

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of MIAMI TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held October 9, 202320

The Miami Township Board of Trustees met in a work session on Monday, October 9, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Miami Township Civic Center. Chairperson Tracy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Ferry called the roll. Attending were Ken Tracy and Mary Makley Wolff.

Mr. Wright recommended the following actions for personnel:

#### Police Department

Remove Police Officer Tim Goins from probationary status effective September 25, 2023.

Accept the retirement notice of Police Officer Andy Bobb effective September 30, 2023

Ms. Wolff made a motion to accept the personnel actions as stated, seconded by Mr. Tracy and all voted "AYE."

Mr. Wright presented information on the purchase of an empty parcel on Pinto Place that will allow for the connection of Sorrell Lane and Roan Drive to Lorven Drive. This will allow for the residents, pedestrians, and motoring public in the Al Gor Acres subdivision to have access to the traffic light when entering and leaving their neighborhood.

This property purchase for the future roadway was anticipated and included in the 2023 Budget and funds are available from an adjacent Tax Increment Financing district and no debt will be issued for this purchase. The negotiated purchase price of \$52,500 is within the limits authorized by the Board and is very fair for a ½ acre of developable land.

Mr. Musselman noted that our current brine route spray systems are over 18 years old and are becoming less adaptable to the newer truck control systems. They require us to take the auger and spreader off the truck so we can slide the brine tank into the truck bed and then reverse the operation to ready the truck for salt operations. He is requesting approval to purchase a new system based on the swap loader system and would require us to only swap the entire unit, which can be done by one person in 5 to 10 minutes versus at least two people for 90 minutes or more. He presented two quotes:

K.E. Rose Company	\$27,510.00
Henderson Truck Equipment	\$31,725.00

Chief Kelly presented information on a Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program that his department has been working on with the Parks & Recreation Departments to add to our community parks.

He is requesting approval to spend up to \$40,000.00 to make this proposal a reality. The following vendors will be used:

- Zoll Medical Corp. for \$13,000.00 for seven (7) AEDs and accessories, including S&H
- Firefighter Safe for \$8,500.00 for climate-controlled AED cabinets
- The remainder of the costs will cover things like wiring and installation of the cabinets by an electrician, as well as the appropriate public signage for easy identification.

Mr. Wright presented information on the next round of State Capital Bill Grants. Every two years local governments may request grant funding for capital projects that must be approved

Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_

by the State Legislature. Among the projects that he recommended then included Phase II of the Miami Riverview Park basketball, tennis and pickleball courts reconstruction.

Proposed projects are required to meet specific eligibility requirements of the Capital Bill program. Capital Bill grants **cannot** be used for improvements to fire or police stations, civic centers, nor street or storm water projects, nor economic development projects such as industrial parks. Recreational parks are eligible uses for the funds.

After discussing our possible projects with our lobbyist Government Strategies Group and representatives of the Clermont County Port Authority and County staff involved in the scoring and ranking of application it became apparent that the most competitive and worthwhile project would be the Phase II of Miami Riverview Park courts reconstruction project to fund the new pickleball courts. At the two most recent Board meetings we have discussed the scope of work that needs to be done to stabilize the area, rebuild the basketball and tennis courts in phase I for an estimated \$500,000 and have a phase II for an estimated \$200,000 for the new pickleball courts.

On September 18<sup>th</sup> he sent a follow up email to the Board explaining that Clermont County has released the application and scoring process that local governments can use to apply for the State's 2025-26 Capital Bill for community projects. The applications are required to be turned in to the County's Port Authority with a deadline of November 3rd. After being scored and ranked at the County level they will then be recommended or not by a State Legislator to be requested in the 2025-26 State Capital Budget Bill to be funded next year. Our lobbyist and I continue to discuss this strategy with Representative Schmidt and her Chief of Staff.

Our application will receive extra credit for a local match since the Township is funding Phase I of the project independently, on our own, outside of the Capital Bill program.

Mr. Musselman presented information on the purchase of a new swap loader dump bed which will fit the second of our two swap loader equipped dump trucks. This gives us an additional dump truck without the expense of the additional cab and chassis. This is especially helpful when our trucks have been set up for snow removal and have salt augers and spreaders attached because we need only switch from the v-box spreader or bucket truck unit which takes 5 to 10 minutes. He presented two quotes:

K.E. Rose Company	\$23,150.00
Henderson Truck Equipment	\$33,705.00

The only difference in the quotes is the Henderson bed sides are about 4" higher than the K.E. Rose bed and the Henderson rep said they fabricate their own beds (so they may have a higher cost of production). Neither of those facts add enough value to justify the higher cost of the Henderson quote.

2

Chief Kelly shared with the Board that our previous plan to purchase two used staff vehicles was unsuccessful and has become unrealistic and unwieldy given the nature of the used car market these days. He apologized for any inconvenience and the need to come back to the Board with an alternative plan but is looking to go in a different direction.

He is requesting approval to purchase two (2) new public safety ready Ford Explorers to add to our existing fleet of staff vehicles as part of our five-year vehicle replacement plan. We had planned to replace two of the aging 2009 Chevrolet Tahoe's in our fleet with new vehicles in 2024, as they are requiring greater levels of maintenance these days, and both are experiencing rust issues in the rear quarter panels.

