

Troy Township Trustee Meeting
March 26, 2025

Trustee Chairperson Recker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

SIGN-IN – John Nissen, Tom Woodruff, Lisa Wilson, Dan Armstrong, Karina Hahn

ROLL CALL with the following Trustees present: Trustee Brinker, Trustee Knitz, Chairperson Trustee Recker

Trustee Chairperson Recker asked everyone to please stand for the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES: Trustee Chairperson Recker made a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes of the March 12, 2025 Trustee Meeting and approve the minutes of the March 12, 2025 Trustee Meeting with a second motion by Trustee Knitz.

Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries. Trustee Chairperson Recker did not vote as he was not at the previous meeting.

GUESTS

John Wagner stated on May 9, 2025 the 8th Grade is doing an Impact Day to do Community Service. This has been done for three years. This has been done on Campus in the past but this year, permission has been given to take a group of students off Campus. This would be for approximately two (2) hours with 8-10 students. John has spoken to Chief Woodruff about the students cleaning firetrucks, ambulance and station floors. Mr. Wagner would be with the students and supervise them while at the firehouse. All three (3) Trustees approved the students to complete their Community Service at the Fire/EMS Station.

Darkon Sentle asked to have his driveway at 19754 Bradner Road repaired. Trustee Brinker stated he forgot to address this issue from Mr. Sentle's previous requests. It was discussed to have approximately five (5) foot of the driveway that is like a ramp fixed by Morlock Asphalt when they are repaving Garling Road. Trustee Chairperson Recker will call Tony Morlock and discuss this repair.

John Nissen had a list of questions to be addressed with the Trustees. As a volunteer, part-time employee and tax payer he would like some answers to these questions. The meeting the night before were good ideas with the fire departments but there are some issues at Troy that needs addressed before they start doing something like that. Please see attached list of questions.

John Wagner added to the question regarding the pay scale in general. At the February 24, 2025 meeting, the former Administrator stated he had never seen a pay schedule for Troy Township EMS. The only pay scale Mr. Wagner has ever seen is the pay schedule that was emailed out by former EMS Chief Branden Abke in 2019. That is the only pay schedule that has been given to EMS employees regarding a salary schedule. This included on scene pay, EMT, Medic pay, drivers, and on-call.

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At the February 24, 2025 meeting it was tabled that when Trustee Recker returned to the next meeting, the first hour of pay for EMS Volunteers would be discussed. That did not happen.

In the February 24, 2025 minutes, discussion regarding EMS Volunteer pay. According to Captain Kim it doesn't count as patient care, patient care constitutes as getting paid. That was her statement in the minutes. Mr. Wagner stated there was show-up pay and he should have been paid. There has always been show-up pay for the EMS volunteers. There has been Michael, Branden, Leigh doing payroll and now Kim doing payroll and now posted an EMS Chief. 2019 the only salary schedule and pay has been done differently every time someone has done payroll. There is no consistency. As Mr. Wagner previously stated at the January 8, 2025 meeting, what are we doing and what are we after. In a previous meeting, Trustee Knitz asked Administrator Keiser to put it in writing so Captain Kim would understand how payroll is to be paid. Administrator Keiser is no longer with the Township. Is there something to be done with getting a pay scale put together. Things need to get figured out.

Mr. Nissen stated with the fraud training that he has had to complete, he is concerned with some of the things that are happening in the Township.

Mr. Nissen also stated he is at a loss with the posting of the EMS Chief's position. Who would want to work four 12 hour shifts and why is there 8 hours of overtime built in every week when the EMS is fighting overtime now. There is so many more options for this position. As stated at the Co-Op meeting, three people at the station would be ideal but it's hard to compare apples to apples when both departments are not apples to apples.

John Wagner also questioned the EMS Chief job posting. No one that has a career in the EMS field would be able to take this job. They work 24 hours on 48 hours off. What quality of applicants is the Township going to get. This could also affect retirement as Troy pays into OPERS and most full-time are paying retirement into Police/Fire. It would take someone either at the beginning of their career or at the end. Concerned about the quality of applicants.

