

**Fairfield Township Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Present:** Township Trustee, Julie Roush; Board Members Margaret McCabe, Marjorie Fitzgerald and Steve Needham; and Township employee, Susan Parkinson.

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

**Minutes:** The minutes from the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meetings were read silently. A motion to approve was made by Needham and seconded by Fitzgerald. The minutes were approved unanimously after a date discrepancy was noted and corrected.

**Old Business:** No old business was discussed.

**New business:**

- A. Roush presented the 2009 Annual Report to the Board with the following observations. Every item had to be keyed into the report manually this year, because Net Results and DLGF could not come up with an electronic solution in time. However, the new report version did take care of some problems. In previous years, CD sales and purchases appeared as township expenditures. In the new version, these purchases are broken out and can be subtracted from the totals to reveal more accurate figures. Also, payroll deductions for staff HSA (Health Savings Account) contributions appeared as personnel expenditures and are now broken out. Roush then explained that while the Report shows that the Township started off the year with a \$16,797.98 deficit in Township Assistance, it was because our final settlement arrived two weeks late and that figure was adjusted later in January of 2009. Roush also explained that while our appeal for a 2010 budget increase was approved by DLGF, the township will not receive the revenues from the increase until 2011 (as long as the county is on time). **Needham made a motion to accept the 2009 Annual Report as presented; Fitzgerald seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.** The Annual Report will be published in both local newspapers.
- B. Roush explained the contract Fairfield Township has with Salvation Army. The Township pays Salvation Army \$1,100 per month (\$13,200 annually) in support of their homeless shelter. We have continually had a good relationship with Salvation Army. They have always accepted our referrals for Township applicants needing financial assistance with deposits and late fees which we cannot cover, as well as administer budget counseling.
- C. Roush explained the contract Fairfield Township has with LARA (Lafayette Adult Resource Academy). The Township pays for 225 bus tokens quarterly (\$675 total value), to be given out to Fairfield Township residents needing bus transportation to seek employment opportunities.
- D. Roush explained the contract Fairfield Township has with Learning for Life. The Township pays Learning for Life \$4,500 annually (in two installments) for children's education and after-school programming at local elementary schools. Roush proposed that the Township renew all three contracts. **Needham made a motion to renew the contracts with Salvation Army, LARA and Learning for Life, as worded, for 2010. Fitzgerald seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.**
- E. Roush presented a legislative update. The House bill, HB 1181, Referendum on retaining township trustee and board, sponsored by Representative William Crawford (D) passed 55 – 44; it provides for a vote this fall in each township on whether to keep the system or to transfer responsibilities to the county. The Senate version of local government reform, SB 240, Township government, sponsored by Senator Connie Lawson (R) passed in committee along party lines would eliminate township advisory boards and transfer most responsibilities to the County council; it also addresses nepotism in township trustee offices and contracts. SB 240 will be considered on the Senate floor next week.
- F. Roush explained to the Board the need for all townships to raise funds for public relations and advertising before next November's election, so that voters who are not aware of township government and the needs they serve in our local communities can make more informed decisions at the polls.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:** McCabe made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Fitzgerald. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

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Steve Needham  
Secretary  
Fairfield Township

SN/sp