

KINGSVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES MEETING
Special Meeting
July 31, 2024

The July 31, 2024 special meeting of the Kingsville Township Trustees was called to order at 1900 by Chairman Jim Branch, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The special meeting is to review and consider a resolution to proceed with a Fire/EMS levy to be placed on the ballot for November 5, 2024 election. Jim made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-012 Resolution to Proceed for 4.0 mill Fire Levy which would replace the current 2.5 mill levy which is set to expire. Jim read the resolution in its entirety to everyone in attendance. Motion seconded by Mike. In the absence of the Fiscal Officer, Jim Branch read the call of roll. On a Call of Roll: Jim Branch – yes, Karl Brunnel – yes, Mike Cliff – yes. Motion passed. Jim advised Resolution 2024-012 Resolution to Proceed for 4.0 mill Fire Levy will be delivered by the Fiscal Officer to the Ashtabula County Board of Elections and will be prepared by the Ashtabula County Board of Elections for November 5th election ballot.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1) Gail Urch asked if the levy passes would Kingsville Fire Department consider rejoining the Northeast Joint Fire District. Jim advised Gail that the levy would be to support Kingsville Fire Department solely. The reason the Trustees are placing the levy on the ballot is based on the feedback the Trustees have received from Kingsville Township residents. 2) Jeff Drake of Arbor Dr asked if the levy passes would it provide 24/7 staffing coverage. Jim advised that if the levy passes the goal would be to work on a vehicle replacement plan, the buildout of the fire station, as well as work on getting to 24/7 staffing. Mike agreed that the amount of additional money generated if the levy passes would help accomplish the goals Jim previously mention. Mike did acknowledge that even with the passage of the levy Kingsville wouldn't be flush with money based on the costs associated with the goals. Jim advised if the levy passes the money would be collected in year 2025 and the township would see the money 2026. 3) Kingsville Fire Boosters asked for an update on how this will benefit the boosters. Mike provided the drawings for the fire station remodel showing the plans for new bathrooms, as well as a commercial kitchen. Karl explained the process of tying into the new septic system to allow for the renovation which is currently awaiting EPA approval. 4) Gail Urch asked about the Improvement of Sites money from the ARPA Grant. Jim provided an update on the costs of the repairs and the renovation and the money used to pay for the unforeseen repairs as well as the renovation. Mike expanded on Jim's comments advising that more costs were incurred after the renovation was started due to unforeseen repairs that were discovered after the demo work was completed. Mike also provided an update on the engineering and plans for the fire station renovation. The ARPA Grant money is being used for the engineering and plans. Gail advised the Fire Department Boosters won't be having fundraiser dinners until the septic and bathrooms are in use. 5) Dennis Huey asked if an architect was hired for the fire station renovation. Mike advised they have hired an architect for the fire station renovation. Mike gave overview of the layout of the space being added and renovated at the fire station. Dennis Huey asked about the future with the fire district once the fire station renovation is complete. Mike advised the relationship between Kingsville and the Fire District has further deteriorated. Mike advised there is no new information regarding the fire district and Kingsville Fire Department. Mike also acknowledged the struggle with staffing and the money available to provided staffing. Jim mentioned promoting the levy in the community.

Jim made a motion to adjourn the July 31, 2024 special meeting of the Kingsville Township Trustees. Karl seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jim Branch, Chairman

Michael DeFazio, Fiscal Officer