



Madison Township
4575 Madison Lane Groveport, Ohio 43125
Telephone (614) 836-5308 Fax (614) 836-5370
www.madisontownship.org



Madison Township Express

January 3, 2023 Organizational Board of Trustees Meeting

Trustee John Pritchard was elected Chair for 2023 and Trustee Katherine Chipps was elected Vice-Chair.

Old Business

The Trustees announced that those interested in the open Board position should submit a resume and cover letter to the Administrator's attention by 4 pm on Friday, January 6th, 2023. The information may be submitted by email: sbrobst@madisontownship.org or in person at the Administrative Office, 4575 Madison Lane, Groveport, Ohio 43125 by the deadline. Additional information and desired qualifications can be found at <https://www.madisontownship.org/job-opportunities>

Business of the Board

All items passed as presented.

There were no resolutions presented following executive session.



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Madison Township Express

January 17, 2023 Special Board of Trustees Meeting

A special meeting was held on January 17, 2023 to conduct interviews for the open Board seat. Interviews were held in executive session.

No decisions were made. No resolutions were presented.



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Madison Township Express

January 19, 2023 4 pm Special Board of Trustees Meeting

A special meeting was held on January 19, 2023 at 4 pm to conduct interviews for the open Board seat. Interviews were held in executive session. No decisions were made and no resolutions were presented.

January 19, 2023, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

Board Presentations

Fire Chief Robinson presented service awards to Lt. Justin Vermillion for his 10 years of service and Lt. Doug Smith for his 20 years of service to the department. Firefighter Dustin Probst was recognized with his 10 year award.

John Jones provided a recap from the 2022 Firefighter for Kids sign up and gift donations.

Community Shout Outs

This is a new agenda item in which Trustees can recognize positive township-wide news, events, and programs from the school districts and cities at each regular meeting.

Groveport Madison High School bused 500 sophomores to the Ohio National Guard Recruiting Center to met with 25 trade organizations and construction related companies to share skilled trades information with the students. Thanks to the Groveport Madison counseling staff for making this trip possible.

Ohio's 22+ program at Columbus State Community College allows adults to earn their high school diploma. Canal Winchester recognized a local resident at their December Board of Education meeting for earning their Canal Winchester diploma through this program.

Old Business - None

New Business

Chief York announced a Women's Self Defense class has been scheduled on Saturday, March 18th, 8 am - noon at the Madison Township Community Center. The class is free; however, space is limited to 30 individuals, ages 14 years and up. To register, call the police department at 614-836-5355 from 8 am - 4 pm or email policeadmin@madisontownship.org

Administrator Brobst shared an update from the Franklin County Engineer's office regarding traffic signals that are being installed at Pontius and Rohr Roads. The signals will be operational prior to the start of the Rohr Rd and St. Rt. 317 roundabout construction this summer. These are permanent traffic signals and will remain after the roundabout is completed.

Public Comments - None

Department Reports

Fire Chief Robinson announced that the Canal Winchester Walmart manager presented a donation of almost \$5,000.00 worth of fire prevention equipment that will be used to enhance the fire department's prevention program. Items included smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers. Thank you for this generous donation!

Police Chief York updated the Board on the status of applicants of the three open positions. Interviews began in mid-December, and at this time one candidate is completing the background process. The process is a lengthy one and the average cost to the Township is \$1,800.00 per candidate. Chief also shared that the Commander and Sgt. Tiller are visiting several central Ohio police academies in the coming weeks, hoping to cultivate an interest in applying upon graduation.

Superintendent Dave Watkins stated that residents will see crews working on numerous roads during the winter months trimming and removing limbs and trees. This helps with sight issues and potential issues in the right of way, especially during storms.

Administrator Brobst provided the 2022 Community Center Stats to the Board. There were a total of 146 reservations; 73 residents and 58 non-residents, with rental fees totaling \$9,530.00.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$14,284,373.16. Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other, small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire: \$ 8,934,252.92

Police: \$ 1,787,588.69

General: \$ 1,396,127.24

Public Works: \$756,542.82

Public Comments - None

Business of the Board

All resolutions passed as presented.

After Executive session concluded, it was resolved to hire a Public Works employee and promote 3 firefighters.



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January 26, 2023, Board of Trustees Special Meeting

Trustee John Pritchard and Katherine Chipps announced the appointment of Bruce Jarvis as the next Board member.

Mr. Jarvis was sworn in at the meeting and immediately joined the others to discuss a date for the February regular meeting. Thursday, February 9th at 6 pm will be the next regular Trustee meeting.

Bruce resides in the City of Canal Winchester and is a former Canal Winchester Council member and is a retired IT Manager.

Six candidates were interviewed for the open position.



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Madison Township Express

February 9th, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Board Presentations

The following individuals received their 5-year service award at the meeting:

Police Chief Gary York, Police Officer Alex Coffman, and Public Works Pat McQuade.

Firefighter Larry Baugess was presented with a retirement flag and case for his 33 1/2 years of service to the Madison Township Fire Department.

FF Baugess then presented Badge One to FF Edward G. Dildine, "Dink", as the now longest serving active Madison Township firefighter.

Mr. Brad Foster of the Franklin County Engineer's office presented information on the RAISE grant application for the Alum Creek Drive Improvement project. This involves widening Alum Creek Drive with an additional lane in each direction between the St. Rt. 317 and Groveport Road intersections.

The estimated costs of the project is \$58,500,000.00, with \$1.3 million already awarded through the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) for preliminary engineering through the Ohio Department of Transportation. The County will continue to seek future TRAC funding for future phases of this project, for right-of-way and construction. In addition, a draft recommendation through MORPC Attributable Funding has been received, \$8,500,000.00.

The County asked the Board to provide a letter of support for their application packet, which is needed prior to the end of February. In addition, the County asked the Trustees to consider being a financial partner.

Following several questions, the Board gave the approval for Administrator Brobst to send the letter of support to the County.

Community Shout Outs

Trustee Chipps shared that she will be at the Noe-Bixby Dairy Queen location on Saturday, February 18th from 11 am - 1 pm. Any residents that would like to stop in and say "hello" or ask questions, please feel free to do so.

Trustee Chipps also gave a "shout out" to the Groveport Madison DECA students for performing well at the District competition, with several qualifying for the State competition in March.

Trustee Pritchard complimented Mayor Lance Westcamp and the City of Groveport for the revitalization of Main Street with the addition of the two new buildings, housing Delaney's Diner and Little Italy.

Trustee Jarvis also commented on the newly opened Delaney's Diner. Although he has not eaten there yet, he said he had heard many wonderful things and was looking forward to trying it.

Old Business

Police Chief Gary York reminded those present of the upcoming Women's Self Defense Class on March 18, 2023 from 8 am - 12 noon at the Community Center. The class is FREE; however, pre-registration is required. There are 2 spots available. To register please call 614-836-5355 or email policeadmin@madisontownship.org.

