

The September 28, 2022 regular meeting of the Delhi Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson Cheryl A. Sieve at the Township Administration Building, 934 Neeb Road. Trustee Michael D. Davis, Trustee Rosanne K. Stertz, Fiscal Officer James J. Luebbe, Interim Administrator Mike Lemon and Law Director Bryan E. Pacheco were also present.

OPEN THE MEETING:

- The Board received certification that the rules adopted pursuant to Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code were complied with for the meeting.
- The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence dedicated to the citizens of the state of Florida who succumbed to the impact of Hurricane Ian, and those who are dealing with aftermath.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (Regular Meeting on 9/14/22)

- A Motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees regular meeting on September 14, 2022, was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF OVERTIME: (Period ending 9/20/22)

- A Motion to approve the payment of overtime for period ending September 20, 2022, was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- A Motion to approve bills for payment was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES. Motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE FISCAL OFFICER: Mr. James J. Luebbe

1. **Resolution 2022-154**

Trustee Davis introduced and moved the adoption of a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission, authorizing the necessary tax levies, certifying them to the County Auditor, declaring an emergency and dispensing with the second reading. Trustee Stertz seconded.

Mr. Lemon confirmed the resolution is the last step in identifying appropriation spending with the Hamilton County Auditor for the succeeding year.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Stertz seconded to dispense with the second reading. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES during roll call to adopt the resolution. Resolution adopted.

2. **Resolution 2022-155**

Trustee Davis introduced and moved the adoption of a resolution authorizing the Interim Township Administrator to spend greater than \$10,000 on behalf of the Township, declaring an emergency and dispensing with the second reading. Trustee Stertz seconded.

Mr. Lemon informed the Board, the resolution addresses two spending items: \$19,000 for curb installation on Overhill performed by Z-Crete (original contractor was not being responsive); and payment of 40% of the \$54,000 total cost to Duke Energy for gas line installation at the Delhi Towne Square site.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Stertz seconded to dispense with the second reading. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES during roll call to adopt the resolution. Resolution adopted.

3. Significant Transactions: payment of \$48,000 to Alpha Demolition for ground repairs at Anderson Park; \$353,000 for the September 29 Payroll.

TRUSTEES' CORRESPONDENCE:

- Trustee Sieve thanked everyone who came out to support a recent event hosted by the Parks Dept., Classic Cocktails with Molly Wellmann.
- In response to recent complaints regarding excessive aircraft noise, Trustee Sieve reported that she is waiting for an update on recent activity at CVG from Delhi's representative who serves on the Airport Noise Abatement Committee. She will provide an update at a later meeting.
- Trustee Sieve reported that she attended a meeting of the Hamilton County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency this morning with Chief Campbell, during which time the topic of disaster planning was addressed, including a plan that was written for Delhi Township which is currently being reviewed by the Board.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Payton's Lemonade Stand and Trophy Presentation to Fire Department

- President of the Delhi Firefighters' Association, Fire Lt. Kevin Braun, provided some background on the invitation from the Obert family to raise money for Payton's lemonade stand.
- Founder Payton Obert reported that she started her lemonade stand in 2018 when she was only 6 years old, and that over the past 4 years, it grew into a successful non-profit charitable organization. This past July, her 5th Annual Lemonade Stand – a total of 50 stands throughout Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky and Indiana - raised \$85,000. Participating local fire departments that raised funds were: Delhi, Hyde Park, West Chester and Norwood, with Delhi raising \$1,617 - the most raised out of all of the departments.
- In recognition of the department raising the most money out of all of the participating companies, Payton presented Lt. Braun with a trophy.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Douglas Campbell

1. Department Updates:
 - Quint – Confirmed that the truck is currently being equipped and personnel trained.
 - Continuity of Operations Plan – Confirmed, the proposed plan for Delhi Township was distributed to the Trustees for review. With no questions or concerns raised, it was recommended that the Board vote on adopting the Plan at their next meeting.
2. On behalf of the Board and the Fire Department, Trustee Sieve commented that it was an honor to be recognized in front of other public officials present at Hamilton County's Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency meeting this morning, for our disaster planning efforts having completed our Continuity of Operations Plan; as well as the Oak Hills Local School District who received recognition for instituting their Active Shooter Response Training Video of which our Police Department played a very active role.

