

Fairfield Township Board
Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2009

Present: Township Trustee, Julie Roush; Board Members Steve Needham, Margaret McCabe and Marjorie Fitzgerald; Township Attorney, Cy Gerde; township employee Susan Parkinson; and from the public, Tippecanoe Township Trustee, Bill Jones.

Meeting Called to Order: Chairman Needham called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Minutes: The minutes from the September 10th, 2009 meeting were read silently. **A motion to approve the minutes was made by McCabe and seconded by Fitzgerald. The minutes were approved unanimously without corrections.**

Old Business:

- A. Roush offered clarification regarding last meeting's statistical report on denials. Denials are issued to all applicants who for any reason do not receive cash assistance, including those who are referred to other agencies. Staff often spends more time and effort researching and making appropriate referrals for these clients than they do processing clients who are eligible for cash assistance from the trustee.
- B. Board was given revised copies of Fairfield Township Advisory Board Issues, distributed at the September 10th meeting. (See Advisory Board Issues, attached.) Nearly \$40,000 was cut from the 2010 budget, which the township now needs to borrow from the Fire Fund as a short-term loan to complete government functions in 2009. The loan would be paid back by June 30th, 2010 with no interest. Roush explained that the Fire Fund has more than sufficient funds to operate and lend to the assistance fund. **Needham made a Resolution that the Board borrow \$53,000 from the Fire Fund: \$5,000 for the General Fund and \$48,000 for the Township Assistance Fund. McCabe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- C. **Resolution was made to adopt the additional appropriations as advertised, \$5,000 for the General Fund and \$48,000 for the Township Assistance Fund Fitzgerald made a motion to adopt the resolution; McCabe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- D. Board reviewed the 2010 budget as presented by the trustee at the September 10th meeting. (See 2010 budget, attached.) **McCabe made a motion to adopt the 2010 budget as presented by the trustee; Needham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- E. For reasons explained in the Advisory Board Issues (see attached) Fairfield no longer carries an operating balance in its Township Assistance Fund. It is necessary to declare an emergency. **McCabe made a motion to declare an emergency that Fairfield Township cannot carry out its statutory governmental functions for the ensuing year; Needham seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- F. Because the Township is in a financial state of emergency, Roush explained to the Board that before October 20th (deadline to make appeals) she will make an appeal to the DLGF (Department of Local Government Finance) in Indianapolis, to raise the maximum tax levy for Fairfield Township in 2010 by \$270,000. If the DLGF turns down the appeal, the appeal will be taken to the Tax Court. **Needham made a motion to adopt a resolution requesting a \$270,000 appeal to the DLGF to grant an excess levy for the funding of township assistance; Fitzgerald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

New Business

- A.** State Board of Accounts announced at this month's convention a reduction in the state's standard mileage reimbursement. Townships may not pay more than the state's set amount. **A resolution was made to decrease Fairfield Township's standard mileage reimbursement from 44 cents to 40 cents/mile as per Indiana State's standard mileage rate change, effective 10/01/2009. Fitzgerald made a motion to adopt the resolution; McCabe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 18th at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Fitzgerald; seconded by McCabe. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Margaret McCabe
Fairfield Township Board Secretary

MM/sp