New Business

Public Works Superintendent Dave Watkins shared initial information with the Board regarding the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) application. There is a resolution on the agenda asking the Franklin County Engineer's office for assistance with the OPWC application. The Township is seeking to improve the following roads: Bixby Road west of Ebright Road, Atkinson, Glenfield Roads, and Bonita Place, as well as crosswalk improvements that are yet to be determined. This application is for the 2025 construction season. Mr. Watkins estimates the total cost to be approximately \$850,000.00. This letter will allow the County to provide the Township with their estimate of costs and then look at funding options.

Administrator Susan Brobst explained that former Trustee Reynolds had been the Township representative to the Canal Winchester Human Services. A resolution is on the agenda to appoint her replacement, and Trustee Bruce Jarvis indicated that he would be interested. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that Trustee Jarvis would serve in that role.

The Trustee discussed future regular meetings of the Board. This past year the Franklin County Township Association meetings have conflicted with our regular meetings, and thus no one from the Township has been able to attend. Following discussion the Board set the regular meeting

dates to be the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00PM, except for December. The regular December meeting will be held December 12th at 6:00PM.

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Department Reports

Fire Chief Robinson thanked the Board of Trustees for the recent promotion of Lt. Josh Ruetsch to Chief Training Officer, FF Mike Kipp to Lieutenant and part-time FF Alek Stonerock to full-time status. The Chief Training Officer is a 40 hour position, which will coordinate EMS Training for all shifts, along with various other duties.

Chief reviewed the Medicare Revalidation resolution on the agenda. Every five years the Fire Department must renew their agreement as part of the Affordable Health Care Act, Data collected includes geographical service area, emergency response vehicles, organizational structures, transport facilities. Failure to comply could result in Medicare billing reimbursements being held or the deactivation of this privilege. Currently 55% of Madison Township's EMS billing revenue comes from Medicare transports.

Chief Robinson shared that there is a resolution on the agenda allowing the Fire Department to submit for quarterly Firehouse Subs grants. There is already a resolution allowing the Police Department to apply. If a grant is awarded, the department is asked to sit out for two years before applying again. The maximum amount of any request is \$50,000.00.

Police Chief Gary York shared that the Township Police Department is partnering with Project Starfish which is providing scholastic children's books to the department free of charge. Patrol officers, as part of the Books & Badges program, will be visiting classrooms, handing out the books for the children to keep, and reading aloud in both Groveport Madison and Canal Winchester Schools. Each book will include a unique sticker and will be signed by the reading officer so students will have a keepsake of this positive interaction with their local police department.

Commander Boyd will be kicking off the event on February 10th at Asbury Elementary and February 13th at Indian Trail Elementary in Canal Winchester.

The Madison Township Police Department has begun meeting with promoters and Columbus Airport officials regarding the upcoming Air Show event at Rickenbacker scheduled for June 16, 17 & 18, 2023.

Public Works Supt. Dave Watkins shared there was a resolution on the agenda for a Snow and Ice Agreement with the City of Canal Winchester. Canal Winchester approached us about a

trade off after they annexed portions of Bixby and Rager Roads. Canal Winchester will maintain Bixby Road from Winchester Pike to US 33 along with Rager Road from Bixby Road to US 33 and the township will maintain Parkview Drive from Lithopolis Road to the park entrance during snow and ice events. The Township will have less road footage to maintain and it works well within our snow and ice route. The agreement will be updated each year by October 31st.

Administrator Susan Brobst shared that another National Opioid Settlement has been reached with additional vendors, which requires the Board to opt-in to participate and receive funds. She stated there is a resolution on the agenda to participate.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$12,475,170.01. Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 7,256,948.00

Police \$ 1,677,134.83

General \$ 1,365,201.07

Public Works \$ 766,076.33

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Business of the Board

All resolutions passed as presented.

After Executive session concluded, it was resolved to hire a Police Officer and reclass a part-time firefighter to full-time.



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March 21, 2023 Special Board of Trustees Meeting

Following the call to order, the Board went into executive session for the purpose of reviewing for fire negotiations.

Following executive session the resolutions listed for the agenda were approved.

Administrator Brobst stated that more information would be available at the regular meeting on March 28th at 6 pm; however, the opt out mailers for the electric aggregation will be mailed this weekend. A fixed rate of .0849 kWh for a 12 month period beginning in June 2023 has been confirmed by Trebel LLC and Archer Energy LLC. The same benefits are in place as in previous aggregation programs, no fees to leave or join the program. Budget billing is available. This program is for residents served by AEP that live in Madison Township, including the residents of Groveport and Canal Winchester.

The next regular meeting is Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 6 pm.



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Madison Township Express

March 28, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Board Presentations

Deputy Superintendent Paul Smathers of the Groveport Madison School District shared the district's new "Comprehensive School Safety Plan" with the Board. He stated that safety was the district's number one priority, and wanted to give the Board an overview of what the District was trying to accomplish. He thanked the Board for the great relationship the school has with the Township, and thanked the Police and Fire departments for partnering with them for their safety concerns.

Archer Energy representative Andrew Earnst reviewed the new electric aggregation information that was previously provided to the board at the special meeting last week. The new aggregation will offer savings from June 2023 to May 2024, at a fixed rate of .0849 kWh. The opt-out letters have been mailed to those residents that AEP provides electricity to and who are not in a current contract with another supplier. As always with the Township aggregation program, residents and small businesses may join or leave the township program at any time during the contract period without a penalty. (If you are under a current agreement with another supplier, be sure to check about any penalty clauses before taking action.) Budget billing is also available.

For additional information or questions, please refer to either the Township website at www.madisontownship.org or contact Archer Energy at 1-844-795-7491, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm.

Community Shout Outs

Trustee Chipps thanked and congratulated the students of Groveport Madison High School that put together "Beyond. Black History; The American Legacy of Triumph Over Tragedy." She also gave a shout out to Mrs. Vanessa Hayes-Williams for helping to coordinate the event. The performances were spectacular.

Trustee Jarvis shared that Diley Ridge and Canal Winchester are again participating in the National Prescription Drug Take Back event on Saturday, April 22 from 10 am - 2 pm at the Diley Ridge Medical Center parking lot. Trustee Pritchard reminded residents that a drug drop box was available at the Police Department as well.

March 28, 2023 Madison Township Trustee Meeting - page 2

Old Business - None

New Business

Assistant Chief Adams announced that the Firefighter's Local 2507 is partnering with the Fellowship Baptist Church again this year for the annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Saturday, April 1st. There will be a FREE pancake breakfast from 9 am - 10:45 am and outdoor activities (including face painting, balloon artists and lots of fun) until 11 am when the egg hunt begins for youth ages 0-12 years.