John Nissen also stated that there needs to be someone other than the three (3) Trustees to do the interviewing for the EMS Chief. Trustee Knitz stated that they are working on getting a committee together for the interviews.

John Nissen said he was not looking for answers tonight but would like the Trustees to address them. Chairperson Trustee Recker asked for a copy of Mr. Nissen's list of questions so they can work on getting answers. Mr. Nissen will get the list to Trustee Recker.

REPORTS

SHERIFF – No one present to report

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ZONING – Zoning Inspector Hahn stated that the Comprehensive Plan meeting last week was very successful with approximately 75 attendees.

Attorney Peter Griggs and Holly thought Troy Township should extend the Moratorium until the Comprehensive Plan is completed and adopted. The current Moratorium expires at the end of May. The Trustees will need to make a motion and a Resolution is needed.

Attorney Peter Griggs inquired about doing a Zoning Board of Appeals and Zoning Training like he had done a few years ago. Attorney Griggs now represents Middleton Township and Plain Township and thought training could be done together to help with the cost. Freedom Township has also expressed interest in training. This could be scheduled for the summer if interested.

Zoning Inspector Hahn stated she is very busy with right-away roadway permits. There are many and she is very busy with them. Zoning Inspector Hahn is obtaining a bond for each section as fixing roads can be expensive.

Public records requests have been worked on for Ellie Rodemich, Suzanne Henry, assisted Fiscal Officer with requests from Karina Hahn, Karina Claydon, Karina Hahn-Claydon.

The Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing was held on March 25, 2025 for three variances. One variance was tabled until April 21, 2025 and Attorney P. Griggs will be involved. There were some legal questions that came up that could not be answered.

FIRE/EMS – Chief Woodruff reported 211 runs for the year.

Chief Woodruff reported that the siren repair technician serviced the Lemoyne siren that was installed in 2013. The batteries were replaced. The barring was not rotating. It is operational just not rotating. A third party will need to service the barring.

The Stony Ridge siren there is a lighting resistor/protector. There was a fail and the breaker needed to be turned on. It is operating and functional.

The Station siren was looked at and everything was good. If there are any more intermittent issues, the service repair comes from Grand Rapids.

Chief Woodruff presented an Outdoor Warning Siren Annual Preventative Maintenance Inspection Agreement from Federal Field Services for \$500.00 per year per siren. A checklist was also provided as to what the preventative maintenance covers. The Trustees agreed to have Chief Woodruff obtain a quote for preventative maintenance for all three (3) sirens from Federal Field Services and present at next meeting.

Chief Woodruff asked Fiscal Officer if she could look back at a purchase order from 2023. Fiscal Officer Abke brought information to discuss with Chief Woodruff regarding the purchase orders and invoice. Some of the purchase orders were voided at the end of

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each year. Two invoices for Motorola Solutions are being paid tonight. There are five additional invoices that need to be paid. Bender will come out and update all radios.

UIS Insurance document that Fiscal Officer Abke gave to Chief Woodruff, he is not aware of this document from the past. Fiscal Officer Abke has an appointment with Rob from UIS on Thursday, March 27 and will address all questions with him. This is in regards to the Volunteer Questionnaire. Chief Woodruff stated that there is equipment that should be removed from the insurance list and some equipment should be added.

ESO invoice has been paid.

Chief Woodruff addressed that between April and last July his credit card limit went from \$5,000 to \$2,500. FDIC is coming up and would like it increased. His credit limit in 2019 was \$4000.00 and in 2021 he thought \$5,000 along with the maintenance cards. The credit card policy that Fiscal Officer Abke found, the cards are at the limit as stated. Fiscal Officer Abke can increase the credit limit for FDIC to \$5,000. The dates of FDIC are 4/8 -4/12/2025 on Chief Woodruff's credit card.

