
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Wall, Supervisor - Remotely from Waterford, Michigan
Kim Markee, Clerk – Remotely from Waterford, Michigan
Steve Thomas, Treasurer – Remotely from Waterford, Michigan
Anthony Bartolotta, Trustee – Remotely from Waterford, Michigan
Marie Hauswirth, Trustee – Remotely from Waterford, Michigan
Janet Matsura, Trustee – Remotely from Waterford, Michigan
Mark Monohon, Trustee – Remotely from Waterford, Michigan

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

Agenda included:

1. Discussion of Frembes/ Dixie Parking Lot
2. Discussion of Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)
3. Opportunity for Trustees to Discuss Topics of Concern
4. Public Comments

The in person meeting started at 4:30 p.m.

Supervisor Wall opened up the meeting by informing the Trustees about the history of the Frembes/ Dixie parking lot and how the Township acquired it. There are 13 owners, and the Township would like to sell the parking lot to these owners for a dollar each because they would receive the most benefit to their businesses by having parking space available for their customers/ patrons. However, the current owners do not seem interested in purchasing this land from the Township. Trustee Bartolotta mentioned we should fence off our property, and it would get their attention very quickly when they would not be allowed to use the Township's property. Supervisor Wall stated that six vehicles were impounded, and five went to auction, and four did not have plates on them. It is difficult because there are numerous owners. Derek said the Township does not want this property and no longer wants to maintain it. Trustee Hauswirth mentioned getting the EDC involved and at one time, there was a grant program offered to the owners to provide a new front on their business exterior and only one of the businesses took advantage of it. Clerk Markee mentioned it would be nice to have one developer come in and buy all of it for the redevelopment of this area. Supervisor Wall said he would look into drafting up a contract.

Supervisor Wall asked all Trustees to send and share ideas with him regarding OPEB. He will contact legal counsel to see when we can have a meeting with them. Derek and Barb reviewed the current situation and history of OPEB, and it is the Township's single largest liability that we have a "Corrective Action Plan" with the State of Michigan. Public Act 202 requires OPEB to be 40% funded, and we are about 19% funded, which is up from 6%. Supervisor Wall said we would have a closed session with our attorney to see what we can do. This is something that will be based on facts. It will not be based on emotions or political affiliations. We will most likely receive a lot of resistance because it is a personal and emotional topic for many retirees and employees. The City of Pontiac had an eight or nine-year lawsuit over their OPEB, and then they went bankrupt. Barb mentioned health care benefits are a lot different now from what was promised 50 years ago. Clerk Markee said it is interesting that the State only requires 40% funded when most funds like these are not considered healthy unless they are funded at least 80% or more. Derek said the State wanted to start somewhere.

Meeting ended at 5:44 pm.

Kim Markee, Clerk

Gary Wall, Supervisor