

Fairness In Taxes

Meeting Minutes 6-5-15

Board Attendance: Sheila & Bill Hartranft, Michael Hinchman, Leo Burke, Don Kerns, Joe Somerville, Vic Staniec & Jim Tweed

Meeting opened by Michael Hinchman with Pledge Allegiance at 3:00 P.M.

Education – Vic Staniec

- Ray Clark has resigned his position.
- Dr. Taylor has signed a new 5-year contract at \$155,000/year. This is due Governor Christie capping salaries for Superintendent's in districts where there are not more than 1096 students. There are incentives; 10% CAT if goals are met or exceeded; 5% merit. 1 1/2 % of the salary goes to health benefits. Vacation is now at 3 weeks, with 12 sick days and 4 personal days. Vacation can be banked to a limit of \$5,000.
- Tim Kelly is the Business Administrator. Was formerly with Galloway Township. His salary is \$135,000 with an additional \$10,000 from Sea Isle City.
- The Choice Ad Hoc committee has been dissolved. There will be no more choice students in the lower grades.
- The High School air handler absorbers have been installed, and they appear to have solved the noise problem.
- The High School side door entrance now has a walkway.
- There is a tax decrease in this year's school budget. This money is being assigned to other areas.
- In two years the state may be eliminating the Choice program.

OC Flooding – Eric Sauder

- Now have 80 households participating.
- There will be a meeting to update everyone interested on Saturday 6-5-15 in room #116 (or #110 if needed). The press has been invited.
- Have put in an OPRA request on Merion Park and other things.
- There is a bid for a pump station for \$100,000.
- Have been told we are unable to get information due to "Homeland Security". (This got a few chuckles.)
- Vic Staniec noted that North Wildwood's efforts have been funded by the Department of Agriculture.
- The next step is to get the city to come with a plan to address flooding.
- A suggestion was made to prepare ads for the press regarding drainage and OPRA requests.
- Pete Guinosso commented that years back the east to west pipes only went to Haven Avenue. Pipes were removed and the road collapsed. Quality of the work was not adequate.
- Eric asked on behalf of Suzanne Horneck if FIT would be willing to purchase OC Flooding T-shirts. FIT voted this suggestion down.
- Michael received a call from Linda McIntyre. Last letter from OC Flooding good. Should use bullet points to create an ad.

OC Smarth Growth – Michael Hinchman

- Were working to identify candidates to run in the next election.
- They appear to now have an "environmental" focus and are pulling back from a political focus.
- Leo Burke asked if district council members must live in the district they represent; answer, yes.

Property at 15th & West (Theater) – Michael Hinchman

- The city signed a contract to lease the property “as is” for \$1.00/year, then spent \$48,000 on repairs. In this case, they broke the law. Will consider taking it to the state.
- They could have sold the property and used the money for the Life Saving Station.
- Vic Staniec commented that City Council took a referendum on the Life Saving Station and voters said “no”.

Bookmobile – Michael Hinchman

- Upshot – Chris wanted it; Nancy Larabee wanted it; concept to promote the library. They got it. There will be a meeting of the library board on June 8 if anyone is interested.

A final comment from Leo Burke asking what the city had done, if anything, to reclaim the property of the 3 gas stations at the 9th Street entrance to the city. If defined as a nuisance, that would be too subjective.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

Next meeting scheduled for Friday, July 10, 2015. (Postponed 1 week due to the 4th of July holiday.)

Respectfully submitted by:
Sheila Hartranft, Secretary