ROADS/CEMETERY – Todd Gottschalk presented the Trustees with a second quote for air compressor repair from Ag-Pro Companies in the amount of \$7,771.89. This quote is almost half of Southeastern's quote. Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to approve the quote and repair for the air compressor at Ag-Pro in the amount of \$7,771.89 with a second motion by Trustee Knitz.
Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Mr. Gottschalk presented the Trustees with two quotes for crack sealing Lemoyne Road, Devils Hole Road, Strail Road, Recker Road and Five Point Road. Quote from Morlock Asphalt for \$10,981.00 and Buck Pavement Restoration for \$10,825.00 (a new resident within the Township). Prices include product and labor. The time frame to have roads crack sealed is end of May beginning of June. After discussion, Trustee Brinker made a motion to accept the quote from Buck Pavement Restoration for crack sealing in the amount of \$10,825.00 with a second motion by Trustee Knitz.
Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Todd Gottschalk stated that on Eastwood Drive, which is concrete pavement, is coming apart in three different spots. Trustee Recker suggested that since this road sets in the JEDD, asking the JEDD Board to repair Eastwood Drive with their maintenance fund. The next JEDD Board meeting is May 8, 2025. Mr. Gottschalk would like to get on the schedule with Smith Paving & Excavating for repair. The quote from Smith Paving & Excavating has been sent to all JEDD Board members to review for the next meeting.

There is a \$5,000 bond from Rudolph Libbe that the Township is holding for Eastwood Drive. Fiscal Officer Abke and Zoning Inspector Hahn are attempting to locate to make sure it has not been refunded.

Mr. Gottschalk suggested when the property is developed move the cut to the east.

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Todd Gottschalk stated there are temporary barriers at this location on Eastwood Drive and garbage is being thrown behind. Mr. Gottschalk is hopeful once the curb cut is fixed, the barriers can be eliminated and this will eliminate the garbage.

Trustee Brinker made a motion to approve the quote from Smith Paving & Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$26,485.00 with the intent of the JEDD Board to pay \$20,085.00 with a second motion by Trustee Knitz.
Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Mr. Gottschalk talked to John Blecke regarding the public auction with Don Rose. Mr. Rose is aware Troy Township wants to set minimums on a few auction items. More discussion will take place in Old Business.

Cemetery clean up starts Thursday, March 27, 2025 with part-time workers Donna and David along with Todd.

Next week, more cold mix will be obtained to fix pot holes.

Mr. Gottschalk presented a quote from Reineke Family Dealership for a 2025 Ford F-550 Utility Truck XL 4x4 Regular 84CA Chassis Cab (69,321.00) with Knapheide 11' custom service body and (crane) hydraulic post pounder (78,300.00 Kalida) in the amount of \$147,621.00. This utility truck carries a lot of tools, lasers, saws, sign truck, lights. Todd stated it is an expenditure but also an investment. The last order date for Super Duty through Ford is May 2, 2025. Trustees tabled for review until next meeting.

FISCAL OFFICER

Fiscal Officer Abke presented the 2025 Permanent Appropriations. The Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources has been approved in the amount of \$4,521,263.01. This is the official Township Budget. The Resources Available for Appropriation Report also matches. The Appropriation Status Report as of 12/31/2024 was given to show the YTD Expenditures for each Appropriation.

The Permanent Appropriations excel report shows totals from 2023, 2024 and 2025. The increases for 2025 include Hospitalization, Legal Fees for General and Zoning, Amplex, Spectrum, Culligan, and Guardian. Trustees were also given a Fund Status Report to show year end expenditures. Some EMS Salaries will also be taken from the General Fund this year. This is the JEDD money being used for the full-time EMS. (\$350,000.00). Trustee Recker asked if this includes any increase from First Solar.

The 2024 Appropriations was \$4,531,931.46 and 2025 Appropriations is \$4,521,263.01.

The Lemoyne Road estimate was \$271,700.00 for year 2024. Still waiting on the 2025 Troy Township Road Projects. \$300,000.00 was appropriated for the 2025 totals.