Police Chief York stated that the new Distracted Driving Law (or Driving While Texting) will go into effect April 4th, 2023. The new law permits drivers to use their device when parked or stopped at a red light, to swipe their phone to answer a call, and to hold the phone to their ear for phone conversations. Emergency calls are also permitted in all circumstances. Penalties include \$150.00 and two points for the first offense, along with completion of a driver safety course. The Ohio State Highway Patrol reports there have been at least 73,945 distracted driving crashes, of which 2,186 resulted in serious injuries or fatalities since 2017.

Public Works Supt. Watkins recommended that the Board approve the submission of Marwick, Cross Keys, Westwick, Inn, and Schwartz roads in the Marwick subdivision for the Franklin County Engineer's resurfacing project this year. The current estimated cost of the project is \$249,918.25, which will be paid by the Township. The county's resurfacing program combines all of the townships in Franklin County requesting work into one contract, which saves each township money rather than getting their own individual contract.

Public Comments

Resident Mary Ellen Clark shared her concern about a dog barking continuously in her neighborhood. Police Chief York said that he would follow up on the concern.

Department Reports

A/C Adams pointed out that the fire department has resolutions on the agenda asking to hire nine part-time firefighters and to surplus various pieces of equipment, including a 2008 Chevy Equinox which will be listed on GovDeals.com, (watch the website for further information www.madisontownship.org/important-information)

A/C Adams shared that the Administration of the fire department, along with officers and command staff of Madison Township PD and Groveport PD, visited each school in the Groveport Madison District in the past month and spoke to faculty and staff regarding what to expect from first responders in the event of an emergency.

March 28, 2023 Madison Township Trustee Meeting - page 3

Police Chief York reported that resolutions for his department included a new Dispatch Agreement with the Franklin County Sheriff Department for January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024. The agreement would increase the cost of each dispatched call to \$15.99. The police and fire departments are also asking to submit grant requests for equipment and training to the Gary Sinise Foundation. This grant was shared by Trustee Chipps.

PW Superintendent Watkins announced that street sweeping will begin tomorrow, Weds., March 29th through the end of the week on the curbed streets in Blacklick Estates. This program helps keep leaves, trash and debris from entering the storm sewers and polluting our water sources. He also announced that the Township received the annual mileage certification from the Franklin County Engineer's office, with the mileage decreasing just a bit due to some annexations and inaccuracies from previous years. The mileage went from 41.245 to 40.132.

Administrator Brobst reported that a resolution allowing staff to participate in the 2023 Sunshine Law training and to allow Fiscal Officer Vermeer to be the designee for the trustees was on the agenda.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$ 10,814,603.81. Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 5,848,200.88

Police \$ 1,313,153.42

General \$ 1,426,058.02

Public Works \$ 813,082.73

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Business of the Board

All resolutions presented were passed.



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Madison Township Express

April 25, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Community Shout Outs

Trustee Jarvis commended the Canal Winchester Human Services staff and volunteers for their commitment to continuing to provide a variety of services to the local community.

Old Business - None

New Business

Administrator Brobst asked that the minutes reflect that two annexations had been received to move from Madison Township (unincorporated) to the City of Columbus. These are Type II petitions, and as such will remain in the Township. The parcels are at 5400 Bachman Road, +/- 30.702 and +/- 63.851 acres. A third Type II petition was received for 5600 Groveport Road to annex to City of Groveport, 1.94 acres.

Police Chief York discussed the increasing number of dispatched false alarms the department has received. These are calls that come in from alarms in residences and/or businesses in which the alarm company is not able to reach the owner. Therefore, the first responders must make sure there are no threats. There is a provision in the Ohio Revised Code that does allow townships to charge once the fourth alarm is received without resolution in the calendar year. In 2023, the Madison Township Police Department has responded to 110 alarm drops (calls), all of which were false. This would equate to \$1,758.90, based on our new rate for dispatch runs. Discussion ensued, and both Chief York and Fire Chief Robinson agreed to gather additional information for future review.

Public Comments

Resident Karr'yen Jones addressed the Board regarding several different concerns she had. She asked about dead skunk removal, the painting of fire hydrants, and adding a deeper turn lane onto Noe Bixby Road from Winchester Pike. Administrator Brobst and Superintendent Watkins told Ms. Jones they would follow up with the appropriate jurisdictions' contact information on each.

Department Reports

Fire Chief Robinson provided an update on the Firefighter High School Cadet Program, which originated as a joint venture with Eastland-Fairfield Career Center, Hocking College, Madison Township, and Violet Township Fire Departments. In 2022/2023, the model changed and

Hocking College was no longer included. Students from 17 different school systems can apply for the senior-only program that credentials the student with their State of Ohio Firefighter I & II certification. The program is completing its second year with over 40 students participating in the first two classes. Sixty students applied for the 2023/2024 school year, and a second class is being considered to accommodate the interest. Madison Township recently hired a student from the first class as one of its newest part-time Fire Department employees.

Police Chief Gary York, asked that an agreement with Flock Safety, which provides cameras that help in keeping our businesses, schools, and neighborhoods safe from crime with 24/7 protection, be approved. This non-financial agreement will allow other subscription users to share their information directly with Madison Township officers. Flock Safety focuses solely on objective, unbiased evidence that can provide investigative leads that our officers need to accurately and efficiently solve a crime.

Chief York also asked for approval for a resolution to donate surplus police radios to the Franklin County EMA and Homeland Security. The VHF analog radios had been previously used by the police department, having been replaced earlier this year with new digital radios.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Watkins gave an update on the street sweeping that had been completed in Blacklick Estates. 20.27 tons of debris had been collected and disposed of. He also reported that the road improvements in Harriet Addition were nearly completed.

The Superintendent also announced that due to an upcoming retirement in the Public Works department, the Township is accepting applications for a Maintenance Tech Worker. Specific information will be available no later than Monday, May 1 on the Township website at <https://www.madisontownship.org/job-opportunities>

Administrator Susan Brobst stated that the 2023 State of the Township annual mailer is at the printer and should be mailed tomorrow, Wednesday, April 26th to all Madison Township residents. Many thanks to Trustee Chipps for her assistance in the final layout, with revisions.

Administrator Brobst shared that Chief York had asked several months ago if the noise resolution could be amended or a new resolution passed to address the complaints they receive each year regarding excessive barking from dogs in the neighborhoods. After working with the current Franklin County Prosecutor's office, it was decided that our current resolution which addresses various noise issues, does cover barking dogs. At this time, the police department is prepared to issue warnings, and then tickets if necessary, for complaints regarding excessive barking from dogs.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$ 18,226,996.43. Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 11,410,510.65

Police \$ 2,611,475.28

General \$ 1,701,380.63

Public Works \$ 839,150.22

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Business of the Board

All resolutions presented were passed.

Resolution Updates

The Board approved the new contract with Fire Union Local 2507, May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2026.



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Madison Township Express

May 16, 2023, Special Board of Trustees Meeting

Following the notice of the special meeting being read, Fire Chief Robinson discussed the first item of business, Fireworks legislation.

