

**CENTER TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE  
CENTER TOWNSHIP BOARD  
February 24, 2021 – MEETING MINUTES**

**LOCATION:** Center Township Trustee's Office

**TIME:** 5:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Jesse Harper, Trustee  
Deb Fray, Board Member  
Stephen Buck, Board Member  
Todd Etzler, Board Member  
Adam Mindel – Attorney

Todd Etzler called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion:** Stephen Buck moved to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Deb Fray and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

**Annual Financial Report Resolution**

Trustee Harper presented the Annual Financial Report for Year Ending December 31, 2020. He also presented a Resolution approving the Financial Report.

**Motion:** Deb Fray moved to approve the Resolution. Stephen Buck seconded the motion and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

**Wage Increase for Employees**

Trustee Harper discussed raises for employees. A raise has not been given since 2017. He is proposing a 5% increase across the board. He presented a Resolution approving the pay increase.

**Motion:** Stephen Buck moved to approve the Resolution approving a pay increase for employees. Seconded by Deb Fray and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

CENTER TOWNSHIP, INDIANA  
Resolution No. 2021 - RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SALARIES OF  
TOWNSHIP OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

**BE IT RESOLVED**, pursuant to IC 36-6-6-10, the salaries stated below are fixed for the Officers and Employees of the township from and after the date of adoption for the remainder of year 2021.

OFFICE OR POSITION	HOURLY RATE	ANNUAL SALARY	FULL/PART TIME
Trustee		\$ 48,900	Full
Board Member		\$ 4,780	Part
Deputy Trustee		\$ 24,344	Full
Secretary		\$ 13,606	Full
Investigator	\$ 18.69		Part

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Center Township, Porter County, Indiana this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

/s/Todd Etzler, President

/s/ Debra Fray, Secretary

/s/ Stephen Buck

ATTEST:

/s/ Jesse Harper, Trustee

**Transfer of Monies Within Same Fund (if needed)**

Trustee Harper discussed the need to transfer monies within the same fund to cover salaries. He presented a Resolution approving this internal transfer.

**Motion:** Deb Fray moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Seconded by Stephen Buck and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

**Trustee’s Report**

Trustee Harper advised the Board that a long-time employee recently passed away from covid-19. He has hired a new part time employee, Abbey Hines, at \$14.00 an hour. He interviewed two other applicants and will keep their resumes for future projects.

The School Board appointment will be made soon. Trustee Harper will work on getting an application on the Trustee’s web page.

Trustee Harper and Attorney Mindel met with the City of Valparaiso regarding the Inter-local Park Agreement. The thought was to use the escape clause and look at this matter in the

future. In the meeting Trustee Harper suggested paying \$200,000 now and the yearly payment change from \$65,000 to \$80,000. He has not heard back from the City.

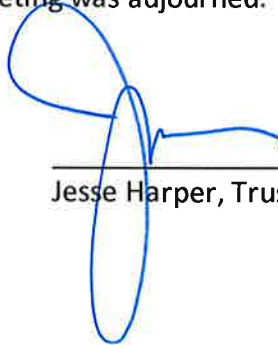
Trustee Harper discussed a trend of landlords taking in a renter knowing they cannot make their rent payments. The landlord then sends the renter to the Trustee's office because he knows he will get his rent payment. This issue needs to be looked at and see if a remedy is available.

Trustee Harper has come across a book that has the cemeteries and names in it. He suggested this be donated to Kevin at the Porter County Museum. The Board was in agreement.

### **Attorney's Report**

Attorney Adam Mindel discussed the Inter-local Park Agreement. If the Trustee does not hear back from the City a Resolution will need to be prepared before June 1<sup>st</sup>. Attorney Mindel will email an exit strategy to the Board Members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



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Jesse Harper, Trustee



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Deb Fray, Secretary

