve both transit and vehicle traffic along Colerain Avenue.

Motion Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Rajagopal

Discussion:

Mr Unger - When issue 7 passed last year, part of the money was supposed to go towards these types of projects. I wondered how long it would take for a city councilman to see the difference in the earnings tax. I see Councilman Seelbach has already come out and wants part of that back.

Mr Rajagopal - It's a great thing for Colerain Township. They're also doing the landscaping and other things.

Mr Wahlert - I think this is important too. Efficiency within the routes are important.

Vote - Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Rajagopal - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

Resolution passes

Development

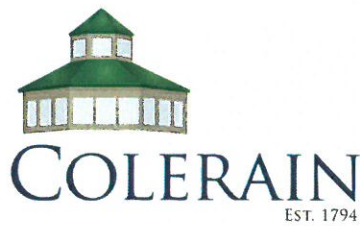
- a. Discussion of the Disposition of Parcels 0510-0051-0220 and 0510-0062-0098
Staff seeks direction on whether the Township should try to dispose of the above referenced parcels and, if so, how they would like to dispose of the properties.

Discussion -

Mr Unger - Occasionally properties go into default. I did drive by and look at it. We are maintaining it well.

Mr Rajagopal - I think we need to get rid of the property. It's been a burden on the township.

Mr Wahlert - I don't think the government should be in the business of owning



properties. Now couldn't be a better time to sell them.

Mr Milz - One option is to transfer it to the CIC and they could do an RFP and have realtors compete. Another path is the side yard program. A third would be an auction to the highest bidder. I think the course of action is to transfer it to the CIC.

Mr Rajagopal - Will the proceeds go to the general fund?

Mr Milz - I'll look into that and put a timeline together.

Motion to amend agenda to add a resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement.

Motion to Amend Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Wahlert, All voted yes. Agenda amended

b. Resolution Declaring Nuisance and Ordering Abatement

Mr Milz recommends ADOPTION of Resolution #43-21

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

2910 Banning 510-0074-0019-00

2622 Barthas 510-0061-0354-00

3443 Coleen 510-0102-0157-00

2909 Greenbrook 510-0024-0216-00

10262 Menominee 510-0042-0233-00

9192 Neil 510-0053-0273-00

2937 Overdale 510-0024-0232-00

11252 Pippin 510-0022-0012-00

2613 Tampico 510-0051-0481-00

2810 Wilson 510-0034-0151-00

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 is the township's abatement process comport with the Ohio Revised Code for nuisance violations.

Motion Mr Unger, Seconded Mr Rajagopal

No Discussion

Vote - Mr Unger - Yes, Mr Rajagopal - Yes, Mr Wahlert - Yes

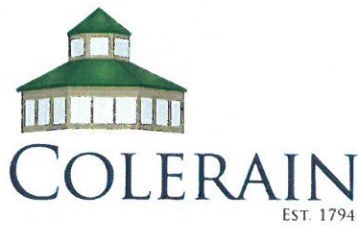
Resolution Passes.

Administration

a. Motion to Approve 2022 Tax Budget

Mr Milz recommends ADOPTION of the Motion.

Rationale: This annual process is the first step in the creation of the 2022 Budget. The



tax budget informs the County Auditor to collect the Township's taxes for the following year. This must be completed and turned in to the Auditor by mid-July. The tax budget is built based off of the five year forecast that is included in the budget book. Slight variations may occur that reflect changes made during the creation of the 2021 final budget. The tax budget serves as the baseline for the development of the 2022 Budget. Each line item will be reviewed for modifications prior to temporary appropriations. As a next step in the budget process, it would be helpful for the Board to consider creating a formal Budget Policy Prioritization Document and set goals for the 2022 Strategic Plan at a future Work Session. the 2022 Tax Budget is recommended in the attached schedule in the amount of \$35,990,127.33.

2022 Tax Budget available in agenda packet on line.

Motion Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Unger

Discussion:

Mr Unger - This is available. It's in our agenda.

All voted Yes. Motion approved.