Chief Robinson opened discussion regarding the use of fireworks within the Township. In November of 2021, House Bill 172 was signed into law. The new law went into effect July 1, 2022, and allows adults to use consumer-grade fireworks on private property for more than 20 days throughout the year. Last year, the Madison Township Board of Trustees discussed the new law publicly. At that time, it was determined that the Township would give the new legislation some time to be evaluated.

Chief Robinson updated the Board of Trustees on what other communities in the surrounding area were doing with their legislation. Canal Winchester is continuing with their verbiage stating that fireworks are not permissible for use by anyone other than approved professional vendors. Groveport is currently in the process of developing its law, and the Council's goal is to have something in place by the end of May.

No new action was taken on the topic as the Trustees will take some time to evaluate the issue.

The Board accepted the retirement of Fire Battalion Chief Mark Ballenger effective July 7, 2023, which then led to accepting resolutions to promote Fire Lieutenant Travis Bott to Battalion Chief and promote Firefighter Zach Thomas to Lieutenant.

Resolutions for the police department to purchase a 2022 Dodge Durango cruiser, in-car camera, and radio were also approved.

Properties asked to be declared unsecured by the Fire Marshal (5035 Brewster and 3532 Noe Bixby) were also approved. This will allow the Fire Marshal to move forward and any expense associated with this can be assessed to the property. The 26 grass and 3 trash nuisance properties were approved and the letters will be mailed tomorrow.

There were no resolutions following executive session. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 6 pm.



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Madison Township Express

May 23, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Board Presentations

Public Works Maintenance Tech Lonny Spires is retiring at the end of May with 18 years of service at Madison Township. The Board wished him well in his retirement.

Community Shout Outs

Trustee Chipps congratulated the seniors at both Canal Winchester and Groveport Madison School Districts. Trustee Jarvis recognized the upcoming Memorial Day ceremony at Canal Winchester, sponsored by the VFW 1052, held on Monday, May 29th at 10:30 am at the Union Grove Cemetery.

Old Business

Assistant Fire Chief Chas Adams shared with the Board that the City of Groveport Council tabled their discussion and vote on the Fireworks legislation until their June meeting. Based on that information, AC Adams recommended the Board also wait to discuss further until next month. The Board agreed to wait until June.

New Business

Administrator Brobst asked the minutes to reflect the request for an annexation from Madison Township (unincorporated) to the City of Columbus. This is a Type II annexation and as such will remain in the Township. Parcels at 5656 Bixby Road, +/- 22.3 acres.

Rickenbacker International Airport will be hosting the Columbus Air Show June 16-18, 2023. Tickets are preale only, with most of the events happening within the fenced area of the terminal. Rickenbacker, along with local Police and Fire departments, are discouraging the public from pulling off along the roads or into business parking lots to watch the event. Law Enforcement will be staged and patrolling various locations throughout the three-day event; please expect traffic delays. Air Show Traffic will be directed to use Alum Creek Drive to I-270, St. Rt. 317 to 23, and south of Rickenbacker, St. Rt. 762 to St. Rt. 23, In addition they expect an increase in restaurant patrons to the southeast area. Information and frequently asked questions can be found at <https://Columbusairshow.com>

Public Comments

A resident shared concerns about more frequent gunfire in Blacklick Estates. The concern was with the impact this creates on the police and fire resources, along with neighbors questioning their safety. Chief York responded that the Township officials are aware. Trustee Jarvis commented that unfortunately there is no quick solution and the information continues to unfold. The Board encouraged residents to report activity to the police.

Department Reports

Assistant Fire Chief Chas Adam asked the Board to approve a Clinical Agreement with Columbus State Community College, which allows their students to do ride alongs with our department and receive credit hours for such.

Police Chief Gary York asked for approval of the agreements for two (2) Groveport-Madison and one (1) Canal Winchester School Resource Officer for the 2023-2024 school year, as requested by each District. This will be a three (3) year agreement. Each District will be asked to approve this at their June Board meeting.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Watkins provided an update on the 2022 County Resurfacing Program for the Township, stating both Harriett Addition and the Township Complex work is complete. The Public Works crew will stripe the complex parking lot.

Administrator Susan Brobst provided updates on the Tire Collection coordinated through Franklin County Public Health, and partners Columbus Public Health, and the Cities of Groveport and Canal Winchester. The three hours collection brought in 814 tires, from throughout Franklin and Fairfield Counties. We look forward to working with everyone next year.

Regarding nuisance properties, as the Board is aware, we are at peak season for grass issues, having 14 reoccurring properties on our list, due to vacant homes and history of ongoing mowing. In addition, complaint calls and properties seen by police officers and township staff will appear on the nuisance list. Expect a special meeting in June to continue to keep up with this issue. Depending on the weather, additional meetings may be necessary in other months.

The police department received two inquires about reducing the speed on each dead-end of London Lancaster Road, after speaking with the Police Chief and Commander and Supt. Watkins, Administrator Brobst stated they believe this request is warranted and asked the Board to allow a letter of request to be sent to the Franklin County Engineer's office to proceed with a speed study and determination.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer stated there is a resolution on the agenda to to submit our updated records retention schedule to the State for approval.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$ 17,237,583.70.

Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 10,598,614.26
Police \$ 2,380,351.82
General \$ 1,749,830.12
Public Works \$ 844,736.67

Public Comments - none

Business of the Board

The two resolutions for approval of the minutes were removed from the agenda. The remaining resolutions were approved.



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Madison Township Express

June 27, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Board Presentations

A moment of silence was held in memory of former Trustee Bob Garvin. Bob was appointed to the Board in July 1994 and served through December 2001 and was appointed a second time, May, 2011 through December 2011. Bob's love for his community was unwavering whether it was the Township, Cities or School Districts. Each trustee shared a memory of Mr. Garvin and expressed their deepest condolences.

Police Sergeant Angie Gamblin was recognized and thanked for her 5 years of service to the Madison Township Police Department.

Old Business

Assistant Chief Chas Adams provided an EMS follow up to the Rickenbacker Air Show, stating everything went smoothly during three-day show. Police Chief Gary York added that law enforcement responded to non-injury crashes and the majority of spectators were parked and watching from safe locations and off the roadways. He also stated that no overtime was needed.

Assistant Chief Adams and Chief York shared updates on the fireworks legislation from the Cities. The Board agreed with the decisions of Groveport and Canal Winchester who have implemented a ban and also enact legislation to ban the use of fireworks. A resolution was passed.

New Business - There was no new business.

Public Comments

A resident of Blacklick Estates expressed her concern over the excessive noise around her residence. She expressed that she had called the Madison Township police, and the noise was reduced significantly. She asked the Board to please be vigilant over the 4th of July holiday.

Department Reports

Assistant Fire Chief Chas Adams pointed out that there was a resolution on the agenda requesting a reclassification for full-time Firefighter Faller to part-time status, and then an additional request for a six-month leave of absence as he fulfills his dream of becoming a physician.

