

**VILLAGE OF WESTFIELD CENTER
SPECIAL MEETING**

**WESTFIELD FIRE & RESUCE DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING**

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014

5:30 P.M. – WESTFIELD MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

VILLAGE MEMBERS PRESENT: Thomas Horwedel, Mayor; Darryl Chidsey, Pres Pro Tem; Patricia Edington; Greg Oakes; Nancy Powell; Kevin Slife; Bill Hutson, Law Director

ABSENT: Terry Bittner

WESTFIELD FIRE & RESUCE DISTRICT MEMBERS: James Likely; Mike Schmidt; Bill Thombs; Bill Thorne, Legal Council

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Gail Foster; Sally Estvanic; Russ Zupanic; Martha Evans; Ron Oiler; Police Chief Patterson; Fire Chief Fletcher;

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Horwedel. Everyone introduced themselves.

Mr. Likely: His concept for funding a new fire station would be to identify an amount for land and building. Then ask the County Auditor to identify the mills needed for a construction levy. He would need to know if we were on board for a Village match.

Mayor Horwedel: We would not put a levy on; any amounts the Village agrees to pay would come from income tax.

Mr. Likely: If it is a one mill, with Village participation, it would be easier to sell than a two mill.

Mrs. Edington: Asked about the Township building a new station on Township property and leasing it to the District.

Mr. Likely: Doesn't know if there is available land at the Township site.

Mr. Hutson: To clarify it would be a Fire District levy with Village participation not a Township levy.

Mr. Thorne: Once the Village agrees they would have to be committed through the length of the loan.

Mrs. Edington: Committing future boards. We would not own any part of the station.

Mr. Likely: If ownership is important.

Mayor: No

Mr. Hutson: Will have to check further on taking out a loan on property that we don't own.

Mayor: Regarding the disposition of existing equipment, vehicles and apparatus: the Village would transfer their ownership to the District for \$1.00. The firehouse and adjacent lot would then be transferred from the Township to the Village when it was no longer needed for \$1.00.

Mr. Likely: Understood it would be leased until no longer of value to the District.

Mr. Hutson: The Village owns the land and the building is titled in the Village's name and there is currently a fifty percent equity agreement with the Township.

Mr. Thorne: The Township would accept the equipment for \$1.00 and would have the firehouse appraised and it would be offered to the Village for fifty percent of its value.

Mayor: Does Council agree? Council agreed. Language in the contract would state that the buyout would be when the firehouse was no longer needed as the main firehouse.

Mr. Likely: There will be \$85,000 carried over to 2015 and they approved \$521,137.16 for appropriations. The property values in the Village went down shorting them what they expected for their appropriations by \$9800. The original amount the Village contributed was \$128,502.90 and now it is \$118,701.96.

Mayor: Regarding the full time Fire/EMS Chief and full time, daytime staffing for EMS/Fire services, the language reads: if the District has the money. He would like to see the language firmed up.

Mr. Thombs: Now that Cloverleaf Schools are one hundred percent in the Township someone should be available. Both a full time Chief and day time staffing.

Mayor: He knows that the intent is to go to part time Chief.

Mr. Likely: Other districts don't have full time.

Mrs. Edington: The Chief brought in \$74,500 in 2013. He is worth it. What do you see as a new part time Chief? Having an individual that does what?

Mr. Likely: The Chief is very valuable. The problem is with the mandate in the contract.

Mayor: Mr. Chidsey suggested defining a full time Fire/EMS Chief and full time daytime staffing. If it drops below what the Village would want the out clause would be one year instead of two.

Mr. Likely: Any shortfall in funding: we would go back to the voters.

Mr. Chidsey: The full Time Fire/EMS Chief position is both an administrative and leadership roll.

Mayor: Would Council agree to match the amount that the levy generated before the new values to level out the funding? Council agreed.

Mr. Likely: If daytime staffer exceeds 28 hours—we have to pay health care.

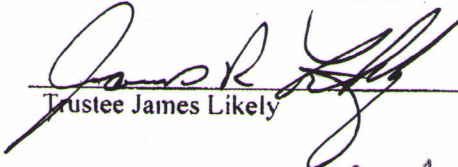
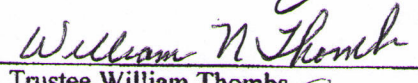
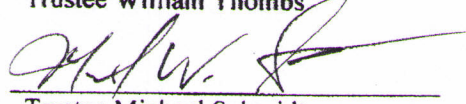
Mayor: Asked Mr. Hutson and Mr. Thorne to have the contract ready in 30 days: for approval at April's meeting.

Mr. Likely: A rescue squad was ordered for \$155,000 and would be delivered in May.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Village of Westfield Center

Westfield Fire & Rescue District

_____	Date	 Trustee James Likely	<u>4-7-14</u> Date
_____	Date	 Trustee William Thombs	<u>4/7/14</u> Date
_____	Date	 Trustee Michael Schmidt	<u>4/7/14</u> Date