11. Old Business

12. Consent Items

a. Promotion - Assistant Chief - Department of Fire & EMS

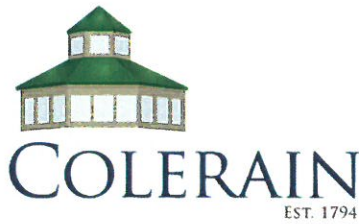
Mr Milz recommends ADOPTION of the Motion

Rationale: The recommendation to promote Battalion Chief Greg Brown to Assistant Fire Chief of the department's Operations Bureau is to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Assistant Chief Grant Burns. Battalion Chief Greg Brown was the successful candidate following an internal and competitive process. Contingent upon the adoption of the motion to promote Battalion Chief Greg Brown, he would assume the role of assistant fire chief at an annual salary of \$98,321.60 (\$47.27 hourly) effective June 27, 2021. He will be exempt from FLSA.

Employee status change available in agenda packet on line.

b. New Hire - Police Officer - Police Department

The position of Police Officer was posted, applications were received and interviews conducted. A conditional offer of employment was extended to the following individual: Andrew Mirizzi. The wage for this job is \$27.88 per hour for 40 hours per week. Contingent upon Board approval, he would be eligible to begin work on June 23, 2021.



New hire authorization available in agenda packet on line.

c. New Hire - Records Clerk - Police Department

The position of Records Clerk was posted, applications were received and interviews conducted. A conditional offer of employment was extended to the following individual: Logan Rodenbeck. The wage for this job is \$15.00 per hour for 40 hours per week. Contingent upon Board approval, he would be eligible to begin work on June 23, 2021.

New hire authorization available in agenda packet on line.

d. New Hire - Firefighter/Paramedic - Department of Fire & EMS

The position of firefighter/paramedic was posted, applications were received and interviews conducted. A conditional offer of employment was extended to the following individual: Gretchen Santiago. The wage for this job is \$48,926.00 annually per the IAFF local 3915 bargaining agreement. Contingent upon Board approval, Gretchen would be eligible to begin work on July 12th, 2021.

Employee status change available in agenda packet on line.

e. New Hire - Seasonal Camp Counselor - Pubic Service - Parks

The position of Seasonal Camp Counselor was posted, applications were received and interviews conducted. A conditional offer of employment was extended to the following individual: Aidan Sherer. The wage for this job is \$9.50 per hour for 30 hours per week through the season. Contingent upon Board approval, he would be eligible to begin work on June 23, 2021.

New hire authorization available in agenda packet on line.

f. Contract - WEX - HSA

This contract with WEX will provide an additional, optional benefit to our employees. Currently, employees are not able to invest their HSA dollars and they are limited to depositing their HSA dollars with Northside Bank. This contract allows employees to have the option of using Northside Bank or WEX. If the employee chooses WEX, they will then be able to directly investment their idle HSA dollars in a variety of mutual funds.

Administrative services application available in agenda packet on line.

Mr Milz recommends approval of all consent items.

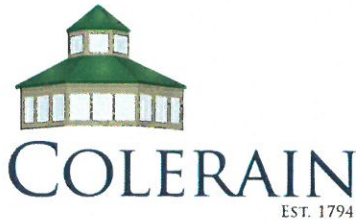
Motion to approve all consent items Mr Rajagopal, Seconded Mr Unger

Discussion:

Mr Wahlert - The start dates for Ms Santiago don't match.

Mr Milz - It's set up to align with the pay period.

All Voted Yes. All consent items approved



13. **Fiscal Office Report**

Mentioned the Fallen Firefighters Golf Outing I attended put on with help of Colerain Firefighter Chris Ruwe with proceeds going to the families of fallen firefighters. Thanked Firefighter Ruwe for the great work the organization does.
We've closed 145 public records requests so far this year. We have received 34 requests alone in June. 29 of those were from two individuals Green Township has received 6 total for entire year so far as a comparison.

14. **Executive Session – if needed**

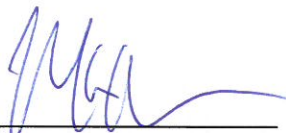
Not needed

15. **Adjournment**

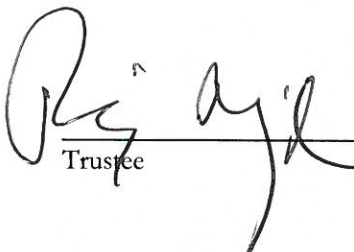
Motion to adjourn Mr Wahlert, Seconded Mr Rajagopal
All voted yes
Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm



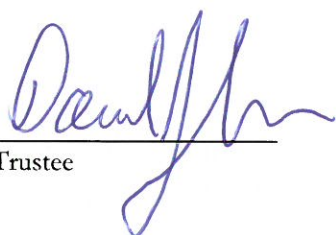
Fiscal Officer



Trustee



Trustee



Trustee