PARKS & RECREATION: Interim Administrator

1. Resignation Recommendation
 - A Motion to accept the voluntary resignation of Special Event and Program Coordinator Mary Anneken in the Parks & Recreation Department effective September 30, 2022, was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES. Motion carried.

2. Administrator Lemon reported on the following park items:
 - Memorial Tree and Bench program – Park crew is busy planting trees and installing benches, of which two trees were recently planted for the Girl Scouts of America and one was planted in memory of a loved one.
 - New Park Hours & Signage – The Park is transitioning to its Fall/Winter schedule with our parks open from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. With the transition this year, over 40 signs have been installed identifying the new hours including QR codes.
 - Pickleball Courts – There will be a delay with the work schedule originally planned to start this Thursday and Friday with the new start date moved back to October 6 and 7 due to inclement weather condition concerns.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief Jim Howarth

1. Termination Recommendation

A Motion to accept the recommendation to terminate probationary Police Officer Andrew A. Crawford effective September 28, 2022, was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES. Motion carried.

- For the record, Chief Howarth identified an error, correcting his first name as Anthony, not Andrew.

2. Greater Cincinnati Police Museum – the Police Department will be the featured agency for the month of October. The Museum is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10am to 4pm.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Director Ron Ripperger

1. **Resolution 2022-156**

Trustee Davis introduced and moved the adoption of a resolution entering into agreement with Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Ohio (“county”) and the Board of Education of the Oak Hills Local School District (“Oak Hills”) to share equitably in the rental expenses for a rubber tire loader at Delhi’s salt storage dome, authorizing the Director of Public Works to execute the agreement and to rent the equipment, declaring an emergency and dispensing with the second reading. Trustee Stertz seconded.

Mr. Ripperger confirmed, they have entered into an agreement for several years and it is a great way to share in cost of the rental, compared to owning the equipment and paying the storage cost.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Stertz seconded to dispense with the second reading. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES during roll call to adopt the resolution. Resolution adopted.

2. Resignation Recommendation

A Motion to accept the voluntary resignation of Service Worker I David Huffman in the Public Works Department effective September 30, 2022, was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES. Motion carried.

3. Township Snowplow Rodeo Update – Crew Foreman Keith Duncan placed 1st out of 45 drivers in the snowplow truck competition and finished 3rd in the equipment skid competition. Over the past 14 years competing, Keith has earned seven 1st place finishes in the snowplow truck competition, as well as placing in the top five in other competitions.

ADMINISTRATION: Interim Administrator Mike Lemon

Mr. Lemon spoke about his local government and commented on his first week settling into his responsibilities as Township Administrator. He commented that he is excited to see the footprint taking shape at the Delhi Towne Square project and reported on a few items:

- Pads 2 and 3 were certified today and are ready for construction.
- Met with Michael Collins, the owner rep. construction manager hired to oversee the project responsible for making sure the project moves forward according to schedule.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Tony Roach, Zoning Administrator

1. Resolution 2022-157

Trustee Davis introduced and moved the adoption of a resolution certifying violation abatement expenses at 4250 Delhi Pike, 4469 Delhi Pike, 5361 Whitmore Drive, 425 Morrvue Drive, 328 Bob Drive, 3912 Delhi Pike, 563 Greenwell Avenue, 3940 Delhi Pike, 4093 Delhi Pike, 5321 Plumridge Drive, 306 Anderson Ferry Road, 496 Pedretti Avenue to the County Auditor for assessment, declaring an emergency and dispensing with the second reading. Trustee Stertz seconded.