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Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to approve the Permanent Appropriations for 2025 with a second motion by Trustee Kelley.
Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

January Bank Reconciliation was given to Trustees for signatures.

Received three (3) months refund for Richard Greulich for Vision Insurance. The Administrator had cancelation date as of 1-1-25.

Fiscal Officer Abke will meet with Rob Fawcett, Thursday, March 27, 2025 for a pre-renewal visit for insurance. Also received an email from Ohio Plan asking for an opportunity to give an insurance quote. Trustees decided at this time they are not interested. Fiscal Officer will email her their decision.

There was a charge for \$1,650.00 for Ohio Fire Chief's Association registration. Trustee Recker made a motion to approve Chief Woodruff, Ashley and Josh to attend the Ohio Fire Chief's Association convention and registration amount \$1,650.00 with a second motion by Trustee Brinker.
Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Fiscal Officer gave February credit card reports to Trustees for signatures.

A 2024 Recycling Activities report was completed for Wood County Solid Waste Management District.

Fiscal Officer Abke completed the MSP/COBRA /Eligibles for compliance with Medicare Secondary Payer rules, COBRA rules and insurance rules. This form was sent to Attorney P. Griggs to review before submitting.

Fiscal Officer Abke asked who had keys to P.O. Box 128.

A Notice to Legislative Authorities Objections to Renewal of a Retail Liquor Permit was given to the Trustees.

The Township received escrow money for a Demo Lein on a property owned by Dallas Welker that had a fire. Mr. Welker asked how he needs to petition for this escrow money. Property owner is working with building inspector and county inspector. Fiscal Officer will contact State Farm to see what the stipulations are to obtain these funds.

Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to transfer \$258.97 to Natural Gas Fremont Pike 1000-120-353-6000 from General Other-other Expenses 1000-110-599-1000 \$258.97 with a second motion by Trustee Brinker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Trustee Knitz made a motion to transfer \$1,281.37 to Operating Supplies Fuel 2021-330-420-0335 from Gasoline Tax Repairs & Maintenance 2021-330-323-0000 \$1,281.37 with a second motion by Trustee Brinker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

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Trustee Brinker made a motion to transfer \$1,546.93 to Gasoline Tax Operating Supplies Road Salt 2021-330-420-0332 from Gasoline Tax Repairs & Maintenance 2021-330-323-0000 \$1,546.93 with a second motion by Trustee Recker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to transfer \$4,840.50 to EMS Other-other Expense 2192-230-599-0000 from EMS Machinery Equipment & Furniture 2192-230-740-0000 \$4,840.50 with a second motion by Trustee Brinker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Trustee Knitz made a motion to transfer \$49.20 to General Contracted Services RR Crossing 1000-310-360-0310 from General Other-other Expenses 1000-110-599-0000 \$49.20 with a second motion by Trustee Brinker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to transfer \$318.36 to Police District Payment to Another Political Subdivision 2081-210-370-0000 from Police District-Tax Collection Fees 2081-210-314-0000 \$318.36 with a second motion by Trustee Brinker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Chairperson Trustee Recker approved a \$6,000 Supplemental Appropriation for salaries due for hours for snow/ice removal with a second motion by Trustee Knitz. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Trustee Knitz approved a \$500.00 Supplemental Appropriation for Medicare for salaries with a second motion by Trustee Recker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Trustee Brinker made a motion to transfer \$71.46 to Fire Salaries-other 2191-220-190-0000 from Fire Other-other Expenses 2191-220-599-0000 \$71.46 with a second motion by Trustee Recker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Trustee Brinker made a motion to transfer \$.31 to Medicare EMS 1000-230-213-0000 from General Other-other Expenses 1000-110-599-0000 \$.31 with a second motion by Trustee Knitz. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

APPROVE & SIGN CHECKS

Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to approve and sign checks from March 17, 2025 in the amount of \$60,494.65, Check #62269 to and including Check #62313 with a second motion by Trustee Knitz. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Trustee Brinker made a motion to approve and sign checks from March 21, 2025 in the amount of \$16,444.02, ACH 134-2025 to ACH 164-2025 and Check #62314 to and including Check #62319 with a second motion by Trustee Knitz. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

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Trustee Knitz made a motion to approve and sign checks from March 26, 2025 in the amount of \$53,460.25, Check #62320 to and including Check #62343 with a second motion by Trustee Brinker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Trustees were given Wage and Overtime Detail Reports for each pay period.

