

Miami Township Trustees
Minutes of January 17, 2024
**see acronym glossary following minutes*

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hollister, with Trustee Moir and Trustee Mucher present.

Fire Chief Denny Powell was in attendance.

Township resident Fred Stockwell and Jenifer Adams from Citizens for Greene Acres were also present.

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Moir **moved** to **adopt the minutes** of January 3, 2023, as presented. Trustee Mucher **seconded**, and the **motion carried unanimously**.

Payment of Accounts

Trustee Mucher **moved** and Trustee Moir **seconded** to **pay bills** in the amount of **\$61,499.33**:

- **1000 – General** – \$8,059.99
- **2191 – Fire** – \$31,350.47
- **2042 – Cemetery** – \$7,555.98
- **2281 – EMS Billing** – \$3,965.75
- **Road and Bridge** – \$10,567.14
 - **2021 – Gas Tax** – \$5,482.80
 - **2031– Road and Bridge** – \$5,084.34

The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

The Trustees received correspondence as follows:

- OTA: 2024 Winter Conference registration
- Greene County Engineer: Information re: excavator training
- Lee Sloane: Kingwood Solar appeal info
- OTA: *Grassroots Clippings* newsletter
- RPCC: January Executive Committee meeting reminder
- YS Chamber of Commerce: Yellow Springs Village Café on January 21st
- Letter from Township resident re: siting of industrial solar site
- Fund status, revenue status and appropriation status for 1/17/24

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments

Fire Department Report

Chief Powell reported **26 EMS runs** and **5 fire calls** since last meeting, with Mutual Aid for requests for 2 EMS and 1 fire call. C-shift successfully responded to a cardia arrest.

He reviewed a prepared “**MTFR 2023 Fast Facts**” sheet (available upon request), highlighting:

- 1,061 runs: 810 EMS and 251 fire, a 1.7% decrease from 2022
- 112 fire inspections
- 19 public education events
- \$392,000 fire loss throughout the Township, not including crops
- 714 different patient contacts including 533 transports, 72 who were treated and released, and 11 DOA
- The most frequent transportation destination was Soin (59%) followed by Greene Memorial (32%)
- 27% of EMS calls were for advanced life support vs basic life support, which is fairly standard
- B-shift was the busiest (crew designation, not hours covered) at 37%
- Busiest hours: 3-4 p.m., 4-5 p.m., and 8-9 p.m.
- Average response time: 5 minutes, 18 seconds
- 82% of the calls were in the Village of Yellow Springs, 3% in Clifton, 2% at Antioch College, 2% at John Bryan/Glen Helen/Clifton Gorge, and 2% Mutual Aid

Chief Powell added an **overview of promotions, trainings, and other department activity**, including Chief Altman’s retirement and the Hawthorne Place fire, and clarified Mutual Aid requests.

Fred Stockwell asked if MTFR provides **transport for DOAs**. Chief Powell said no, the coroner’s office handles that.

Cemetery and Road Report

Roads:

In Mr. Gochenouer’s absence, Trustee Mucher reported the roads are in good shape. Downed trees were handled at North River Road and at Clifton.

Brandon has completed vehicle maintenance. Unfortunately, during a burial, **Truck 265’s cam shaft blew**. He was able to drive the truck back to the garage. **A new engine will be installed** this week, and it should be back in service soon after. Estimated cost for this essential repair: **\$10-15,000**.

Cemetery:

In Mr. Gochenouer’s absence, Trustee Mucher reported 2 **burials** at Clifton, 4 at Glen Forest, and 1 in the Oak Grove tree section. He has also been handling phone calls and sales requests. Trustee Moir thanked him for his diligence.

Trustee Moir asked how **crews respond to snow**. Trustee Mucher said the County dispatch notifies us that roads need to be plowed.

