# Liberty Township, Porter County Meeting Minutes December 12, 2022 6:00 PM

Present were board members Terry Dunn, Jackie Sterling and Bryce Gawronski. Also in attendance were Matt Keiser, Township Trustee; Michele Bollinger, Township Clerk; and Michael Wineland, Assistant Fire Chief of LTVFD.

# **Meeting Minutes:**

Michele read the meeting minutes from the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jackie made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Bryce seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

# **Fire Department Report:**

Michael shared that for the month of November, the Department had answered 66 total calls in Liberty Township and 110 calls total for both Townships. For the fiscal year of 2022, the Department had answered a total of 1097 calls for both Townships. For Liberty Township, there was a total of 684 calls: 3 structural fires; 1 vehicle fire; 6 brush fires; 59 vehicle accidents; 324 EMS calls; 141 disregards; and 150 other calls (smoke detectors; CO detectors; Life Alert calls, etc.).

Currently, the LTVFD has a total of 15 volunteer firefighters. The Department has currently lost two members due to life events, but the Department has also gained two new members.

The LTVFD is working hard to recruit new members. Michael did share that it appears that Chesterton High School is doing away with their fire program through their vocational program.

# Trustee's Report:

Matt reported that we had received two quotes for the sanitary work that needs to be completed at the fire station. RV Sutton was chosen as the lowest and most responsive quote. A meeting had taken place onsite earlier in the day to review the scope of work.

Matt also shared that we had received a total of 6 applications for a total of 12 kids for the Toys for Tots Program.

Matt had received an email from Vicki Urbanik stating that we should receive our December settlement within the next few days.

## **New Business:**

**Certification of Nepotism Policy-** The policy was distributed and signed by each board member as well as the trustee.

**2023 Liberty Township Volunteer Fire Department Contract**- Matt shared that the new contract had been signed by the Fire Department but approval was needed from the board. Jackie made a motion to accept the fire contract as presented; Bryce seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

**2023 Township Assistance Guidelines**- The only change to the guidelines is that the poverty levels have been updated to reflect the 2023 federal rates. Jackie made a motion to accept the updated Township Assistance Guidelines as presented; Bryce seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

## **Public Comment:**

## None

Since this was Jackie's last meeting as a member of the Township Board, she was recognized for her many years of service as a board member and was presented with a plaque, flowers, and cake.

The motion to adjourn was made by Jackie; Terry seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Terry Dunn, Township, Board President

ATTEST:

Bryce Gawronski, Township Board

Matt Keiser, Township Trustee

Eric Knowles, Township Board