

Lawrence Township Board Meeting
Tuesday 27, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.
Major General Ronald Brooks
Lawrence Government Center
Public Assembly Room
9001 E 59th Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46216

Republican Caucus at 5:30 p.m.
Democrat Caucus at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes from January 19, 2010 of the Lawrence Advisory Board
2. **Resolution 2010-5** Additional Appropriations for Township Assistance.
3. **Resolution 2010-06** Resolution Concerning Employee Contributions to Certain Pension and Retirement Fund (77 Fund)
4. **Resolution 2010-7** Resolution Concerning Employee Contributions to Certain Pension and Retirement Fund (Civilian PERF)
5. **Resolution 2010-8** A resolution of the Township Board authorizing the Trustee to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the members of the Lawrence Township Hunger Coalition

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Time Called to Order: 6:03 P.M.

Time Adjourned: 6:40 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Healy
Christie Wilmoth
Emmajean Hines
Dino Batalis
Tony Widgery
Fred Freeman
Steven Rose

TRUSTEE: Russell Brown

Mr. Healy called the Lawrence Township Board meeting to order on Tuesday, April 27, 2010, at 6:03 P.M. He stated that there was a quorum present and asked Mr. Batalis to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 19, 2010, MEETING OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD.

Ms. Hines made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2010, Lawrence Township Board meeting. Mr. Batalis seconded. Motion agreed to 7-0.

II. RESOLUTION 2010-5 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE.

Trustee Brown presented Resolution 2010-5 and requested that the resolution for additional appropriations for township assistance be withdrawn. He introduced Tom Guevara with Crowe Horwath who explained why they would like to have the resolution removed from the agenda.

Mr. Guevara stated that it was his understanding that there was a need to do an additional appropriation due to the fact that the township assistance was under funded. He was under the impression that an additional appropriation needed to be made out of the Rainy Day Fund, but he did not know that as a part of the regular budget process there was already a line item in the Rainy Day Fund that was budgeted, appropriated, and approved by the Department of Local Government and Finance for township assistance. He stated that he confirmed this with the DLGF and there was no need for this resolution.

The resolution was withdrawn.

III. RESOLUTION 2010-6 RESOLUTION CONCERNING EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO CERTAIN PENSION AND RETIREMENT FUNDS (77 FUND).

Trustee Brown presented Resolution 2010-6 which is a resolution concerning employee contributions to certain pension and retirement funds (77 Fund). He stated that the resolution is required by Public Employee's Retirement Fund indicating that employees are paying a portion or 6% of their retirement. He stated it is retroactive to January 1, 2010. Mr. Healy called for a vote on Resolution 2010-6. Motion agreed 7-0.

IV. RESOLUTION 2010-7 RESOLUTION CONCERNING EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO CERTAIN PENSION AND RETIREMENT FUNDS (CIVILIAN PERF).

Trustee Brown presented Resolution 2010-7 which is a resolution concerning employee contributions to certain pension and retirement funds (Civilian PERF). He stated that this indicates that civilian employees are paying a portion or 3% of their retirement. He stated that this has been approved by PERF. Mr. Batalis made a motion to approve Resolution 2010-7. Ms. Hines seconded. Motion agreed to 7-0.

V. RESOLUTION 2010-8 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD AUTHORIZING THE TRUSTEE TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP HUNGER COALITION.

Trustee Brown presented Resolution 2010-8 authorizing the Trustee to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the members of the Lawrence Township Hunger Coalition. He stated that the emergency assistance currently offers food assistance in the form of a voucher to various grocery stores in the community at a cost of \$40 to \$50 for a family of four.

Trustee Brown stated that they began researching other ways to provide this assistance, and the Trustee's office was approached by a representative of Servants of Christ Lutheran Church late last year. The goal was to create a catalogue of what food pantry services were offered in Lawrence Township. This resolution is the result of six months of researching operation costs and services to see how Lawrence Township could partner with them.

