

SWANTON TOWNSHIP

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF: REGULAR MEETING

HELD: APRIL 25, 2023

Chairperson Jeff Michael called the April 25th Regular Meeting of the Swanton Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:30 PM.

Roll Call:

Trustee Jeff Michael	- Present
Trustee Kyle McPherson	- Present
Trustee April Grajczyk	- Present
Fiscal Officer Peggy Michael	- Present

Visitors Present: 1

911 Proportional Share – Swanton Township Appeal –

Trustee Jeff Michael reported following the meetings with the Executive Director of the Lucas County 911 and Lucas County Sheriff, the Lucas County 911 Lucas County Regional Council of Governments (RCOG) Board of Directors met on April 17th, the Board approved our appeal for the FY2024 Proportional Shares.

The appeal will reduce the township's FY2024 total incident average by 550 incidents per year. Our Total Incident Average will go from 1,842.50 to 1,292.50 incidents. This should reduce our Proportional Share percentage from .3352% down to .2351%. If there's no increase over the FY2023 budget, our cost will go down from \$49,024 to \$34,384. Saving the Township almost \$15,000 for runs that were not in our jurisdiction.

In addition, the FY2023 invoice for 911 RCOG services was adjusted. Based on the audit of the runs it was determined that operational processes by the Sheriff's generated CAD incidents for Swanton Township, which are not actual township incidents. Also included were the other questioned calls such as the 57 calls that should fall under the Lucas County Port Authority, 43 calls that should fall under Metroparks and 46 calls that were clearly outside of the jurisdictional boundaries including in Fulton County, and the village of Swanton. These were worked out and handled internally within the Lucas County 911 RCOG.

To resolve the issue, the RCOG reduced our incidents with a revised invoice for FY2023 of \$20,956, down from \$23,777. This saved the Township another \$2,900 from runs that were not in our jurisdiction.

As Trustee Michael told the Toledo Blade, this Appeal and action should have never happened as these calls are clearly outside the jurisdiction of Swanton Township. In addition, before this consolidation happened, Lucas County should have ensured the proper systems were in place that could accurately identify where these calls are and bill them appropriately. Obviously, the current system is not sufficient.

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Now, the Trustee's will have to continuously audit the calls billed to Swanton Township as the calls were clearly outside the Swanton Township jurisdiction and should have never been included in Swanton Township proportional share and billing. It is probable that if this happened in Swanton Township there are calls like these being billed in other jurisdictions.

Business of the Fiscal Officer

Motion by April Grajczyk to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2023 Regular Meeting. Seconded by Kyle McPherson. Roll Call: April Grajczyk, yes; Kyle McPherson, yes; Jeff Michael, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 35-2023.**

Motion by April Grajczyk to pay Warrant Numbers 7180 through 7197, Withholding Vouchers 23-2023 through 25-2023, and sign the payment report. Seconded by Kyle McPherson. Roll Call: April Grajczyk, yes; Kyle McPherson, yes; Jeff Michael, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 36-2023.**

Fiscal Officer Peggy Michael entered the correspondence into the Record.

Zoning Report

1. Trustee Kyle McPherson gave the Zoning report.

Roads Report

1. Trustee Jeff Michael gave the roads report.

Cemetery Report

1. Trustee April Grajczyk gave the Cemetery report.

Old Business - None

New Business

1. ODOT 2023-2024 Salt Contract Participation (018-24) order

Trustee Jeff Michael reported this is the order for road salt through the State and the resolution must be submitted through the website by May 1st. Trustee Michael recommends we order approximately 50 tons this year. The salt building is full right now and Trustee Michael recommends purchasing just enough to fill the building again after next winter.

Motion by Jeff Michael to adopt and sign the Resolution Authorizing Participation in the ODOT Road Salt Contract and order up to 50 tons. The resolution will be uploaded to the salt participation website by May 1st. Seconded by Kyle McPherson. Roll Call: Jeff Michael, yes; Kyle McPherson, yes; April Grajczyk, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 37-2023.**

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2. Wilkins Road Resurfacing – OPWC Project CT46Z - Award Bid

Trustee Jeff Michael reported the bids for the Wilkins Road Resurfacing Project were opened by the Lucas County Engineer's Office on April 19, 2023. Gerken Paving was the low bidder. Sarah Rowland, the Engineering Project Manager reviewed their bid packet and feels we can award the contract to this low bidder.