Police Chief Gary York announced the Save the Date for the Police National Night Out, Tuesday evening, August 1, 2023, at the Groveport Madison Middle School North.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Watkins stated there was a resolution on the agenda to accept the documents to participate in the 2023 Franklin County Engineer's Resurfacing program for Marwick Estates.

Administrator Susan Brobst has three resolutions on the agenda tonight. A request to place signage near the Lithopolis and Gender Roads roundabout for a "No Engine Brake" has been approved by ODOT, and a resolution for signage is required. The Franklin County Engineer's office is asking to amend our agreement with them regarding the maintenance of the school flasher, as now both Asbury and Dunloe Elementary schools have this safety equipment. Finally, information shared with each Trustee earlier this year will now be amended in the Employee Handbook.

Fiscal Officer Laurie Vermeer stated there would be a Special Meeting for the 2024 Annual Budget Public Hearing on July 7, 2023, at 7 am, as required by the Franklin County Auditor's office. Department Heads will present information and details on their 2024 budget requests in December to the Board for approval.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$16,071,336.05.

Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$9,457,160.36

Police \$2,257,037.98

General \$1,806,053.24

Public Works \$886,993.25

Public Comments - none

Business of the Board

All resolutions presented were passed by the Board.

Resolution Updates

Following executive session, resolutions to promote a Police Sergeant and hire a police officer were approved, along with the promotion of a Fire Lieutenant and hiring of three full-time firefighters from the part-time list.



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Madison Township Express

July 7, 2023, Special Board of Trustees Meeting

The special meeting was called to order for the purpose of the Public Hearing for the 2024 Annual Budget and Nuisance Properties.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer discussed the official budgeting process required by Franklin County. Many counties forgo this process, but Franklin County still requires documents to be submitted estimating revenue and expenses for the upcoming year. She explained that the Township does its actual budgeting in December, once the receipts for the year are known.

Resolutions to accept and forward the 2024 Annual Budget to the Franklin County Auditor and the grass nuisance resolution were both passed.

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Madison Township Express

July 25, 2023, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

Presentations

Fire Chief Derek Robinson presented Battalion Chief Mark Ballenger his retirement flag and everyone congratulated and thanked him for his 27 years of service to Madison Township. Mark also served our country in the U.S. Airforce for 10 years of active duty and 20 years in the Air National Guard, including four deployments.

Old Business

Fire Chief Robinson stated that there was only one known fireworks issue that the Madison Township Fire Department responded to over the holiday. There was a structure fire on Elmira Drive due to improperly discarded fireworks. Aside from this incident, there were no Emergency Medical Services calls pertaining to injuries or issues regarding fireworks. Police Chief York reported two individuals were cited for fireworks over the Holiday. To date, 18 fireworks complaint calls have been received.

New Business

Administrator Brobst shared a request for The Family Dollar at 5100 Sedalia Rd in Blacklick Estates, for a new liquor license. Their request is for C1- to carry out beer and C2 - to carry out wine and pre-pkg mixed beverages. Staff recommendation was to request a hearing, should this request go to the voters in this precinct. Concerns include a daycare located beside this business, despite the fact there are no current liquor licenses held in the area, the police continue to have constant runs for various issues at the businesses. Administrator Brobst shared that another Expedited Type 2 Annexation Petition was received from 4500 Gender Road to annex to the City of Columbus from unincorporated Madison Township, this property is +/- 1.37 acres.

Public Comments - None

Department Reports

Fire Chief Derek Robinson requested approval to apply for a Bureau of Workers' Compensation Safety Intervention Grant. This is a 3-to-1 matching grant, which means that BWC contributes \$3 for every \$1 contributed by the employer. The Fire Department would like to apply for two pieces of safety oriented equipment,, which is a grant requirement. A Strongarm, is a battery-powered tool that serves as a hydraulic forcible entry tool. This can aid in reducing back or hand injuries because the tool can force the door without using traditional methods that involve pushing, pulling, and striking hand tools. An electronic fan will be used to ventilate toxic gases or fumes from a structure during a fire or hazardous environment, such as carbon monoxide.

Police Chief Gary York and Chief Robinson gave an update on the recent Noe-Bixby Road Homicide Trial. Several fire and police personnel testified at the trial, and other personnel from both departments were prepared to testify if necessary. Thanks to the Franklin County Sheriff's Detectives and the State Fire Marshal for conducting the investigation. Evidence from the September 30, 2021, incident included body camera footage from police officers, which lead to a guilty verdict.

Chief York reported that Madison Township participated in the central Ohio Law Enforcement Operation Unity "All Hands-on Deck" which maximizes police enforcement efforts across agencies, including the Franklin County Sheriff, and Special Investigation Unit Detectives. Results included firearms and marijuana being seized, various traffic citations, vehicle impounds, and a number of charges filed. Chief reminded everyone about National Night Out next Tuesday, August 1st from 6-8 pm at the Groveport Madison Middle School, North, the event is free. Chief York shared that the Madison Township Police Department was featured in the Ohio Collaborative newsletter in recognition of our policies and procedures in five categories meeting or exceeding the State's requirement.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Watkins announced the Fall tire collection for Township residents including Canal Winchester and Groveport will be on Wednesday, September 13 from 1:00 to 7:00 at Brobst Park. Strawser Paving has completed the edge milling, applied the SAMI, and is scheduled to overlay the roads this week in Marwick Estates. Franklin County Engineers are assisting us in our application for the SFY 25 (OPWC) Ohio Public Works Commission grant application that is due September 1. The roads submitted in this year's grant are Glenfield Road, Bonita Place, Atkinson Road, and Bixby Road west of Ebright Road, and crosswalk improvements at Harbor Blvd and Tremaine Road.

Administrator Brobst shared information from the Franklin County Engineer regarding a public meeting on Thursday, July 27th at 6 pm at Asbury Methodist Church regarding the Hott Ditch Drainage Improvement Project. The presentation begins at 6 pm and a time for questions and answers will follow. All those along the project area were mailed information earlier this month from the County.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$\$14,956,943.79. Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$8,585,097.53

Police \$1,965,177.90

General \$1,844,169.03

Public Works \$900,804.32

Public Comments - None

Business of the Board - All resolutions presented were passed by the Board

Additional Resolutions -Following executive session, resolutions to re-class a fire department employee, hire a police officer, approved an MOU with the FOP, and purchase a police car.



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Madison Township Express

August 8, 2023, Special Board of Trustees Meeting

Following the notice of the special meeting, the nuisance resolutions were accepted and there were no resolutions following the executive session.

The next regular meeting is August 22, 2023 at 6 pm.



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Madison Township Express

August 22, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting

Presentations

Police Chief Gary York introduced Pastor Chris Andrews from the Fellowship Baptist Church on Winchester Pike as the new Department Chaplain.

