

**CARROLLTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
DEPARTMENTAL MEETING
Monday, August 14, 2023**

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Supervisor Abney	Present
	Clerk Fritz	Present
	Treasurer Thurston	Absent - excused
	Trustee Douglas	Present
	Trustee Westphal	Present

There being a quorum present, Supervisor Abney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Also in attendance: Director Megan Weaver and Police Chief Chris Kellett.

Acceptance of Agenda:

It was moved by Westphal and supported by Fritz to accept the agenda as presented. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

New Business:

Rob Klaczkiewicz, CPA from Smith & Klaczkiewicz PC, presented the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023. He stated that Carrollton Township received an unmodified opinion, which is the highest assurance that an audit firm can give on a municipality's financial statements. Mr. Klaczkiewicz went through some highlights and answered questions from the board members. Discussion was held on the large net investment loss for the MERS pension plan. He noted that there were no audit comments given this year and he thanked Weaver and her staff for their assistance with the audit. Discussion followed. It was moved by Douglas and supported by Abney to receive and file the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Pending Business:

Weaver handed out the response filed by Carrollton Center (3771 N. Michigan Avenue, LLC) forwarded to her by Attorney Gary Campbell earlier that afternoon. The next court hearing was scheduled for the following day, August 15th at 11:00am. She reviewed the response with the board members. In summary, the defendant (Carrollton Center), stated that all the work that was ordered to be completed had been done prior to 12/31/22. This included the parking lot, sidewalks, and roof. Weaver stated that the only item completed from that list was the sidewalk repairs. The parking lot had not been completely done nor had the roof been replaced on the southern end of the plaza. Much discussion followed.

Weaver stated that she would be attending the zoom court hearing the following day and she had a phone conference with both the Township's attorney and Jim Gray earlier that day to discuss the lack of progress on both the parking lot and roof. She explained that history was repeating itself as the property owner, Mr. Kouza, waited until the day before the court hearing to claim

that everything was done and in compliance. This was simply not true. More discussion followed. It was moved by Douglas and supported by Fritz to seek complete compliance of the court order for Carrollton Center as originally stated with the remaining items of the parking lot and roof to be repaired completely. Both the parking lot and roof are still in general disrepair and the Township Board will consider all acts of compliance up to and including closing the entire plaza. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Weaver informed the board members that the N. Michigan Road Project was complete.

Weaver discussed the issues with parking at the Recreation Flag Football games at Sherman Park. Since the Township's parks are considered "neighborhood parks" and were designed for residents to walk/bike to, there is very little parking available. The first week of the football program, people parked on the old tennis courts located behind the playscape. The driveway leading to that area must also be kept clear in case the DPW needs to access the Sulfide Building located there. Discussion followed. Abney asked Weaver to talk to Sumption and find a solution to at least get through the remainder of the season (ending September 2).

Weaver asked the board members if they had any additions to the proposed goals and objectives for the 5-Year Recreation Plan draft. It was board consensus to submit the goals and objectives as presented.

New Business (cont'd):

Kellett presented quotes from three different companies for speed limit radar signs. There were several options including solar powered or lithium battery powered, permanent or portable, as well as different sizes for the speed display. Kellett was leaning towards the quotes from Traffic Logix Corporation with a price range of between \$2,500 and \$3,700 each depending on the options chosen. Much discussion followed.

Board members asked Kellett to talk with the schools to see if they would be interested in sharing the cost of the speed radar signs if permanent signs were placed on both ends of Church St. and both ends of Mapleridge Rd. for school traffic. Abney stated that he would still like to discuss purchasing two portable speed radar signs that could be moved around the Township as well. Discussion followed. It was board consensus to have Kellett discuss with Carrollton Public Schools and put on the August 28 agenda.

Weaver presented a resignation email from Code Enforcement Officer Sal Salazar (copy attached). Salazar's last day of work would be Friday, August 18. Weaver was appreciative of Salazar offering to come back and help train his replacement. It was moved by Westphal and supported by Douglas to accept the resignation of Sal Salazar from the code enforcement officer position effective August 18, 2023. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Kellett asked the board if they were willing to consider a police officer also doing the code enforcement officer job duties as he had two police officers interested in the position. Discussion followed. Abney stated that he was concerned with the idea of a police officer that was a union position doing the job duties of a non-union position. How would that work?

Weaver reminded the board that the hourly wage of a police officer would not be cost effective for the code enforcement officer position as the General Fund must pay for all code enforcement activities. Salazar was making \$19.50 per hour and that (along with the other costs of code enforcement operations) cost the General Fund over \$60,000 the previous fiscal year. She asked that the board consider a lower starting wage for the new hire. She also was not in support of a senior police officer doing the job along with their current job duties. Discussion followed.

Abney asked which two police officers were interested in the position. Kellett responded that Bill Doran and Jim Kellett were interested. Abney stated that he was not in favor of Jim Kellett being managed by Chris Kellett (family member). Abney also wanted the code position to be full-time and he wanted to put the ad out for the public to see what kind of response it got. Fritz agreed and asked that a cost comparison be done for a new hire versus a current police officer. Discussion followed. It was board consensus to have Weaver put the job opening online and on Indeed.com and to set the starting wage as \$15.00 - \$18.00 per hour depending on experience.

Public Comments:

Rose King, 3427 N. Michigan, asked why the mulch wasn't put in Hanchett Park, but it was in the other two parks. Weaver responded that due to the Meet Up and Eat Up Lunch Program that the school held in Hanchett Park all summer with approximately 50 kids attending every day, the DPW was waiting until that program was done (August 18) before putting the new mulch down. Ms. King also stated that she thought Officer Doran would be a good fit for the code enforcement officer position.

Director Comments:

Weaver informed the board that the Saginaw County Community Action Committee had reached out to her, and their funding source had been extended to March 31, 2024. They asked to amend the agreement with Carrollton Township to provide assistance with residents on their water/sewer bills until March 31, 2024. Weaver had signed the memorandum of agreement (copy attached). The board members were in agreement with doing so.

Board Comments:

Westphal stated that she hoped the court hearing with Carrollton Center went well.

Fritz questioned the amount of sidewalk that McKay was replacing. He said the invoice listed 150 ft. of sidewalk; however, only the sidewalks at the entrance/exit to the parking lot had been done. Weaver stated that there was also a section of sidewalk back between the municipal building and DPW garage that was replaced. Fritz asked if the 150 ft. should've been the entire frontage of the building (out by the road). Weaver didn't think so, but she would get with Sumption to clarify.

Douglas reminded everyone that the Lions Club was cooking for the residents of Carrollton Village on Wednesday, August 16 and all were welcome.

Abney thanked Weaver for a great job on the audit.

Adjournment:

It was moved by Westphal and supported by Fritz to adjourn. There being all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry W. Fritz, Clerk

Public in attendance:

Rose King 3427 N. Michigan