The bids were:

1. \$219,729.25 from Gerken Paving
2. \$229,009.16 from The Shelly Company
3. \$229,649.50 from Henry W. Bergman

Motion by Jeff Michael to award the contract for the Wilkins Road Resurfacing Project to the Gerken Paving, Inc. with a low bid of \$219,729.25. We will request the original bond from Gerken Paving. Seconded by April Grajczyk. Roll Call: Jeff Michael, yes; April Grajczyk, yes; Kyle McPherson, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 38-2023.**


3. Re-Appoint Kim Middleton to the Zoning Commission – term expiring 4/10/2028

Motion by Jeff Michael to re-appoint Kim Middleton to the Zoning Commission for the term expiring 4/10/2028. Seconded by April Grajczyk. Roll Call: Jeff Michael, yes; April Grajczyk, yes; Kyle McPherson, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 39-2023.**

Executive Session - None

Motion by April Grajczyk to adjourn at 7:55 PM. Seconded by Kyle McPherson. Roll Call: April Grajczyk, yes; Kyle McPherson, yes; Jeff Michael, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 40-2023.**

Signed: 
Peggy Michael, Fiscal Officer

Signed: 
Trustee



Swanton Township 911 charges amended following appeal



NANCY GAGNET 

The Blade

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APR 21, 2023

10:24 AM

Swanton Township has won an appeal with the Lucas County Regional Council of Governments for 911 service fees even as township officials maintain that the centralized 911 call center system remains deficient in its billing practices.

The township officially appealed the proportional share of its current billing cycle and all other former cycles it owes to the Lucas County Regional Council of Governments for 911 service fees because officials said that many of those costs were for incidents that happened outside of the Swanton Township jurisdiction. Primarily, the township called into question charges billed to them for incidents at Eugene F. Kranz Toledo Express Airport.

Swanton Township Trustee Jeff Michael argued that the 727 calls applied to the township's bill were actually generated by the Lucas County Sheriff,

which has a substation at the airport where sheriff deputies participate in a “variety of activities.”

After meetings with RCOG officials, both parties agreed that Swanton Township was being charged in error. And Monday the Lucas County 911 Regional Council of Government board approved the deduction of 550 incidents from Swanton Township’s proportional share. Those calls were then added to the Lucas County Sheriff’s office proportional share with the amended changes slated to apply to the fiscal year 2024 invoice.

Mr. Michael says he is satisfied with the action but believes that the appeal should have never been necessary.

“Obviously, the current system is not sufficient,” Mr. Michael wrote in an email this week. “Now as a trustee I will have to continuously audit the calls billed to Swanton Township as these calls were clearly outside the Swanton Township jurisdiction and should have never been included in Swanton Township proportional share and billing. It is probable that if this happened in Swanton Township there are calls like these being billed in other jurisdictions.”

Stacey Mitchell, the executive director of the Lucas County 911 Regional Council of Governments told the board at Monday’s meeting that this situation would “not affect any other jurisdiction’s proportional share.”

Shared proportions are calculated based on a four-year average of computer aided dispatch incidents, which includes any police, fire or medical incident generated through the 911 regional system. County officials reviewed four years of data to determine 550 as the average number of incidents taking place at the airport substation in Swanton Township that did not apply to township residents, Ms. Mitchell said. She could not specify the dollar amount that incident reduction will represent on the 2024 invoice; however, the township will be charged for an annual average of 1,292.5 incidents, she said.

“A dollar amount is not attached to proportional shares and in fact the budget for fiscal year 2024 has not been drafted yet and that’s why I can’t attach a dollar amount to it yet,” Ms. Mitchell said this week.

Invoices for 2024 will be distributed in October and are due in December, she added.

Based on information uncovered through the appeal process, Swanton Township’s 2023 invoice will be reduced by nearly \$3,000, Ms. Mitchell said. With the newly revised calculations Swanton Township will owe \$20,956.15 while approximately \$47,000 will be subsidized by Lucas County based on agreements that were reached through the consolidation process, she said.

“We serve 26 different jurisdictions or agencies and so to me this is what the appeals process is about,” Ms. Mitchell said. “I don’t think Swanton Township is being unreasonable in their request and I respect them for doing it. We don’t want to bill jurisdictions for incidents that didn’t occur in their jurisdiction, that’s not the intent of the billing. We want everyone to pay for their correct proportional share.”

In his initial appeal Mr. Michael also called into question 57 calls that should have fallen under the Lucas County Port Authority, 43 calls that should have fallen under Metroparks Toledo, and 46 calls that “are clearly outside” of the jurisdictional boundaries including in Fulton County, and the village of Swanton.

According to Mr. Michael, those disputed calls were “worked out” with the RCOG during the meetings. Ms. Mitchell concurred that the agreed upon appeal resolved all incidents in question.

Since 2021, the council of governments has overseen the 911 call center following the merger of six separate call centers into one centralized 911 call center.



Nancy Gagnet

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