

Lawrence Township Board Meeting  
Tuesday September 9, 2008 at 6:00pm  
Major General Ronald E Brooks  
Lawrence Government Center  
9001 E 59<sup>th</sup> Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46216

Republican Caucus at 5:30pm  
Democrat Caucus at 5:30pm

**AGENDA:**

1. Approval for the minutes from the July 30, 2008 Lawrence Township Advisory Board.
2. Public Hearing regarding the 2009 Lawrence Township Budget.
3. Report of the Cemetery Committee.

## LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Time Called to Order: 6:04 P.M.

Time Adjourned: 6:52 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Healy  
Christie Wilmoth  
Emmajean Hines  
Charles McMahan  
Paul Rogers  
Dino Batalis  
Tony Widgery

TRUSTEE: Mike C. Hobbs

CHIEF OF STAFF: Loren Heger

Mr. Healy called the Lawrence Township Board meeting to order at 6:04 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 JULY 30, 2008, MEETING OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADVISORY BOARD.**

Ms. Hines made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 30, 2008, Lawrence Township Advisory Board meeting. Mr. McMahan seconded. Motion agreed to 7-0.

### **II. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2009 LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP BUDGET.**

Mr. Healy opened the public hearing regarding the 2009 Lawrence Township Budget. He asked three times for comments from the public. There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.

Trustee Hobbs introduced Paige Gregory who gave an overview of the 2008 and 2009 Lawrence Township Budgets. She stated that the township does not currently have an approved 2008 budget due to delays in reassessment. Marion County is behind in the reassessment process and she does not have any idea when they will certify the 2008 budget.

Ms. Gregory stated that the delay in certification has resulted in delays in the property tax settlements which has further caused a cash flow deficit in most of the township funds. The township also needed to get an emergency loan for fire and township assistance. She gave an update on the tax anticipation warrants. She stated that tax anticipation warrants are temporary loans and basically pledge future property tax settlements.

Ms. Gregory stated that we will probably not receive a 2008 property tax draw this year. The negative in 2008 has to do with the delay in the property tax assessment. This is not a deficit, but a cash flow or timing issue. The negatives in the 2009 budget are a direct result of deficit.

Ms. Gregory did a comparison of the 2008 and 2009 budgets. She stated that they might want to consider holding off on hiring positions, defer capital spending, and seek cost saving alternatives and new revenue sources. The board members asked questions regarding the budget and the increases in budgeted items. A discussion followed.

Ms. Gregory stated that the budget can save money in the long run because if they do decide to spend the funds they will not have to do an additional appropriation request. The final budget will go to the county within two days after adoption. If it is budgeted now during the budget process, they will not have to go back to the state next year to get approval to spend the money. Mr. Healy stated that the budget would be approved in two weeks at their next board meeting.

### **III. REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE.**

Mr. Healy passed around photos that were taken of the Todd Cemetery and read a report from the Cemetery Committee. He stated on July 10, 2008, the members of the Cemetery Committee inspected and photographed the Todd Cemetery located at 79<sup>th</sup> Street and Sunnyside. All three committee members were present as well as Marrienne Rhinesmith.

Mr. Healy stated that the grass appeared to be properly cut and the wooden fence surrounding the cemetery had been properly repaired. Several headstones were broken and several trees needed trimmed and a couple needed removed. The committee recommended that the Trustee properly repair the headstones, cut down the dead portion of the trees, and periodically trim the branches and inspect the fence to be sure it is in good repair. A discussion followed.

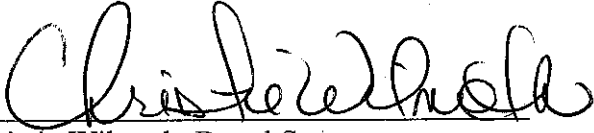
Ms. Wilmoth made a motion to approve the report from the Cemetery Committee. Mr. McMahan seconded. Motion agreed to 7-0. The report was submitted to the Trustee.

Ms. Wilmoth asked about the vehicle policy. Chief Blackwell stated that they do have an Administrative Vehicle Use Policy and he will get the board a copy of it. Trustee Hobbs stated that he has a copy of the policy, and they are currently looking at ways to cut costs for the township. Chief Blackwell stated that the vehicles can only be used in Marion and adjacent counties without approval of the Fire Chief.

Union President Bob Wallace invited the board to a "Meet and Greet Night" on Thursday, September 18, at 6:00 P.M. at the Ramada located at 42<sup>nd</sup> and Pendleton Pike. It will be an opportunity for the firefighters and board members to meet and talk to one another.

There being no other business to discuss Ms. Hines made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Wilmoth seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christie Wilmoth", written over a horizontal line.

Christie Wilmoth, Board Secretary