Bethany Sanders, Director of Policy & Strategic Initiatives from the Franklin County Auditor's office shared a PowerPoint presentation and information regarding the property reappraisals that have been completed and will be reflected in the December 2023 tax bills payable in January 2024.

All county auditors in Ohio are required by state law to update the value of all properties via a reappraisal every six years. Property owners will receive a mailing this week providing their new tentative value and answering general questions. The information in the mailer and more is available online at <https://www.franklincountyauditor.com/knowyourhomevalue>.

If you disagree with your new value, you are able to make an appointment (in scheduled locations around Franklin County or virtually) for September to discuss your concerns and provide information on what you think the value should be.

Old Business

A reminder that the Township Tire Collection is Weds., September 13th at Brobst Park Athletic side from 1 pm - 7 pm - maximum 10 tires per household, bring utility bill or driver's license.

New Business

Administrator Susan Brobst shared that a liquor license request has been received by Rustic Rose Venue LLC 5952 London Lancaster Rd., Groveport (former Old Blue Rooster venue) for a D1 and D5, consuming beer, wine, pre-packaged mixed drinks on site. In following protocol with a new license, staff recommended requesting a hearing through the Ohio Department of Liquor Control. The Trustees agreed to request a hearing.

Chief Robinson announced the annual 9/11 Ceremony at Motts Military Museum at 8 am on Monday, September 11, 2023. The event is open to the public, and no reservations are required. There is limited seating, feel free to bring a lawn chair if needed.

The Fire Prevention Open House will be held on Sunday, October 8th at Fire Station 181 on South Hamilton Road from 1 pm - 4 pm. The public is invited to attend. There will be an auto extrication demonstration, Air Evac Helicopter, activities for the kids, and various public education events.

Public Comments

A resident addressed the Board about the condition of the American Flag at Brobst Park. She was assured that the flag would be changed tomorrow. She also inquired about the possibility of putting flashing lights at the crosswalk at Chatterton east of Refugee. Administrator Brobst and Superintendent Watkins said they would reach out to Truro Township about the crosswalk.

Department Reports

Police Chief Gary York shared a body-camera video and presented information from the Groveport Madison vs Canal Winchester football game on Friday, August 18th at the Canal Winchester Stadium. TV stations 4, 6, and 10 aired the story and did follow-up interviews with Chief York for additional information. Debriefing and follow-up meetings have been held with all those involved. Thanks to the quick actions of the Madison Township Officers, Fairfield and Franklin County Deputies, Groveport Duty Cars, Groveport-Madison, and Canal Winchester school officials, and several bystanders, everyone was kept safe.

FISCAL OFFICER: Laurie Vermeer

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$ 20,305,745.14. Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 12,468,624.30
Police \$ 2,909,263.89
General \$ 2,093,493.44
Public Works \$ 955,040.35

Public Comments

All resolutions presented were passed by the Board.



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Madison Township Express

September 26, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Presentations

Police Office Manager Sarah Devonshire received her 5-year service award from Chief York and Fire Lieutenant Darrin Decker received his 15-year service award from Chief Robinson.

Chief York and Commander Boyd presented Madison Township Officers Schwotzer, Mallory, Deskins, Blake, Jackson, Hummel, Sergeants Tiller and Gamblin, and Fairfield County Deputy Baughman, along with Groveport Madison staff Sam Gamertsfelder and Jeff Altman, along with a private citizen Thad Helber, certificates of appreciation for their team effort, partnership, and assisting the police. On August 18, 2023, at the football game between Canal Winchester and Groveport Madison, in which three juveniles and one adult were arrested and three fully automatic guns were recovered, this group of individuals acted quickly and professionally to keep the students, staff, and spectators safe.

Senator Michele Reynolds also attended the meeting to recognize the individuals above with a proclamation and words of appreciation.

The Trustees extended their appreciation to everyone involved.

Groveport Madison Director of Business Services, Chris Reed, shared information regarding the purchase of the building at 4500 S. Hamilton Road, (old AEP building) which is housing Cruiser Accel, and before the end of the school year will house the bus fleet. He stated that the building was a perfect fit for the district and that no tax dollars were used for its purchase.

The final presentation included Madison Wisniewski from the Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District addressing the Board regarding Storm Water Awareness Week, October 1-7. Nathan Ralph from Franklin County Public Health reminded everyone to check and make sure septic systems were working correctly, and to call with any questions or concerns.

Old Business

Administrator Brobst reported the tire drive results of 415 total; 269 unincorporated, 76 Groveport, 24 Canal Winchester, and 46 others.

Chief York reminded everyone that the hands-free cell phone law enforcement begins October 6th. <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/phonesdown> Drivers under 18 years of age are

restricted from using their devices in any way, For drivers 18 years and older, hands-free non-emergency calls can only be made or received via speakerphone, earpiece, wireless headset, electronic watch, or connecting the phone to a vehicle. Phones must be HANDS FREE! The following are not allowed: texting, dialing, browsing social media, video calls or FaceTime, browsing the internet, watching videos, playing games, and recording or streaming video while driving.

New Business

Administrator Brobst shared additional requests for three parcels using the Expedited Type 2 Annexation petition, totaling 10.967+/-acres to annex to the City of Columbus, 5071-5091 & 5105 Ebright Road.

Chief York announced Madison Township will hold Trick or Treat on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The City of Groveport is also that evening during the same time. The City of Canal Winchester is also on the 31st, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Remember to walk with an adult, watch for children crossing the street, and be sure to check all candy closely before eating it.

Public Comments -

Three residents from Wingate Road addressed the Board regarding the excessive traffic and speeding on their street. The Board thanked them for sharing their concerns and agreed to look into the problem for solutions.

Department Reports

Fire Chief Robinson expressed appreciation for all those who attended the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony that was held at Motts Military Museum, Inc. He thanked the Madison Township Fire & Police Department Honor Guards, the Groveport Police Department, the City of Groveport, Groveport-Madison High School Choir, Riley Cartmill, Alexander Poth, Pastor Paul Barnes, and Chaplain Chris Andrews for their participation in making the event a success. Chief Robinson also personally thanked Firefighter Ed Dildine for organizing the event.

Chief Robinson recognized Fire Department personnel for volunteering their time to paint an A7D Corsair II Fighter Jet at Motts Military Museum, Inc. on September 21st. Assistant Chief Chas Adams, Lieutenant Justin Vermillion, FF Mathew Cantrell, FF Ethan Griffin, FF Anthony Mastracci, FF Kyle Peters, FF Aaron Price, FF Preston Reese, FF Thomas Tremains, and FF Jason Walters spent the day sanding and painting to help preserve the aircraft that was utilized by the Rickenbacker Air National Guard 121st Fighter Wing.

