

Minutes of the Makanda Township Board Meeting
Thursday, April 11, 2024

1. Supervisor Lipe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Present were Supervisor Lipe, Clerk Einig, and Trustees Holub, Kolar, Stanley, and York.
3. Clerk comments. None.
4. Trustee comments. None.
5. Number 15 is moved to before the executive session for the public's convenience.
6. Public comments on Agenda items. None.
7. The minutes for March 12, 2024 were approved.
8. Fund Balances and Revenue. **See Attachments.**
9. Tentative FY25 Budgets for Technical Support, Connect Humanity, Fire Protection Fund, Fire Protection Capital Fund, Foreign Fire Insurance Fund, General Assistance, Brian R. Pierce Jr. 517 Memorial Fund, and Town Fund. Clay moved and Debbie seconded a motion to approve the tentative budgets. **The motion passed unanimously.**
10. Approval of bills by fund:
Township Bills, Fire Department Bills, Fire Protection Capital Fund Bills, Road and Bridge Bills, New Bridge Bills, General Assistance Bills, Connect Humanity Bills. Sara needed to add an additional bill. It is the Fire Protection Disability Policy. Clay moved and Michael seconded a motion to pay all the bills. **The motion passed unanimously.**
11. Reports:
 - A. Fire Department Report (Josh Lipe); For the month of March there were 13 calls in total: 2 fire calls, 3 medical, 3 calls for service, 2 mutual aid, and 3 traffic crashes. There are 19 firefighters. Good news: Makanda Fire is now the proud recipient of a small equipment grant. Thanks to all the people who put in their time and hard work to get the grant. This will provide complete sets of protective gear for a given number of firefighters. The old gear will be rotated down to some of the junior folks and their gear will be used for training. The other piece of good news is that our truck has been built. It is still with TriVista but it should be in Iowa by the end of next week and Coyne will start putting the boxes on. Clay asked how the eclipse went. Josh asked him if he looked up. (The joke was appreciated.) Josh reported that everything went according to plan and the crowd got to see Makanda at its finest. There was one minor traffic incident but it was managed as a routine call by the firefighters.
Fred had two questions: what is a repeater? Josh explained that it is a device that boosts the radio signal. The department has one but another one would greatly improve communication. The other is about the gym membership. It is available for all qualified firefighters as a perk since there is no salary. Fred also wanted to know if we already had extrication equipment. Josh said he hoped for a second one.
 - B. Road Commissioner: Ed said that he has just become aware that there is a road that is actually a Makanda road but has not been cared for by his department. He said that he has never been given any information, either from township records or county records, about that being a Makanda Road. But from now on Egyptian Trail will be maintained as a township road. It's only .155 mile long but it's important if you live on it.
The other issue is in regard to the HOA at Apple Creek (formerly Stone Creek) Golf Course. Ed is in touch with them and has been invited to their next meeting to discuss possibly taking the shed off the HOA.

Finally, there is a deadline to notify the owner of the maintenance shed of intent to buy. It is 90 days before the end of the lease. The actual closing will be about October 1.

C. CWPP: No report.

D. Supervisor's Report: Sara sent one general assistance application, completed the Supervisor's Statement of Financial Affairs, closed the FY2024 books, emailed the TriVista CEO to get information on the new chassis, and prepared seven FY2025 tentative budgets. Fred asked for a clarification about the amounts paid for general assistance and the emergency fund. General Assistance is capped at \$450. Emergency payments are suggested to start at \$450 and then add additional funds for each additional family member.

F. General Assistance: No report.

G. Broadband: No report.

H. Building Usage and Planning: No report.

I. Grant Committee: Clay stressed his appreciation to everyone involved in getting the grant for the fire department. In regard to the FEMA grant, the earliest we can possibly expect an answer is the end of the summer. Clay asked the public to keep looking for other grants that might be appropriate for the township. One advantage that we have now, in addition to the money for the fire department, is the fact that we have a completed application that we can use as a reference for future grants.

Josh said that station 2 needs to replace its old refrigerator. It can be a used one and doesn't need to be fancy. It is primarily used to keep cold water for firefighters when they return from a run. It was suggested that Ron Able Appliances usually has good deals and it has the advantage of being a Makanda Township business. Midamerica was also suggested.

12. Old Business:

A. Already discussed.

13. New Business: None.

15. Public comments: Sharon Sims wanted to thank the fire department for their quick response to the fire that spread onto their property from a neighbor's fire. As she put it, "...as a result of your quick response we didn't have a disaster. We had a wonderful, controlled burn!"

14. Executive Session – Personnel: Clay moved and Michael seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session. The motion passed unanimously at 7:36 p.m.

16. At 8:41 p.m. the meeting was resumed. The entire board was present. Clay moved and Debbie seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Regina Einig, Clerk