Trustee Hollister presented the annual **Village of Clifton Snow Removal and Road Repair contract** (\$50/hour) and asked for a motion to approve its renewal. Trustee Mucher so moved, and Trustee Moir seconded. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Fiscal Officer's Report

Resolution 2024-07 Authorize Advance of Funds was presented. After a brief discussion and amendment, Trustee Mucher **moved** to adopt the Resolution, and Trustee Moir **seconded**. **The Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

Resolution 2024-08 Amendment of Temporary Appropriations was presented. Trustee Mucher **moved** to adopt the Resolution as enumerated, and Trustee Moir **seconded**. **The Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

Zoning Inspector's Report

Re: the **January 16th Zoning Commission meeting** attended by all Trustees at the Commission's invitation:

- Trustee Moir reported it was a great meeting. She felt communication between the Zoning Commission and the public is on the upswing.
- Trustee Mucher said the meeting went well. He expressed his "deep appreciation" to the volunteers for their "sincere hard work" to maintain Township zoning regulations in line with the existing Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
- Jenifer Adams concurred with the Trustees' assessment.
- Fred Stockwell said it was a "nice discussion," and several of his views about their work were clarified.

Standing Committee Reports (list updated)

- Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC): no report
- Greene County Regional Planning & Coordinating Commission (RPCC): Trustee Mucher said it was a short meeting, with a discussion of the quarterly audit and a Bath Township zoning change. He reviewed the upcoming "tsunami" of **residential development expected, particularly in eastern Greene County**, with the planned tech factories, with an extended discussion on what has become a **standard price-point for affordable/new housing**. Beaver creek is comfortable with \$500-600,000, while the Jamestown area is closer to upper \$200,000. He added there seems to be no readily affordable housing on the radar, even for the expected higher-paying tech jobs.
- YS Community Development Corporation (YS CDC): Trustee Moir was out of town, but Trustee Hollister reported the committee spent time on some of the same issues as RPCC, with more focus on smaller suppliers and ancillary businesses. The Village is now **actively marketing the industrial park** surrounding Cresco Labs and Antioch Midwest. He expects that Lisa Abel will be requesting a meeting with the Trustees in the near future as she has with other political subdivisions.
- Clifton-Union Cemetery: Trustee Hollister reported that, after an 8-month hiatus due to a member's health issues, the committee **plans to meet next month**.

Trustee Hollister asked Chief Powell if he was still involved in meetings re: the upcoming **solar eclipse April 8th**. Chief Powell said he has attended two meetings so far, with more expected. The **last eclipse brought nearly half-a-million people to Louisville**, and there are numerous issues to be considered including emergency response and traffic. The Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and local fire departments have set up an online registration form for statewide events, hoping to get an idea of numbers to expect.

Fred Stockwell spoke from the experience of ham radio operators that are often one of the only lines of communication during such events when cell towers are overloaded. He noted that while visitors may arrive 2-3 days ahead of time, they all “try to leave two minutes after it’s done,” tying up roads.

Chief Powell said the EMA may set up a command center in the Township meeting room with a ham operator on site. Mr. Stockwell encouraged them to test their equipment ahead of time.

New Business

Several items from the agenda were moved to future meetings.

Old Business

After Trustee Moir’s questioning about **fire/EMS funding through the first quarter**, an extended discussion was held on account transfers, appropriations, and advance planning. Trustee Mucher said the Township can request an advance from the County, requiring a Resolution.

Trustee Moir reviewed **ARPA money pay-outs and restrictions**, and earlier discussions about using those funds to even out the accounts so the Township can start fresh rather than taking advances. She expressed “disappointment” that that has not happened, but agreed it will need further discussion at this point, with no decision expected at this meeting.

See the **meeting video** for the complete discussion.

Executive Session:

Trustee Mucher **moved** for an **Executive Session** to “consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee.” Trustee Moir **seconded**. The meeting recessed at 5:58 p.m., and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. with **no action being taken at this time**.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, February 5, 2024**, at 5 p.m.

Chairperson _____ Attest _____

***Acronyms:**

- MTFR: Miami Township Fire & Rescue
- MVRPC: Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission
- OTA: Ohio Township Association
- RPCC: Greene County Regional Planning & Coordinating Commission
- YS CDC: Yellow Springs Community Development Corporation

/clp