

MILTON-UNION EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS
Village, Township, School Meeting
Union Township Building

Unofficial
Special Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Milton-Union Exempted Village Board of Education was called to order on February 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Brumbaugh, Mrs. Ginn Parsons, Mr. Huffman

Absent: Mr. Long, Dr. McCarroll

Others Present: Dr. Brad Ritchey, Superintendent, Mrs. Kay Altenburger, Treasurer

West Milton Village Council: Sarah Copp, Jason Tinnerman, Scott Fogle, Scott Hurst, Don Dohrman, Matt Kline, Ben Herron

Union Township: Tina Chaney, Phil Mote, Bill O'Brien, Keith Powers

Union Township Update

Phil Mote gave an update on the following items:

Polling Locations

- New polling locations are needed for elections. He asked the Board if it is possible to use the Milton-Union Schools' gym or other area. He would like to move three precincts to the school due to better parking areas and handicap access.
- Dr. Ritchey stated he would investigate this possibility for fiscal year 2019. The calendar has already been set for fiscal year 2018.

Signs for Cemetery

- Trustees would like to put up new signs in the cemetery. This would be an opportunity for Milton-Union students to design and create the signs.
- Scott Fogle suggested that students might also be interested in painting a mural on the side of the bowling alley.

Rumpke

- The Township just signed a contract with Rumpke for solid waste services. The new service will begin April 2017.

Township Projects

- The Township is currently working on a bridge project.
- The Shiloh Road bridge project will begin in July 2017. It should be completed by the beginning of the school year.
- The Township and Village are working on a joint road project.
- Several trees have been removed from Riverside Cemetery. The gazebo will be replaced in March or April 2017.

Milton-Union Schools Update

Lori Ginn Parsons and Dr. Brad Ritchey presented an update on the following items:

Economic Development

- The Board has taken steps to become as knowledgeable as possible regarding tax increment financing and the long-term financial effects.
- The Board must ensure adequate revenue in funding educational costs associated with new students.
- The entire Milton-Union attendance area will be affected along with other entities that generate revenue by leveling property taxes.

Music and Athletic Updates

- Mark Lane is doing a great job as Athletic Director. He will continue his duties as varsity football coach.
- There are a number of events and fundraising initiatives planned or already scheduled in the coming weeks and months. Please keep these events in mind and consider attending and/or participating.
- The Milton-Union “Band of Pride” is attempting to engage supporters in a uniform drive.

Don Dohrman suggested a band performance on the local cable access channel to bring awareness to the uniform drive.

Matt Kline suggested a joint fundraiser involving the Village, School and Township.

Strategic Planning

- Approximately 40 individuals across various groups have been assisting the District with a strategic planning initiative.
- Core values, beliefs and behaviors are being developed.
- The next steps will include the development of action teams to implement the plan.

Hidden in Plain Sight

- *Hidden in Plain Sight* is a traveling awareness program designed to help parents of teens recognize unfamiliar hazards. Parents will have the opportunity to be guided through the simulated teen’s bedroom and have areas of concern explained. The program is presented at no cost to Milton-Union Schools.
- The Tri-County Board and the Milton-Union PTO will co-host the program on March 13, 2017 in the Lowry Learning Center.

Hall of Honor

- Please consider completing a nomination for the Milton-Union Schools Hall of Honor.
- Applications and guidelines may be found on the District website.

Scott Fogle asked what is being done in the District for drug abuse prevention. Dr. Ritchey listed several initiatives that are in place for the students’ well-being such as anti-bullying, counseling and Rachel’s Challenge. A dog that searches for drugs is brought into the District in the fall.

Don Dohrman suggested a community drug turn-in day, which would give community members an opportunity to dispose of expired medications safely. This takes away the opportunity for drug abuse. Phil Mote suggested partnering with Miami County.

Matt Kline commented that the West Milton zip code ranks number one in overdoses in Miami County.

Dr. Ritchey explained that one of the District's teachers will pilot the Hope curriculum next year, which focuses on self-advocacy.

Matt Kline stated he would like to have a community meeting to discuss the drug abuse issues.

Village of West Milton Update

Matt Kline presented updates on the following items:

Stillwater Crossings Development

- The Village is appreciative that the School is studying the issue.
- Andy Brossart, bond underwriter, should have numbers tomorrow to send to the School and the School's attorney, Greg Daniels.
- Andy has followed Greg's suggestions.
- The Village's attorney, Caleb Bell, will contact Greg.
- The deadline to close on the property has been pushed back.

Hometown Heroes

- One hundred ten banners were hung last year.
- It continues to be popular and will continue this year.

Aggregation

- This affects rates for electricity. The new rate will be 5.3 cents per kWh. The previous rate was 6.2 per kWh.
- The rates begin in April and will be reflected in the May bill.
- Gas rates are not yet available.

Forest Avenue Completion

- Bid documents are being put together.
- The south side needs curb, gutter and sidewalks.
- A \$60,000 grant was received
- The Township was thanked for their cooperation.

New Playground Completion

- The equipment has arrived and ready to be installed. Pictures were shared with everyone in attendance.
- Park benches and table tops will also be new.
- New sidewalks will be installed. Hope to have a concrete slide.
- A state grant was received to help pay for the project.

July 4 Community Help Needed

- Jack Scudmore continues to be in charge of the celebration. More help is needed.
- The contract has been signed with Fun Time.
- Donations are needed for fireworks. Fun Time donates \$7,500 for fireworks.
- Don Dohrman suggested another fundraising opportunity for a school group would be to park cars.

Miscellaneous

- The tree lighting ceremony is being planned for Christmas time. Carriage rides will be offered. The Village would like the middle school choir to sing.
- Work continues on the new Dollar General Store. It is anticipated they will open in May.
- The Fall Fling will be held again this year.
- Mo's food truck will have a set schedule this year. The location will be moved to Washington Street. The Village will post the schedule.
- All in attendance viewed a promotional video for the Village of West Milton.
- Core drilling has been done at the site of the proposed Stillwater Crossings Development. The budget is 30-60% higher because of the rock. The Village will issue \$1.7 million in debt for costs.
- Lori Ginn Parsons questioned if local builders were asked to build in the development. Why is Ryan Homes building there? Matt replied that the developer, Ron Kauffman, has a relationship with Ryan Homes. The homes will range in price from \$225,000 - \$300,000. Most of the homes will have a slab foundation.

It was proposed that the next joint meeting be held on May 25, 2017 at Milton-Union Schools. Dr. Ritchey will check the District's calendar.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.