Mr. Roach reported on the cost of the abatements (approximate cost of \$6,000), to be sent to the Hamilton County Auditor for processing on their property tax bills. He added that they are keeping an eye on the nuisance properties located on Delhi Pike in the business district since a good number of them have become repeat offenders.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Stertz seconded to dispense with the second reading. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES during roll call to adopt the resolution. Resolution adopted.

2. Resolution 2022-158

Trustee Davis introduced and moved the adoption of a resolution declaring nuisance for excessive vegetation at 515 Allenford Court, declaring an emergency and dispensing with the second reading. Trustee Stertz seconded.

Mr. Roach reported, having started with seven nuisances on the draft agenda, they were able to remove 3 of the nuisances due to the property owners being responsive to the informal orders. It was also confirmed during follow up inspections this morning that the properties identified in resolutions 2022-158 – 161 are active nuisance violations.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Stertz seconded to dispense with the second reading. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES during roll call to adopt the resolution. Resolution adopted.

3. Resolution 2022-159

Trustee Davis introduced and moved the adoption of a resolution declaring nuisance for accumulated debris at 328 Bob Drive, declaring an emergency and dispensing with the second reading. Trustee Stertz seconded.

Mr. Roach confirmed that the violation consists of aluminum siding that has fallen off of the house, and that the same property address was abated earlier for excessive grass.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Stertz seconded to dispense with the second reading. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES during roll call to adopt the resolution. Resolution adopted.

4. Resolution 2022-160

Trustee Davis introduced and moved the adoption of a resolution declaring nuisance for excessive vegetation at 425 Morrvue Drive, declaring an emergency and dispensing with the second reading. Trustee Stertz seconded.

Mr. Roach confirmed that this is a repeat offender.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Stertz seconded to dispense with the second reading. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES during roll call to adopt the resolution. Resolution adopted.

5. Resolution 2022-161

Trustee Davis introduced and moved the adoption of a resolution declaring nuisance for excessive vegetation at 5376 Romance Lane, declaring an emergency and dispensing with the second reading. Trustee Stertz seconded.

Mr. Roach confirmed that this is a repeat offender.

Trustee Davis moved and Trustee Stertz seconded to dispense with the second reading. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES during roll call to adopt the resolution. Resolution adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Not applicable.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMUNITY EVENTS:

1. Free Fishing on Fridays at Clearview Lake, from 7am until dusk, through September 30th.
2. Delhi Parks Dept. Presents: Madcap Puppets Fantastic Fairy Tales on Wednesday, October 15th at 6:00 p.m. at the Delhi Park Stage.
3. Delhi Fire Department Open House at Station 33 Neeb Road, on Sunday, October 9th from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
4. Delhi Historical Society program: A Night with Cincinnati Chili Royalty at Mount St. Joseph University Auditorium from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11.
5. Delhi Parks Dept. Presents: Harvest Hootenanny at Story Woods Park on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
6. Hamilton County presents: Household Hazardous Waste Products Two Day Drop-Off event on Friday, October 21st, and Saturday, October 22nd. Registration is required on hamiltoncountyr3source.org.
7. Delhi Branch Library adult program: Heritage Food and Herbs: Life in the 1800s on Wednesday, November 2nd at 6:30 p.m.
8. Delhi Parks Dept. presents: Delhi Sip & Shop Vendor Fair at the Delhi Senior Community Center on Friday, November 18th at 6:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A Motion to Retire to Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, and/or compensation of public employees of the Township, and to consider confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance, was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES. Motion carried.

RETURN TO PUBLIC MEETING:

A Motion to conclude Executive Session and return to the public meeting was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES.

ADJOURN MEETING:

With no further business to come before the Board, a Motion to adjourn was moved by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Stertz. Trustees Davis, Stertz and Sieve voted YES. Motion carried.

Trustee Sieve confirmed that the Board will convene on Wednesday, October 12th for their next regular meeting.

Approved: _____, Fiscal Officer

_____, Chair

_____, Trustee

_____, Trustee

I hereby certify that the amounts needed to meet the above obligations have been lawfully appropriated and are in the treasury or the process of collection free from any and all obligations.

James J. Luebbe, Fiscal Officer