Police Chief Gary York shared that two resolutions on the agenda including the purchase of 22 Body Worn Cameras, including licenses, and accessories to replace the current equipment which is no longer supported, the total cost is \$83,356.56. The Axon program allows for a 5-year payment program and delivery would be within six weeks. This same purchase qualifies

for an OCJS State of Ohio reimbursement grant, which the Chief asked approval to be able to submit an application.

Chief also announced a Women's Self-Defense Class on Saturday, October 21st, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The class will be held at the Madison Township Community Center and it is FREE; however, space is limited. For questions or to sign up email policeadmin@madisontownship.org or call 614-836-5355 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Watkins shared that the pilot project for speed calming in front of Dunloe Elementary (both intersections) was nearly completed today. This work was done in-house by the Public Works staff. Material for both intersections was just over \$9,000.00, plus an additional \$2,500 for the county to install the markings. The quote for one intersection was \$31,000.00 for material and labor. Unfortunately, these are time consuming projects, and they take away from other work being done by the crew.

Administrator Susan Brobst stated there is a resolution to extend the current Rumpke Recycling Contract for another year. Recycles will continue to be picked up by our current hauler, Local Waste Service. The Administrator recommended to the Board that the Citizen Advisory Committee be reconvened, and to allow anyone interested to contact the office at 614-836-5308 or email sbrobst@madisontownship.org. Initial discussion after electing a new chair will include other speed-calming options being considered, and information on the SWACO recycling cart program, which was discussed prior to COVID. Administrator Brobst shared that under this program SWACO provides a grant to help discount the initial purchase of a 64-gallon recycling cart for each household in the entity, then coordinates the order with the manufacturer, delivery, a tracking system, and resident education. Years ago \$5.00 per cart, paid by the Township, was expected. As the costs of materials to make the carts began to increase, SWACO was not able to offer a reasonable rate. They are revisiting the program and have a neighboring City also interested, which by combining the number of household carts to be produced, would provide significant savings. Details are still being finalized. The Board agreed to ask for other residents that may be interested.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$ 18,983,176.37. Funds by department are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 11,439,765.96
Police \$ 2,608,617.45
General \$ 2,092,597.01
Public Works \$ 957,671.14

Business of the Board - All resolutions were passed by the Board as presented.

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Madison Township Express

October 24, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting

Presentations

Chief Training Officer Josh Ruetsch was presented his 20-year service award from Fire Chief Robinson.

Retired Firefighter and Firefighter 4 Kids volunteer John Jones shared that new unwrapped toys will be collected at all fire stations between the day after Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. There will be a box in each lobby. Sign-ups for those who wish to shop for a toy for their child from newborn to 12 years may stop by Madison Township Fire Station 183, 3228 Noe Bixby Rd., 43232. Dates are November 24, 25, 26, and 27 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. On November 28, 29 & 30 the times are 11 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Proof of residence in the Groveport Madison or Canal Winchester School District, proof of need in the form of SNAP or HEAP, a photo ID, birth certificate for each child, and child custody paperwork, if applicable, must be shown. For additional locations, contact 614-645-3111.

Fire Chief Robinson presented John Jones with a Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation for his dedication to the Firefighter 4 Kids program, in which he started volunteering in 1987.

Groveport Madison Superintendent Jamie Grube addressed the Board about the upcoming levy, and introduced the new treasurer, Adam Cullier. Treasurer Cullier provided the Board with several handouts, and emphasized the fact that this was a renewal levy, and would not increase taxes. Libby Gray, representing the Groveport Madison Schools Levy Campaign, asked the Board for their support.

Old Business

Police Chief York reminded everyone that the Township will hold Trick or Treat on Tuesday, October 31st, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Police department will have tents set up in Groveport, Canal Winchester, and Blacklick Estates where they will be handing out hotdogs. All Officers will also have candy to hand out from their cruisers. Please be extra cautious of our excited trick-or-treaters as they travel through the neighborhoods.

Administrator Brobst followed up regarding the speed study request for both dead-ends of London Lancaster Road. The Franklin County Engineer's office and the Ohio Department of Transportation reviewed the information and agreed to lower the speed limit to 40 mph in each roadway area. Signs have been posted.

New Business

Administrator Brobst stated a transfer of ownership liquor license request has been received from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control. This only allows objects on the new owner holding the license; it does not affect any of the licenses themselves. The Board agreed with the staff recommendation of no objections.

Fire Chief Robinson announced that Santa and Mrs. Clause will visit the Township on Saturday, December 2nd, during the annual Township parade in Blacklick Estates, which begins at 1 p.m. The parade will travel the same path as in past years, and goodie bags for each youth will be handed out along the route. The parade route information will be posted on the Township website in the near future, and the parade route signs will be posted the week before the event.

Public Comments - None

Department Reports

Administrator Susan Brobst shared that the Reorganizational meeting of the Citizen Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, November 1st at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center, 4575 Madison Lane, Groveport. Those interested in joining the committee should share their name, and email address with the office or come that evening. Contact 614-836-5308 or email sbrobst@madisontownship.org.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$ 18,535,868.17.

Department available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 11,125,454.24	General \$ 2,202,442.96
Public Works \$ 1,099,850.94	Police - \$ 2,314,209.05

Public Comments - None

Business of the Board - All resolutions presented were approved by the Board.

Following executive session, resolutions to promote a Firefighter to Lieutenant and re-classify a part-time firefighter to full-time were approved.

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Madison Township Express

November 28, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting

Old Business

Chief Robinson reminded everyone that the Annual Madison Township Santa Parade will be held this Saturday, December 2nd, at 1:00 PM. Signs have been placed to designate the parade route through Blacklick Estates, and a map can be found on the Township's website <https://www.madisontownship.org/important-information>.

New Business - None

Public Comments - None

Department Reports

Fire Chief Robinson provided the following information regarding resolutions on the agenda tonight:

FEEG Grant - allowing the Fire Department to apply for the BWC Firefighter Exposure to Environmental Elements Grant (FEPEG). This would provide up to \$15,000.00 of structural firefighting gloves and hoods, with the Township having up to a \$3,000.00 match responsibility.

LUCAS Devices - a proposed purchase of three new LUCAS Devices to replace three outdated models that are no longer covered under the maintenance and repair program due to their age and the lack of repair parts for the units. Currently, Stryker is offering a valuable trade-in allowance and discount for the new models if purchased before December 15, 2023. The trade-in and discount total \$15,000.00 in savings to the Township.

Mobile Data Computer Purchase - Monies were budgeted for 2023 to replace the Fire Department's Mobile Data Computers (MDC) in all their apparatus. These devices receive dispatch information, GPS location, and response data. After many years of upgrades, the current MDCs have met their life expectancy and must be replaced. The new models will have current technology options and a five-year warranty.

Station 181 Bathroom Remodel - After extensive floor damage resulting from underground plumbing repairs and the restroom being in its original form from 1986, the approval allows the upgrade to Station 181's Public Restroom. This renovation will include new floor and wall coverings, a new countertop, fixtures, and a shower.

