

## **Lawrence Township Advisory Board Meeting**

Tuesday September 23, 2014 at 6:00 pm

Morris Settles Township Center

Elisha Reddick Community Room

4455 McCoy Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46226

Republican Caucus at 5:30 p.m.

Democrat Caucus at 5:30 p.m.

### **Agenda:**

- 1.** Approval of minutes from July 22, 2014 meeting of the Lawrence Township Advisory Board.
- 2.** Presentation of Township Budget
- 3.** Public Hearing regarding the 2015 Lawrence Township Budget

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
4455 McCoy Street Indianapolis, IN 46226**

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2014

Time Called to Order: 6:05 P.M.

Time Adjourned: 6:43 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Healy, Emmajean Hines, Fred Freeman, Jesse Dotson, Dino Batalis, Mary Harrison, Tony Widgery

TRUSTEE: Russell Brown

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Judge Clark Rehme

Meeting Called to Order:

Ms. Hines called the Lawrence Township Board meeting to order on Tuesday, September 23, 2014, at 6:05 P.M. She stated that there was a quorum present and asked Jesse Dotson to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda:

**1. Approval of minutes from July 22, 2014 meeting of the Lawrence Township Advisory Board.**

Mr. Widgery made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 22, 2014 meeting of the Lawrence Township Advisory Board. Mr. Healy seconded. Motion agreed to 7-0.

**2. Presentation of the Township Budget**

Trustee Brown gave a Powerpoint presentation on the 2015 budget. 2015 budget is lower than the 2014 budget. The direct assistance number is higher than it has been since Trustee Brown has been trustee. It reflects a few items including increased school clothes program and relationship with the pantry. The cash balance is lower than it's been, but will still be 50 percent of the operating budget. DLGF may look at how much cash is on hand and force the township to spend down cash reserves. The looked in COIT rate has given the Township some stability. Trustee Brown discussed the pantry and said that in two weeks of operation more than 800 families have been served. The main needs are money and food for the pantry. Trustee Brown showed some before and after photos of the pantry before opening and closing. He discussed the financial agreement between the township and the Lawrence Township Hunger Coalition. Part of the budget is the creation of a position called the Director of Community Partnership. The salary will be split between Township General and Township Assistance. Trustee Brown believes there are opportunities that exist to partner with other organizations that this position will help seek out. The agreement between the Trustee's Office and the hunger coalition will have the Township pay 100 percent of the pantry coordinator salary in 2015. In 2016 the amount will be 50 percent. In 2017 that position would not be paid at all by the Trustee's Office. There is a 3 percent increase for all township employees. There is an 8 percent increase for the Trustee and the Judge. The Judge asked for no raise to be included, but the Trustee included it anyway. Township Board pay was also put back at the 2009 levels. Trustee Brown discussed a possible increase or decrease in insurance costs, but a quote is not in hand. Trustee Brown recapped his presentation saying the 2015 budget provides financial flexibility for the township and strengthen the social services network in the township.

Judge Rehme discussed the Small Claims Court budget. Judge Rehme reiterated his desire for no raise. The courts staff will be receiving a 3 percent raise. Judge Rehme said the 2015 budget remains similar to the 2014 budget. \$79,000 was budgeted for record scanning and shredding. Mr. Batalis and Mr. Freeman discussed the shredding contract and the dollar amount that was originally proposed. Judge Rehme introduced Beth Welch the new senior clerk.

Mr. Batalis praised the food pantry and how nice the facility is. Mr. Brown praised the board for their leadership in supporting the project.

**3. Public Hearing Regarding the 2015 Township Budget**

Ms. Hines asked three times for any comments from the public before closing comments from the public.

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 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.

---

Fred Freeman, 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.*