

2600 Easton St. NE
Canton, OH 44721

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January 17, 06

OPENING: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Lou Giavasis.

ATTENDANCE:

Pamela Bossart, Louis Giavasis, Albert Leno, II, Claude W. Shriver, II, Mark Cozy, Eric Williams, Joe Iacino, John Sabo, Donald Snyder and David Kraft.

Media present: Betty O'Neill-Roderick, Akron Beacon Journal.

Mr. Williams gave a brief overview of the purpose of the meeting, that being to discuss the upcoming fire levy and the ballot language which he is reviewing. He then turned the discussion over to Chief John Sabo.

Chief Sabo went over several points of justification for the levy and noted that we currently have 2 reserve accounts: one for 1 million dollars for ladder truck and equipment and one for 1 million dollars for buildings. He emphasized that we are not permitted to create reserve accounts for wages and salary.

Other points made were: \$3,310,057 was the amount spent in 2005 less capital improvements compared to \$3,687,966 which is generated by the current levy. The 2006 budget created is \$3,420,000, with a carryover of \$1,105,681 from 2005.

Chief Sabo also noted account #28 in the amount of \$242,509.00. This fund is from the billing of EMS services and is not subject to scrutiny by the budget commission because it is not a tax to the residents.

Mr. Giavasis explained the tax ratio of residential property as compared to commercial property. The township needs to have more commercial property to actually reduce the residential tax.

Chief Sabo said that he was in contact with Doug Thorn from the Auditor's Office to determine that amount of mills for a replacement levy.

Round table type discussion continued with input from Donald Snyder and David Kraft as to the need for additional personnel and the lack of participation of volunteers. Chief Sabo also shared the department's priorities which were # 1 People, # 2 Equipment and #3 Buildings. He also shared with the board a map of current station placement, the possibility of closing two stations and the construction of a new station near Warstler School.

The board agreed that the need for a replacement levy was evident. Mr. Leno stated that this would be up to the voters and that he had witnessed firsthand the problem of numerous calls within a district and the shortage of manpower. Chief Sabo said that the Township is running as many calls for EMS as many cities, and this problem is compounded if there is a call regarding a working fire and many personnel are already on calls.

The Auditor's office will be contacted to see will be necessary to generate \$4.5 million for the Fire District.

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ADJOURNMENT:

#06-042 Motion by Mrs. Bossart,
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Plain Township Board of Trustees,
Stark County, Ohio to adjourn at 6:52 p.m.
Seconded by Mr. Giavasis.
Vote: Mrs. Bossart, yes; Mr. Leno, yes; Mr. Giavasis, yes.

Pamela S. Bossart
Trustee

Louis P. Giavasis
Trustee

Albert P. Leno, II
Trustee

ATTEST: _____
Claude W. Shriver, II
Fiscal Officer