

RUSHCREEK TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
06/23/2017

Hart Van Horn, Chairman called the Rushcreek Township Trustees Board meeting to order at 6:00pm leading with the Pledge of Allegiance dedicating it to the military who defend this nation and the law enforcement who protect our freedoms. Those in attendance in addition to Hart were: Dave Myers, Trustee; Bill Myers, Trustee; and Connie Moyer, Fiscal Officer. Hart asked that all cell phones be muted along with all fire radios except the Chief and Road Superintendent.

Visitors

Chad Ashbaugh, Earl Lehman

Business

Special Meeting

The following notice was placed on the website and sent to the Eagle Gazette on June 21st: *Rushcreek Township Trustees will hold a Special Meeting at 6:00pm on Friday, June 23rd. The meeting will be held at the Township office, 213 Marietta Street. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the OPEC membership. Following the Special Meeting the Trustees will immediately hold a Work Session with each Department Head to review their proposed 2018 budget.*

As discussed at the June 21st meeting, the Ohio Public Entity Consortium (OPEC) which handles our hospitalization insurance is reporting an 8 million dollar deficit. OPEC is proposing an amendment from their three year contracts to one year. An email was received from Stark County Assistant Prosecutor, Steve Babick who is reviewing the legal structure of OPEC. There appears to be several conflicts with how the OPEC board is structured along with some disturbing finding. At OPEC's last Board meeting, representation from Violet, Bloom, and Pleasant Townships were present. Those representatives expressed their discontent on how the meeting was handled and the residual effects of the deficit. Violet Township has sent a letter of intent to withdraw from the current contract. Both Bloom and Pleasant advised they are seeking other quotes and options. OPEC's next meeting will be held on June 26th in Grove City which Hart will attend. Violet Township presented us with a copy of their letter of intent to withdraw from the current contract. Hart presented the Board with a letter of intent to withdraw from OPEC that is due June 30th. He felt that we should move forward with the letter of intent which can be pulled should Rushcreek decide to stay in the consortium. The letter was very similar to the letter which Violet Township used. Dave made a motion to notify OPEC Board of Directors with our intent to withdraw and Hart seconded the motion. Roll Call: Hart, aye; Dave, aye; Bill, aye.

Connie was instructed to send the letter certified with a return receipt requested on June 24, 2017.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:14pm