

Vienna Township Board of Trustees  
Special Meeting  
Townhall 6:00 pm  
April 22, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm, Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call: Mr. Dascenzo – present, Mr. Pegg – present. Quorum met.

The purpose of the meeting is for the establishment of a fund to receive money from the National Opioid Settlement; a transfer between the township money market account and general operating account; executive session for the employment, dismissal, promotion, demotion and compensation of public employees and any other business that comes before the board.

**Motion 24-0422-A: To appoint Phil Pegg as Chairperson. Moved by Dascenzo, Seconded by Pegg**

Roll Call Vote: DASCENZO=yes, PEGG=abstain. Motion failed

**Motion 24-0422-B: To appoint Richard Dascenzo as Vice -Chair. Moved by Pegg, Seconded by Dascenzo**

Roll Call Vote: PEGG=yes, DASCENZO=abstain. Motion failed

**Motion 24-0422-C: Resolved, to establish fund 2905 Opioid Settlement Fund to receive the Local Government share of the OneOhio Opioid Settlement and to restrict the money in the fund for approved purposes as required by the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding. Moved by Dascenzo, Seconded by Pegg**

Roll Call Vote: DASCENZO=yes, PEGG=yes. Motion carried

**Motion 24-0422-D: Resolved, to authorize the Fiscal Officer to transfer \$40,500.00 from the Money Market Account held at Farmers National Bank to the Primary Checking Account held at Farmers National Bank. Moved by Dascenzo, Seconded by Pegg**

Roll Call Vote: DASCENZO=yes, PEGG=yes. Motion carried

**Motion 24-0422-E: Resolved, to enter into executive session ORC 121.22G1 at 6:15 pm, the purpose of the meeting is for the establishment of a fund to receive money from the National Opioid Settlement; a transfer between the township money market account and general operating account; executive session for the employment, dismissal, promotion, demotion and compensation of public employees and any other business that comes before the board. Moved by Pegg, Seconded by Dascenzo**

Roll Call Vote: PEGG-yes, DASCENZO-yes. Motion carried

Executive Session ended and Special Meeting resumed at 7:55 pm

Tom Shay gave an update on the financial situation, it's been widely reported that on February 14<sup>th</sup> paychecks did not clear the bank for a portion of the employees because there was no money in the bank. There is an ongoing investigation and audit of the township to find out where the money went. At that time the Board of Trustees requested from the Auditor of States office that a financial distress calculation be performed to determine if the government qualifies for any of the three financial distress categories. They also requested that tax advances be given from the County Auditor for taxes that have been paid but not yet distributed to the government. They have received those tax advances and those advances have been paid out to meet obligations of the government. We have found out in the last couple of weeks when collecting unpaid invoices and calculating the amounts still outstanding in unpaid bills, we think it's at least 1.3 million is still unpaid as of today and on tax settlement we received just over \$100,000.00. Right now, we have that \$100,000.00 in the bank account and are looking to get a tax anticipation note which can only be up to one half of our next anticipated collection. We normally would collect around a half a million dollars so \$250,000.00 is the loan we're looking to obtain. The situation we are in is having the \$100,000.00 for settlement and getting a loan for \$250,000.00 to make it all the way to September. So that is what we are faced with and what we have communicated with the Trustees on we know as of the first 22 days we have been working on this. I think as time goes on that we're going to learn more and there are a lot more questions.

**Motion 24-0422-F: Resolved, Police department layoffs of Christopher Russo, Jarett Pishotti and Lee Padula. Moved by Pegg, Seconded by Dascenzo**

Roll Call Vote: DASCENZO-yes, PEGG-yes. Motion carried

**Motion 24-0422-G: Resolved, to accept the resignation of Police Chief Bob Ludt and the appointment of Lieutenant Brian Darby as interim Police Chief. Moved by Pegg, Seconded by Dascenzo**

Roll Call Vote: DASCENZO-yes, PEGG-yes. Motion carried

**Motion 24-0422-H: Resolved, Fire department layoffs of Renee Waldo, Eric Ginn and Kenneth Jones. Moved by Pegg, Seconded by Dascenzo**

Roll Call Vote: DASCENZO-yes, PEGG-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion 24-0422-I: Resolved, to moved the next Regular Meeting to Wednesday May 8, 2024 at 6:00 pm. Moved by Pegg, Seconded by Dascenzo**

Roll Call Vote: DASCENZO-yes, PEGG-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion 24-0422-J: Resolved, to adjourn at 7:55 pm. Moved by Dascenso, Seconded by Pegg**

Roll Call Vote: DASCENZO-yes, PEGG-yes. Motion carried

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Phil Pegg, Vice Chair

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Rhonda Root, Fiscal Officer