Payroll overtime was down considerably for payroll March 21, 2025.

OLD BUSINESS

Don Rose Auction – the minimum bid amounts previously discussed were \$45,000 for EMS Ambulance and \$12,000 for the Fire Mini Pumper. Discussion regarding the minimum bids was had by the Trustees. Mr. Tom Woodruff stated that the bidder knows what the minimum is when bidding. Trustee Knitz will call Don Rose to see if there is a cost if there is a no sale. Trustees tabled until next meeting to get additional answers. No date has been set for the auction.

Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to extend the moratorium until the Comprehensive Plan is completed and adopted with a second motion by Trustee Brinker. Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Zoning Inspector Hahn will consult with Attorney Peter Griggs about doing a Zoning Board of Appeals and Zoning Training like he had done a few years ago. Attorney Griggs now represents Middleton Township and Plain Township and Zoning Inspector Hahn will ask if training could be done together to help with the cost. Freedom Township has also expressed interest in training and Zoning Inspector Hahn will check with them. Zoning Inspector Hahn will report on this at the next meeting.

Trustee Knitz and Fiscal Officer Abke will work on the Handbook together.

Trustee Knitz asked about Guardian Alarm coming to train the Trustees on the security system. Trustee Knitz will contact Guardian regarding training on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

EMS Volunteer Pay – Trustee Knitz made a motion to pay EMS Volunteer to show up at \$20.00 for the first hour and then paid per hour at perspective rates with a second motion by Trustee Recker.

Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

Zoning Inspector Hahn reported that Chad Arntson resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals do to work schedule changes.

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Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to accept the resignation of Chad Arnston from the Zoning Board of Appeals with a second motion by Trustee Knitz.
Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Trustee Brinker made a motion to appoint Dan Armstrong as an alternate to the Zoning Commission with a second motion by Trustee Recker.
Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

MEETINGS/EVENTS

- Thursday, April 17, 2025, Wood County Economic Development Commission at the Hilton Garden Inn, Perrysburg. 6:00 Cash Bar; 7:00 Dinner and Program

ITEMS ON HOLD

- Uniform Policy – Trustee Brinker is working on

EXECUTVE SESSION

Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to enter into executive session regarding salaries with a second motion by Trustee Knitz.

Roll Call: Trustee Brinker – Yes Trustee Knitz – Yes Trustee Recker – Yes
Motion carries.

Entered into executive session at 9:03 p.m.

Fiscal Officer Abke entered into executive session at 9:10 p.m.

Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to come out of executive session with a second motion by Trustee Knitz.

Roll Call: Trustee Brinker – Yes Trustee Knitz – Yes Trustee Recker – Yes
Motion carries.

Came out of executive session at 9:35 p.m.

Chairperson Trustee Recker stated that Troy Township did not give employees a raise in 2024. There was a 2% raise that was given earlier in the year. The Trustees are now going to make that a 4% raise. Some EMS Townships are paid higher such as Middleton but most are not. Troy Township is ahead of most.

Chairperson Trustee Recker made a motion to approve an additional 2% raise to all hourly employee's effective March 30, 2025 with a second motion by Trustee Knitz.
Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

Kari Bennett stated that she does not need the insurance but she is not going to take something that is a benefit. She suggested giving employees additional pay if they do not take the insurance. Trustee Recker said that was something to consider.

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Paul Perry read the article regarding the \$500.00 lift assist fee for Nursing Homes. Trustee Brinker is contacting Attorney P. Griggs regarding this.

