

Brown Township of Morgan County
Township Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 9, 2015

In Attendance: Howard Pritchard, Jim Van Hoy, Chris Hester, Trustee Mark D. Harris, Fire Chief Rex Morley, Asst. Fire Chief Jeff Stout, Bob Purlee, Amy Hillenburg, Alan Trauner, Robbie Sparks, Ryan Tibben, David Gilkerson, and Vicki Nowak.

Howard Pritchard called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes from the May 26, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Jim Van Hoy made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Chris Hester seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business.

- A. None.

New Business.

- A. Trustee Mark D. Harris informed the Board that due to several promotions and the addition of 3 new employees; the 2015 Salary Resolution required a revision. Trustee Harris also informed the Board of a title change to EMS Division Chief for Steve Brock and Lieutenant Jacob Harshey to Training Officer which carries a \$500 salary increase. Board Chairman Howard Pritchard presented a proposal where the Board would get a salary increase for 2016. Howard Pritchard stated that due to neighboring townships board pay, 2.1% rate of inflation over the past 7 years, and taxes being taken out of quarterly board member pay, a salary increase of no more than \$1000 a year, which would be \$3000 annual pay, would be negotiable. After much discussion, Chris Hester and Jim Van Hoy strongly opposed the proposal presented by Howard Pritchard; Trustee Harris informed the Board that cuts were made in the 2016 budget to the Fire Fund by \$78,885 and \$105,000 to the EMS fund which represents no pay increase to any employee at the Township. Trustee Harris stated how it would be unfair to approve a salary increase for the Board when the Township employees will not be receiving one. Chris Hester made a motion to approve the Amended 2015 Salary Resolution as presented. Jim Van Hoy seconded. Howard Pritchard opposed. The motion was carried.
- B. The public hearing for the 2016 Budget was held. Trustee Mark D. Harris informed the Board that budget cuts were required to the Fire Fund by \$78,885 and \$105,000 to the EMS Fund; the same cuts will be taken for the existing 2015 budget. Township Accountant Bob Purlee addressed the Board to explain the reasoning behind the required cuts. Bob Purlee explained that our outgoing expenses have exceeded our incoming revenue. The Township has been depleting its cash reserves over the past few years.

Questions/Comments.

None.

Jim Van Hoy made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Chris Hester seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.


Howard Pritchard, Chairman

Chris Hester, Secretary

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Jim Van Hoy, Member

Attest:

Mark D. Harris, Trustee

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