

**Westchester Township Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 31, 2024**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**Attendance:**

Suzanne Philbrick, Township Trustee, Barbara Stroud, Robin E. Chubb, and Cheryl Evans, Westchester Township Board. Attorney David Hiestand, Westchester Township Board Attorney, and Town of Chesterton Fire Chief Sean O'Donnell were also present.

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:**

Board members reviewed the minutes of the Westchester Township Advisory Board Meeting held on December 6, 2023. Upon review, Cheryl Evans made a motion to approve the December 6, 2023 minutes as presented. Robin Chubb seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Election of Officers:**

By consensus, a slate of officers for the Westchester Township Advisory Board for 2024 was announced:

President: Robin E. Chubb

Secretary: Cheryl Evans

Member: Barbara Stroud

Cheryl Evans made a motion to accept this slate of officers. Robin Chubb seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Fire Protection Agreements:**

The Township Trustee presented the Fire Protection Agreement for 2024 between Westchester Township and the Town of Chesterton for approval. Members reviewed and discussed the agreement with the Township Trustee. Under the terms of this agreement, the Town of Chesterton agrees to furnish fire protection in the unincorporated areas of Westchester Township during 2024 for \$49,270. During 2023, Chesterton Firefighters responded to 138 calls within Westchester Township, or 75.8% of the 182 total calls for that area. Everyone thanked Fire Chief O'Donnell for his department's service.

Barbara Stroud moved to accept the Fire Protection Agreement with Chesterton. Cheryl Evans seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Township Trustee Philbrick then presented the Fire Protection Agreement for 2024 between Westchester Township and the Town of Porter for approval. Members reviewed and discussed the agreement with the Township Trustee. Under the terms of this agreement, the Town of Porter agrees to furnish fire protection in the unincorporated areas of Westchester Township during 2024 for \$15,730. During 2023, Porter Firefighters responded to 44 calls within Westchester Township, or 24.2% of the 182 total calls for that area.

Barbara Stroud moved to accept the Fire Protection Agreement with Porter. Cheryl Evans seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**2023 Annual Financial Report:**

The Township Trustee presented the Board with the 2023 Annual Financial Report for Westchester Township and requested approval of same. Members reviewed and discussed the report with Township Trustee Philbrick. Barbara Stroud made a motion to approve the report as presented. Cheryl Evans seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**ARPA Funds**


The group discussed the approximate \$61,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds which are available to the Township by an allocation from Porter County based on population.

**Next Meeting:**

Township Board Members discussed the date of the next Board meeting. A consensus agreed that May 1, 2024 is set for the tentative date for the next meeting at 5 p.m.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business before the Board, President Robin E. Chubb adjourned the meeting.



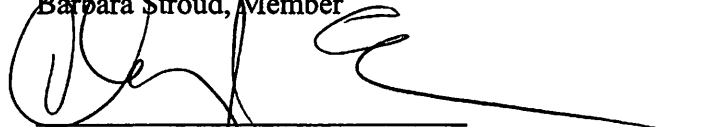
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Robin E. Chubb, President



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Barbara Stroud, Member



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Cheryl Evans, Secretary