Trustee Brown recognized Pastor Al Rider (Servants of Christ Lutheran Church), Barb Schiedel (Lawrence Caring Center at Lawrence Church of God), and Julie Livingston (Compassion 4 Kids). He stated that the concept of this resolution is when the Trustee's office has someone in need of food and emergency assistance they would give them a referral to one of the members of the Lawrence Township Hunger Coalition. They currently envision three food pantries participating include the Lawrence Caring Center (Lawrence Church of God), the Sharing Place (Lutheran Child and Family Services), and Mt. Carmel Baptist Church.

Trustee Brown explained when an individual comes in they would give them a referral to one of the food pantries and they would get approximately one week's worth of food for the family. In exchange the food pantry would send the referral back to Lawrence Township and at the end of the month and we would make a payment to the food pantry to off set their cost of acquiring the food.

Trustee Brown stated that it will increase the number of individuals who will be accessing the food pantries. He stated this benefits the citizens of Lawrence Township because they will be getting a week's worth of food for approximately \$15 to an existing organization, and it will allow them to help more individuals. It will be only on a referral basis so we will only pay for the ones we send over. The goal is to see how things go and they would put a cap on it at \$10,000 for the rest of the year then review it at the end of the year.

Trustee Brown stated that they anticipate having a food pantry available everyday in Lawrence Township. He stated that is not currently the case in Marion County. They also hope to get to the point where they are sharing information about who is accessing the service so they can cut down on abuse. The goal is to increase accessibility, save tax payer dollars, and make a lasting impact. A discussion followed.

Pastor Al Rider (Servants of Christ Lutheran Church) stated that they are very excited about this opportunity to partner with Lawrence Township in providing these services. The Hunger Coalition is also working with the Concerned Churches Network to provide families with counseling, referrals for food stamps, and rent and utility assistance. There are also social workers who are paid for by local churches and it is headquartered at St. Lawrence Church.

Pastor Rider stated that Gleaners provides the data base and they hope to have it implemented in a few months. It will allow the three food pantries and Concerned Churches Network to all work together. He stated that they feel they will be able to provide more food for the citizens of Lawrence Township for less money.

Ms. Hines made a motion to approve Resolution 2010-8. Mr. Freeman seconded. Motion agreed to 7-0.

Trustee Brown stated that he sent out a press release yesterday regarding a live website for Lawrence Township. He stated it provides contact information for the board and district maps so the residents are aware of who serves on the board on their behalf. He stated the initial application for emergency assistance will be available on the website. It also has information about the fourteen cemeteries in Lawrence Township.

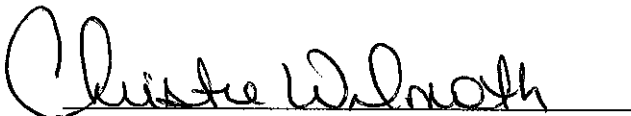
Trustee Brown gave an update on consolidation. He stated that they have not had any super structure meetings in the last several months. One was canceled because of a scheduling conflict and one was canceled because of a funeral. He stated they are moving forward on several issues and are having significant discussions with the City of Lawrence and the City of Indianapolis regarding the future of Station 34.

He stated they are also having discussions regarding the future of Castleton Volunteer Fire Department. He stated they are working through the process and his goal is to have a public hearing sometime this summer regarding consolidation of the fire department.

Trustee Brown stated that they are reaching out to people in the township who have a concern about the care and maintenance of the cemeteries in Lawrence Township. They have started a Cemetery Beautification Project to establish the needs of the cemeteries. His goal is to engage with the community and help prioritize what repairs are needed. He stated they had an initial meeting about three weeks ago and have another meeting scheduled for May 12 at 4:30 P.M. He invited members of the board to participate. A discussion followed.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:40 P.M.

I hereby certify that the forgoing minutes are accurate and true to the best of my knowledge and have been approved by a majority of the Lawrence Township Board.


Christie Wilmoth, Board Secretary

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussions held, with the exception of the motions. An audiotape is made which provides a detailed record.