Department Report's continued

(Fire) Chevy Tahoe Emergency Lighting Package - With the recent purchase of a Chevy Tahoe to replace the current Battalion Chief SUV, the purchase and installation of the emergency lighting, radios, and mobile data computer dock is required.

Police Chief Gary York reported that as of November 21, 2023, all sworn members have transitioned entirely to the new Axon Body Worn Cameras. The old cameras lacked the technology updates and replacements for that system were not available.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Watkins shared that the County Engineer's pricing for salt has increased by \$9.62 per ton for a total of \$66.74 per ton this season. The past six-year average used by the Township has been 146 tons. Earlier this month, the 4-man public works crew did extensive clean-up work at three nuisance properties, which included using the excavator, skid loader, grapple bucket rental, and dumpsters. Properties took 2, 4, and 12 hours each to clean. Two additional properties are being cleaned up this week.

Administrator Susan Brobst shared that the Citizen Advisory Committee is looking for additional members. The next meeting is tomorrow evening, Weds., November 29th at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Community Center.

2023 Brobst Park stats include a total of 104 reservations at the two shelters, of which 37 were residents and 67 were non-residents. A resolution on the agenda for a new contract period of 2024-2026 through Franklin County Public Health for services through VDCI, at a price increase of \$2,675.09 per year.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$ 15,998,644.39.

Departmental available funds are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 9,705,190.72	General \$ 2,177,309.96
Public Works \$ 748,509.56	Police - \$ 1,893,077.61

Public Comments - None

Business of the Board - All resolutions presented were approved by the Board.

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Madison Township Express

December 12, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting

Presentations

Fire Battalion Chief Travis Bott received his 20-year service award. Chief York shared a video with those attending the meeting, in which Officers Yocum and Manson were called to a dispute with a teenager and a knife. The Officers were commended for their level-headed professional approach to the issue that resulted in the teen dropping the knife and no one being hurt. The video will be used as a training tool for the department.

Old Business

Administrator Susan Brobst informed the Board that two of the Liquor Permit requests from earlier this year for which the Board requested hearings, are now ready for the next steps. After several discussions with the Liquor Control staff regarding concerns about the Family Dollar request, it was determined that since this would be a new license, there was nothing under the statute that would be a viable objection at this time; however, when the annual renewal is up, high crime, drug issues, etc within a 1-mile area, could be submitted under an objection. The Rustic Rose has a new owner at the London Lancaster venue, and voters in that precinct passed the permit ballot language. The recommendation of the Administrator and Police Chief is to withdraw both objections and continue to monitor all businesses with liquor permits for their annual review.

New Business.

Ms. Brobst shared that Community Development Block Grants are available for new sidewalks and sidewalk repairs. The county engineer oversees the grant application process, and sidewalk repairs are done in zones, with schools being the priority. Public Works Supt. Watkins and the Administrator have contacted the Groveport Madison Administration to help provide information so that a multi-phase/year sidewalk repair program application can be submitted at no cost to the township or school district. More information will be shared before requesting a future resolution for this grant.

The CDBG also offers funds to help construct sidewalks in existing neighborhoods that meet the requirements. The County Engineer believes the Wingate, Walburn, and Trenton area would qualify for such a grant. If awarded, the Township would be responsible for the cost of the design. The grant would pay for the bid process and construction of the sidewalks. Staff recommended that the Board submit a request to the County Engineer to determine the scope and fee cost for the design. There are no costs for

this initial step of the process. Once the information is received, the Board will determine if they move forward or not.

Public Comments

Resident Andrew Nimely addressed the Board and congratulated Trustee Bruce Jarvis on his win this past election.

Department Reports

Fire Chief Derek Robinson shared that 1000 goodie bags were distributed by Santa's helpers at the parade in Blacklick Estates and the Heritage Park event in Groveport. Thanks to our partners, the City of Groveport, Aqua Ohio, Local Waste Services, FOP Capital City Lodge No. 9, Fire Local 2507, Public Works Staff, Eastland Fire Cadets, and the Elected Officials and Department Heads.

Police Chief Gary York Congratulated Officer Todhunter who joined the department earlier this year with more than a decade of police experience. The Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) "Top Cop" Award recognizes him for removing 35 impaired drivers from Township roadways and saving lives since May 2023.

Chief York shared additional information regarding resolutions on the agenda tonight. The Axon Fleet (in-car) Cameras would replace the current system, which will be at its end of life in January 2025. The new system integrates with the new body-worn cameras purchased earlier this fall.

Last week Gov. DeWine announced an additional \$4 million in Office of Criminal Justice (OCJS) grant funds to implement reduction strategies for violent crimes for law enforcement agencies. The department will apply for Flock camera technology (license plate readers). These cameras do not profile or capture images of the vehicle occupants but do alert police of stolen vehicles or plates and can be used as a tool by the officers.

Administrator Susan Brobst requested permission to submit a letter asking Franklin County Drainage Engineer Robertson to include the Brobst Park Improvement drainage project phase 1 with their General Drainage Maintenance Contract in 2024.

A resolution on the agenda will allow the Board to show their support for Jackson Township Fiscal Officer Grossman to represent Franklin County Township Association on the SWACO Board through 2025.

Ms. Brobst shared that in keeping with the Auditor's annual year-end required resolutions, no additional meetings should be necessary in 2023.

Fiscal Officer Vermeer reported the total cash on hand to be \$15,517,844.08. Funds available by department are listed below. Any discrepancies in the reported total and combined funds are due to the existence of several other small, specific funds not mentioned.

Fire \$ 9,134,461.44	General \$ 2,287,661.59
Public Works \$ 773,472.41	Police - \$ 1,847,099.50

Public Comments - None

Public Budget Meeting

Fiscal Officer Vermeer shared that the Township funds remained healthy, and thanked the Administrator and Department heads for being fiscally responsible. She stated there was a resolution on the agenda to approve the temporary budget for 2024.

Department Heads shared a few highlights of their projects for 2024.

Chief Robinson announced that the final payment for Fire Station 183 will be made in 2024, 2 years earlier than projected at construction time. Following the capital equipment replacement timeline, a new medic will be ordered in 2024 (build-time is 36 months), and a new chassis for one of the existing medic boxes will also be ordered at 2023 pricing and secured for 2026 delivery. The Fire and Police Departments are implementing a mental health check-in for their personnel with certified counselors.

Police Chief shared that contract negotiations will begin early in 2024, followed by the hiring of an additional officer, bringing the department to 22 sworn personnel. With an increase in the number of community events the department participates in, purchasing an enclosed bumper pull trailer is planned.

Administrator Brobst shared that the Public Works Superintendent planned to purchase a vacuum trailer, which is used to clean out leaves and debris in and around the stormwater drains. The replacement of the large swing set at the park is planned along with the first phase of the park drainage improvements at the park.

Business of the Board - The Board approved all resolutions presented.

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