

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 12, 2023
6:30 PM

**Fairfield Township Trustee's Office
Community Meeting Room
718 Wabash Avenue
Lafayette, IN 47905**

Minutes

In Attendance: Board Members; Perry Schnarr, Arissa Beck, Susan Schechter; Trustee, Monica Casanova; Legal Counsel Todd Burtron ; Bookkeeper, Rocky Hession; Financial Consultant, Bill Jones; Asst Fire Chief, Brian Alkire

- I. Call to order- Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Minutes
 - a. Approval of August 8, 2023, minutes. Arissa Beck moved to approve the minutes , Perry Schnar seconded, All were in favor.
- III. Kokosing Solar, Jarrod Starr joined by video, presenting basics of solar systems. In response to questions from the board:
 - a. How long do panels last? After 30 years panels continue to produce at 80% of initial generation.
 - b. Batteries are not included in the quote. They quoted as a grid connected system. Batteries add significant additional expense. The return on that cost is justified based on specific situations like the need for uninterrupted power.
 - c. In addition to the 30% refundable credit there are additional sources of funding that are possible under the IRA.
- IV. LFD Report, Chief Alkire
 - a. Oct 23 6pm recruits will graduate in ceremony at Long Center.
 - b. Trainings and promotions are ongoing.
 - c. A foundation has been created to administer gifted funds.

- d. A tanker truck will need to be purchased in the next few years to respond to fires in the unincorporated parts of the service area and for fires on the highway.
- V. Lafayette Lions Club, Charles Short
- a. Provide hearing/vision services in the township. A service agreement was signed with Taletha in 2020. Lions Club does not need funds infusion at this time. The board agreed to continue to partner with the Lions club and they will provide a report of services provided.
- VI. Old Business
- a. Donation Agreement, Tippecanoe County Historical Association was tabled as there was a change of leadership at TCHA.
 - b. A quote from Huston Solar for installation of a solar array was provided to the board.
- VII. New Business
- a. 2024 Budget Draft was reviewed with Rocky Killian and Bill Jones. The maximum fire levy for the unincorporated properties was one point of discussion. The proposed budget included the maximum levy for the unincorporated part of Fairfield Township. This is higher than the fire levy on properties in the incorporated areas of the township. Bill Jones suggested that raising \$130,000 from the levy on the unincorporated properties would impose an equitable fire cost. Work on the draft budget was not complete, eg insurance obligations had been moved to different funds but had not yet been removed from the previously debited fund. A public work meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 28 at 6:30 prior to the public hearing on Oct 10. The budget draft should be completed in time to distribute copies a few days prior to the budget work meeting.
 - b. Form 17 Salary Ordinance 2024 tabled to November.
 - c. Fairfield Township Resolution No. 2023-09 A Resolution Setting Fairfield Township's Fee Schedule for Public Records and Certified Copies tabled to November board meeting.
 - d. Policies discussion tabled to November meeting
 - i. Fairfield Township of Tippecanoe County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics
 - ii. Community Room Policy
 - e. Streaming Board Meetings Discussion on You Tube proposed in 2024. Streaming will be required in 2025. There was general agreement that this is a process improvement. President Schnar proposed that a recording of

the streamed meeting would relieve the secretary from the task of producing meeting minutes. Secretary Schechter believes that written minutes are an important distillation of the proceedings and maintenance of minutes is required by the state. Bill Jones commented that he, the Trustee, produces the board meeting minutes for his township.

VIII. Financial Consultant Report, Bill Jones contributed to the budget discussion as a seasoned budget expert.

IX. Trustee Report distributed for board to review.

X. Additional Agenda Items at Board Discretion

XI. Calendar

a. Next Board Meeting/Public Hearing 2024 Proposed Budget, Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 6:30 pm

b. Adoption Budget Meeting, Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 6:30 pm

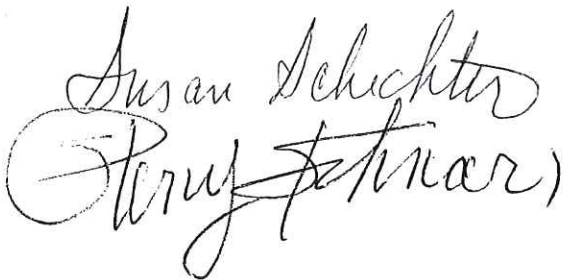
c. Public Work Meeting, Thursday, September 28, 2023, 6:30 pm

VII. Public Comments

VIII. Adjournment 9:25



10/10/2023



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