Kari Bennett stated they have started to not count someone at Otterbein as a resident with the billing now if they are there for rehab.

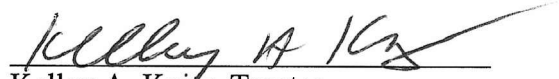
Trustee Brinker made a motion to adjourn the March 26, 2025 meeting with a second motion by Chairperson Trustee Recker.

Vote 3-Yes 0-No. Motion carries.

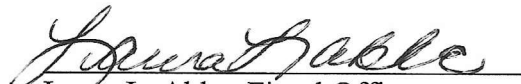
The next regular meeting is Wednesday, April 9, 2025.

Meeting ended at 9:45 p.m.


Kenneth J. Recker, Chairperson


Kelley A. Knitz, Trustee


Matthew L. Brinker, Trustee


Laura L. Abke, Fiscal Officer

- What have we done to get new firefighters?
- How are we rotating the squads? They are running within 1,000 miles of each other and going to need to be replaced at the same time.
- Why all of a sudden are we in a rush to put two trucks in service that we have had for over a year and the other one since November of 2022?
- Why did it take so long to fix 715 for the stretcher problem? (25 Days)
- Do we have service contracts for equipment repair? Why not?
- Zoning - What's going on with the body shop on Lemoyne Rd?
- Charge on list assist to industrial facilities - see article linked below
https://www.ems1.com/legislation-funding/ill-city-council-makes-500-lift-assist-fee-permanent?utm_medium=referral&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR2yQ5dr9ex5_edM6OKTrCUZ-9D-gcDvllzbW5786az83788pQaiPpQ8gTU_aem_nsWraj5sBLKiq8QpBO_TGQ#2a1uaefsnftl5ya3wfa5cc2553fhmnm
- Look into what it takes to keep OPV from abusing the system. How many runs are OPV?
- February 24th meeting - It was discussed that the first hour of pay would be increased to offset switching to hourly pay. It was tabled until Skip was at a meeting and has not been revisited.
- Pay scale in general.
- March 12th meeting - What about the questions Ashley asked that were going to be answered after the executive session? Nothing came after that session (Kelly days, uniforms, pay, etc).
- Training CE's - Fire, EMS, CPR for part-time and volunteers.
- Posted open meeting on January 27th - This wasn't an open meeting. This was where full-time employees refused to do parts of their job and the equipment that was purchased to do it.
- Where are the end of year reports from Fire and EMS?
- Is the Chief position counting toward minimum manning for the day?
 - If yes, are they working a set shift and performing Chief duties while on duty?
 - If not, why would they need to be 48 hours per week? Five days a week at 8 hours a day gives you 40 hours per week. Also provide the Chief being there daily to supervise all crews at all times?
- Why is another officer needed daily? Another additional expense.
- Recommendation of 4 full-time employees move to a 24/72 to reduce existing overtime and fill-in with part-time.
- Recommendation of keeping 24/48 and start doubling up on shifts to make that shift whole and use the newly hired EMS Chief as a working position as advertised on a set shift to fill a shift void.
- Has anyone made sure with the fiscal officer that built-in overtime on a supervisor position is cost effective and financially suitable for EMS budget?
- With the built-in overtime of 8 hours per week per full-time EMS employee with the addition of the new EMS Chief being advertised with built-in overtime, is this fiscally responsible and suitable to the Township budget? Every other company and department wants to reduce extra OT cost since it's such a strain on a budget. Why is Troy Township handing out OT like it's candy?
- Why has there been a stop of financial responsibility by the trustees to the taxpayers who elected you to make fiscally responsible decisions with taxpayers' money?
- Why would an increase in a levy be needed to fund the EMS when you as Township officials have not done anything to stop the unnecessary spending (ex. overtime)? Why should the taxpayers have to pick up additional taxes when you as trustees can't reduce the budget spending as it is?