

Walnut Township Trustees Special Meeting

Date: August 20, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Recorder: Patricia McLoughlin

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Attendee	Present	Attendee	Present	Attendee	Present
Bill Yates, Trustee Chairman	X	Jane Baker, Fiscal Officer	X		
Terry Horn, Trustee	X	Bob Price, Fire Chief	X		
Doug Leith, Trustee	X				

Discussion Summary	Action/Decision/Follow-Up
<p>The purpose of this meeting was to discuss personnel employment needs, procedures, policy and compensation. The Trustees discussed the 1500 hour rule and the changes taking place and upon advice from the Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office.</p> <p>Jane said that currently 5 fire department employees are underpaid or overpaid for 2020. She said that certified letters were sent out to the affected employees. She said that as of Monday, August 24, 2020 two more employees would be receiving letters.</p> <p>Chief Bob Price explained that employee Brandon Long difference in pay was due to his being placed in charge and he received a .25 per hour increase. Chief Price further explained that Cole Schumacher’s pay was correct on the Millersport Fire Department payroll and was not sure why it didn’t transfer properly to Thurston Fire Department payroll.</p> <p>Jane said that she and her new assistant Barb are working diligently to bring the departments into proper paperwork compliance. She said that the Federal law states that any employees hired after 9/11/2001 need to sign an I-9 form.</p> <p>Jane indicated that 3 additional employees were in jeopardy of falling into the 1500 hour rule. She said currently she is looking at 3 employees who could be affected.</p> <p>Chief Price said that his calculations show that it would take 54 firefighters working every 6 days to staff both stations and stay compliant with the 1500 hour rule.</p> <p>Amy Brown of the Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office sent a letter stating that the employees must stay at the 1500 hours, but provided a buffer of up to 1800 hours.</p> <p>Discussion was for a new policy that the employees are to sign the 1500 hour rule form and they will be notified that when they reach 1700 hours they will be released until January 1st of the following year.</p> <p>Motion to approve new 1500-1800 policy</p>	<p>Motion to approve by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn. Roll call: 3 YES</p>

<p>Jane also wanted to discuss the recent ad on the Millersport Fire Department Facebook page advertising for Millersport Fire Department employees. Bob stated that an ACLU complaint had been filed. Chief Price said that the ad had since been removed from Facebook. Jane said that she had 4 employees come forward and ask about full-time employment and benefits. She stated that benefits are not provided for the fire department.</p> <p>Chief Price said that he would speak to his officers and make certain that any future complaints would go through the proper chain of command.</p> <p>Jane expressed concern that “Chief Price makes her nervous” in reference to large purchases such as request for full time employees, \$600,000 for new engine and \$165,000 for new boat.</p> <p>The Trustees moved to enter Executive Session at 8:21 p.m. under ORC 121.22G1 to discuss personnel.</p> <p>The Trustees exited Executive Session at 8:53 p.m. Motion to adjourn at 8:53 p.m.</p>	<p>Motion by Trustee Chairman Yates to enter Executive Session, second by Trustee Leith. Roll call: 3 YES</p> <p>Motion to adjourn by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn. Roll call: 3 YES</p>
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Trustee Chairman Bill Yates

Trustee Terry Horn

Trustee Doug Leith

Fiscal Officer Jane Baker