

Miami Township Trustees
Minutes of April 1, 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, Interim Zoning Inspector Denise Swinger, new Fiscal Officer Jeanna GunderKline, and Recorder Cyndi Pauwels were in attendance.

Residents Fred Stockwell and Carrie Smith and six MTFR staffers were also present.

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Mucher **moved to adopt the minutes** of March 18, 2024, as presented. Trustee Moir **seconded**, and the **motion carried unanimously**.

Payment of Accounts

Trustee Mucher **moved** and Trustee Moir **seconded** to **pay bills** in the amount of **\$50,601.06**:

- General Fund – \$7,786.90
- Fire Fund – \$38,579.40
- EMS Billing – \$128.48
- Cemetery – \$136.00
- Road and Bridge – \$3,970.28
 - 2031 – \$3,970.28

The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

The Trustees received correspondence as follows:

- Ohio Dept. of Commerce: Register a **Valid Objection to a Liquor License**
- Scott Fife: **Public records request** for information on payment and correspondence concerning legal opposition to Kingwood solar project
- GCRP: **Agenda** for March 26, 2024
- Yellow Springs Chamber of Commerce: **Invitation to Lunch Local** and to be a **sponsor** (to be discussed at next meeting)
- Ohio Auditor: **UAN software update**
- MVRPC: **Annual Spring Dinner** April 18, 2024 – RSVP by April 5th
- Village of Yellow Springs: **Hearing April 9, 2024, on Final Development Plan** for PUD on Herman Street

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Trustee Hollister administered the **oath of office** to newly-elected Fiscal Officer Jeanna GunderKline.

Fire Department Report

Chief Powell reported **36 EMS runs** and **9 fire calls** since last meeting. This included **mutual aid response** for 2 fire calls (corrected by Chief Powell after the meeting).

In response to partial Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation **in anticipation of severe weather** tomorrow (April 2nd), the **1400-000 shift will be increased by 2-3 staffers**.

Chief Powell offered an update on the **repair status of Engine 82** in Springboro. He hopes the truck will be back in service in just a few more days.

Parking restrictions during the **April 8, 2024, eclipse** are expected to be finalized by the Village tomorrow (Xenia Avenue, Dayton Street, etc.). Chief Powell reminded everyone **hospital transport will be restricted to Greene Memorial** due to traffic concerns except for specific emergency situations.

The department's **ISO survey** (Verisk Analytics **insurance risk**) was completed Friday, and the results were better than expected, according to Chief Powell. He said the survey was based on "more realistic" data this year, and that results should be available in about six months. In response to Trustees' questions, he explained the survey produces a proprietary insurance rating number based on perceived risk; this applies mostly to commercial buildings.

The **Bureau of Workers' Comp grant monies** have been spent on the specified PPE and a turnout-gear dryer. Cassady Brewer will upload proof-of-purchase information to close out the grant shortly.

Trustee Hollister presented **Resolution 2024-16 Reclassification of MTFR Employee** (part-time employee Georgia Goad to full-time pensioned position of Acting Lieutenant, who will act as C-shift supervisor). Trustee Mucher **moved** to approve the Resolution, and Trustee Moir **seconded**. The **motion carried unanimously**.

Trustee Hollister presented **Resolution 2024-17 Reclassification of MTFR Employee**, and **Chief Powell requested the matter be discussed in Executive Session**. Trustee Moir expressed budgetary concerns at reclassifying three employees to full-time pensioned all at once. After an extended discussion of staffing levels, EMTs versus paramedics, and tuition reimbursement policies, during which Trustee Mucher said he prefers to "prioritize personnel over shiny equipment," the matter was **postponed to an Executive Session on April 15, 2024**.

Frank Cook of the Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association has informed Chief Powell the overdue **department assessment (150+ page draft)** will be delivered in 1-2 weeks. Mr. Cook also said the OFCA recognizes a shortage of assessors (leading to the delays) and is working to correct that. The \$24,000 fee will be due and payable when the report is received. Chief Powell said that is slated to be paid from the General Fund.

Cemetery and Road Report

Cemetery:

In Mr. Gochenouer's absence, Trustee Mucher reported **1 burial** at Glen Forest, and **5 plots sold** in Natural Burial.

Three **trees have been planted** in Oak Grove; weather permitting, 2 more will be planted this week. In response to Trustee Moir's question, Trustee Mucher said the Township, not a service, plants the trees.

The **water has been turned on** and the new fountain is operating as expected. The **scattering grounds** and garden have been **cleaned and mulched**.

Roads:

In Mr. Gochenouer's absence, Trustee Mucher reported Brandon Morris has been busy with various necessary tasks. **Clean-up of storm debris** at Glen Forest East is to be scheduled.

Trustee Hollister reported the Greene County Engineer will hold a program (April 10th?) on **roadside herbicides** that he will attend, and asked if the Road Department should be represented. Trustee Mucher said that since **the Township uses no herbicides**, that won't be necessary.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Ms. GunderKline reported the latest **tax payments have come in**. She will continue to work with Ms. Silliman during a **transition period**, especially during the **upcoming 2-year audit**.

Zoning Inspector's Report

Ms. Swinger reported she has dealt with **19 calls, 45 emails**, and **issued 1 permit** since her last report. Two new BZA cases (Chappelle shows and a structure move) have been scheduled for an April 17, 2024, meeting.

The Zoning Commission has forwarded **2 text amendments** (self-generation solar and temporary exceptions) **to GCRPC for approval**.

Trustee Moir reported one **member of the Zoning Commission has been unreachable** by phone or email; Trustee Hollister will attempt to contact him.

Trustee Hollister noted the **Zoning Inspector job description** has been posted. He then introduced **candidate Carrie Smith** who will be interviewed in Executive Session.

New Business

The **Yellow Springs Chamber of Commerce request** noted in Correspondence was discussed briefly. It will be reviewed further next meeting.

Fred Stockwell reported **an issue with the calendar listings on the Township website.** It will be addressed. The process for posting **draft meeting minutes** continues to be refined.

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 5:44 p.m., and reconvened at 6:25 p.m. with **no action being taken at this time.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m., with the next meeting scheduled for **Monday, April 15, 2024,** at 5 p.m.

Chairperson _____ **Attest** _____

***Acronyms:**

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

/clp