

Eagle Township Board
Wednesday, March 14, 2007 6:30 p.m.
Old National Bank
385 South Main Street
Zionsville, IN 46077

Members in attendance: Rob Schein, Chairman x
Ralph Stacy, Secretary x
Jeff Papa, Bd. Member x
Judith Essex, Trustee x

Guests: Steve Buschmann, Township Attorney. Charles Anderson-Royal Run, and Students from High School

Minutes

1. Call to Order. Chairman Rob Schein called the meeting to order.

2. Minutes. Minutes approved as corrected for February 7, 2007.

3. House Bill 1362. Steve Buschmann, Township Attorney, addressed the board about potential for cooperative agreement between Zionsville and Eagle Township. Mr. Buschmann reviewed the history of East Allen Communities where House Bill 1362 was used for the first time in the state. The East Allen Communities consists of 11 townships, 5 towns and 2 cities who have re-organized to maintain the rural lifestyle of the area.

The goal was to look at the governments of all existing entities and decide what could be created that would provide services to the community as wanted and/or needed. The model that has been created is an umbrella municipality, called East Allen Communities. None of the underlying entities are being dissolved with this plan. Fire and police services can be provided if needed but is not required. Initially little or no tax rate change is anticipated. No other municipality can annex into this area. This re-organization was a defensive mechanism that blocked Fort Wayne from annexing further into the East Allen County.

There are two options with House Bill 1362:

1. Merger- consolidate all entities.
2. Cooperative agreement - A cooperative agreement is more like an interlocal agreement that is more binding, but can be discontinued if the entities change direction.

The Reorganization Committee is specifically charged with developing a plan that is then reviewed by the legislative bodies of each entity. Once approved the plan must be put to a referendum with the voters having the final decision. By statute, the make up of the three

member Reorganization Committee must be; not more than two people of the same political party.

The Township board unanimously approved the motion Resolution 2007-1. If the Town Board adopts the resolution as written, the next timeline is for the executive of each entity have 30 days to appoint the committee members. Then the committee members have 11 months to develop a plan.

4. Financial Report The Trustee distributed the Eagle Township Financial Report for February 2007. The disbursements for February were \$184,565.39 and the receipts totaled \$15,169.42. An email from Paige Gregory of Umbaugh was also distributed which outlined estimated remaining fund balance in Cumulative Fire fund.

5. Fire Department Report. The monthly activity report for February was distributed.

6. Other Business. Ralph Stacy received a check from the Rotary Club for \$500.00 for cemetery restoration and sent a letter of appreciation. At the board's request, the Trustee kept a chart for one month that showed the amount of time spent on various duties pertaining to the trustee's office. That chart was distributed to the board. Art Small of Zionsville Parks Board, has called a meeting of the Joint Land Resources Committee, April 5, 2007 at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at the Town Hall.

At 7:55p.m. With there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Heather Gallagher
Recording Clerk