To modify the previous request, he went out to look at what was available on state term contract pricing, which there was nothing available. Montrose Ford outside of Cleveland has 2023 model-year public safety vehicles available at state term pricing equivalents. He

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

is requesting approval of \$83,832.26 to purchase both vehicles, including all title, licensing, and delivery fees. We will be asking for permission separately to have the vehicles outfitted and wrapped with our standard department branding. He thanked the Board for considering this requested change to our vehicle replacement schedule and the flexibility with our change in approach to these replacements.

Mr. Musselman presented a request to replace our existing 2017 Case 521 Wheel Loader due to the wear and corrosion it has from being used to load our salt trucks all winter. We had intended to budget for this replacement in 2024. Over the course of its life, it has paid for itself over our previous practice of renting a machine each winter. We began looking for a new machine to provide budgetary numbers and were presented with a good proposal from Southeastern Equipment on a State Bid Purchase machine. Prior to us purchasing this loader in 2016 for \$112,000, we used to spend \$20,000 annually on the rental of a machine.

The vendor has offered to give us \$70,000 in trade for our current machine. The new wheel loader would cost a total \$103,650 after the trade in. Mr. Ferry has reviewed the various financing options and would prefer to do the four-year financing with the first payment due next year.

The first payment would be due in 2024, one year from our signing the finance documents. We would receive the new machine around the end of March of 2024 at which time they would take possession of our current machine.

The current finance rates they offer can only be extended for two weeks at a time. This currently gives us until October 12 to lock them in.

Ms. Wolff made a motion to purchase a front-end loader from Southeastern Equipment at an annual purchase payment of \$29,741.46 for four years, seconded by Mr. Tracy and all voted "AYE."

Chief Kelly is requesting approval to purchase one (1) additional thermal imaging camera (TIC) for our inventory. This project is covered under our 2023 operating expenses and was earmarked for installation in the District 26 Battalion Chief's vehicle. This unit is often the first on the scene of a structure fire, car accident, or special rescue incident where the use of a thermal imaging device could be useful to find victims or assess the extent and location of fire in a building. The TIC that we are requesting to purchase is the same platform as the others in all front-line fire apparatus and will also allow us the flexibility to rotate units when they need to go out for service or repair.

He is asking for approval to purchase this unit through First In, Last Out Fire Equipment LLC, who we've purchased our other units through previously, at a cost of \$5,610.00, which includes shipping, handling, and the mounting dock. Our crew will be able to install this device, so no additional installation fees will be required.

Mr. Wright presented the bid results for the SR 28 & Lorven Drive project. This project includes the installation of the additional traffic signals and pedestrian crossing upgrades for the intersection of SR 28 and Lorven Drive at the Aldi and Kohl's intersection. The design engineers' estimate for the work was \$72,688.50.

We received the following bids, and both were less than the engineer's estimate. Choice One and Mr. Wright has worked with both companies while with other communities and both are extremely reputable:

Bansal Construction, Inc.	\$58,297.65
Capital Electric	\$71,912.00

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-375-8094 FORM NO. 1701-08

Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Musselman shared the following updates on projects in the Service Department.

- Miami Township Riverview Park Basketball and Tennis Court Rebuild- Prodigy is completing their proposal for this project so they can get it out to bid.
- Miami Township Civic Center water main project – Choice one is planning to have this out for bid on Oct 14.
- Miami Meadows Pickleball Courts- Schubert estimates that they will be ready to paint the courts in 2 weeks.

Chief Mills reminded the Board that one of our 2020 police vehicles was involved in an auto accident. The other party was faulted for rear-ending our vehicle. Thankfully the officer is okay; however, it is believed that the vehicle will be a total loss with a value at about \$30,000 - \$35,000. We are still working through estimates and insurance but if our vehicle is totaled, we would be a vehicle short for six plus months waiting on 2024 models. Our officers work 12-hour shifts and each of our 15 vehicles are on the road most of the time. Just losing one car could possibly have another running 24 hours per day.

The insurance will only reimburse us for the value of the totaled vehicle. The police utility vehicle is similar to a Ford Explorer, but it is built specifically for police. We have been able to locate a 2023 Ford Police Utility vehicle in Van Wert, Ohio for State Bid pricing. It's very unusual to find a vehicle like this available.

The vehicle is priced at \$48,659 with freight. We would ask at this point for the entire amount to secure the vehicle and the insurance will cover a large portion of the cost as reimbursement to the Township.

Ms. Wolff made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2023 Police Utility Vehicle from Statewide Ford at a cost not to exceed \$48,659, which includes freight, seconded by Mr. Tracy and all voted "AYE."

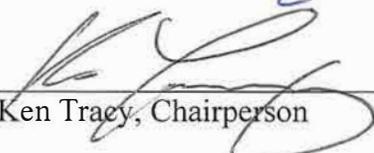
**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Marsha Collier, 1401 Gibson Road, introduced herself and asked for community support in her run for Clermont County Recorder this fall. Ms. Collier is a 25-year employee of the department.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Eric Ferry, Fiscal Officer

  
Ken Tracy, Chairperson