WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES JANUARY 5, 2009 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING-7:00 PM

As amended March 5, 2009

Fiscal Officer Evans called the organizational meeting of the Westfield Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. Trustee Sims, Likley and Kratzer were present as well as Fiscal Officer Evans. The following were also in attendance: Ron Oiler, Mark Goffinet, Tim Sims, Susan Brewer, Frank Galish, Tom Micklas, Stan Scheetz, Mike Schmidt, Gayle Foster, Mary Steidl, and Dennis Delagrange.

Nominations for Chairperson

Trustee Sims made a motion to nominate Jim Likley as Chairperson of the Board of Trustees for 2009. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

The meeting was then turned over to Chairman Likley.

Nominations for Vice Chairman

Trustee Likley made a motion to nominate Carolyn Sims as Vice Chairperson of the Board of Trustees for 2009. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes, Sims-yes. Motion carried.

Set Reg. Meeting Date and time

In order to accommodate Township employee's schedules there was discussion by the Trustees to change their Regular meeting days.

Trustee Likley made a motion to set the Regular Meetings of the Trustees to the first and third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. It was seconded by Trustee Sims. ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Sims made a motion to amend the meeting notification policy on the bulletin board to reflect the new Trustee Regular Meeting Dates of the first and third Thursdays of the month. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

The new meeting dates of the Trustees will also be reflected on the community meeting board in front of the Townhall. This would also be added to the meeting notification policy.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS FOR 2009

Cemetery Chairperson

Trustee Sims made a motion to nominate Trustee Kratzer as Chairperson for Cemeteries for 2009. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

Discussion on the Motion.

Trustee Kratzer stated he sent both Trustees an e-mail that he would like to take over the Roads but knew that was not going to happen so that was all he had to say.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-no, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Parks Chairperson

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to nominate Trustee Kratzer as Chairperson for Cemeteries for 2009. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Chairperson

Trustee Likley stated he has been involved in zoning as a board member and Trustee Chairperson for 8 yrs. and would like to step down. Trustee Sims stated she was interested in taking over the position as that was one of the main reasons she ran for Trustee.

Chair Likley made a motion to nominate Trustee Sims as Chairperson for Zoning for 2009. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-no, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Road Chairperson

Trustee Sims made a motion to nominate Jim Likley as Chairperson of Roads for 2009. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-no, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Fire Chairperson

Trustee Likley stated he would like to continue as Chairperson for Fire.

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to nominate Jim Likley as Chairperson of Fire for 2009. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Committee Volunteers

Park Committee Resident

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to nominate Ron Oiler as Park Committee Resident. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

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Discussion on the Motion

Trustee Sims stated she would like the Park Committee to be more proactive this year with Westfield Center and was informed a meeting of the Committee was not called last year. Trustee Kratzer stated the parks were running alright so there was no need to call a meeting. There was a meeting last year to discuss the Ash tree but the Village Resident Park Commissioner had no inkling to discuss it but added he believed it will be discussed this year in the spring. Trustee Sims stated there were things to be discussed like cracked sidewalks and insurance for park rental.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Fire Committee Resident

Trustee Likley stated he named someone new (Jack Poe) to this position last year and Mr. Poe has stated that he does not want to continue the position. Trustee Likley thanked Jack Poe for his time and effort. He said he spoke with a resident (Heather Sturdevant) who has general knowledge of fire service to take over the position.

Trustee Likley made a motion to nominate Heather Sturdevant as Fire Committee Resident. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Fire Fighters Dependency Board

Trustee Likley stated he was appointed to this Board and thankfully was never called to serve. This Board handles issues if one of our firefighters was ever killed in the line of service.

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to appoint Trustee Likley to be on the Fire Fighters Dependency Board. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Chippewa Park Committee

Trustee Likley stated Mrs. Sims was appointed to this Committee last year. Trustee Kratzer asked if they had any meetings last year? Trustee Sims stated not that she was notified of. The Committee was formed when the Park bought the Lake to inform the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of any information or action. Trustee Kratzer stated then maybe we should check with the Park to see if that Committee is still enforce.

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to appoint Mr. Likley for the Chippewa Park Committee. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

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EMPLOYEES

<u>Road Supervisor</u> (Lee Evans currently \$20.60 hr. time and one half over 40 hrs. per week; health and hosp. insurance; \$250 uniform allowance; 3 wks. Vacation; 10 holidays; 3 personal days per year; 3.7 hrs. sick time for every 80 hours maximum accumulation of 480 hrs.)

Trustee Sims stated as Road Chairperson for 2008, she completed an evaluation of Road Supervisor Lee Evans and would submit her written evaluation tomorrow. Trustee Sims stated that Lee Evans was given a generally favorable evaluation in his performance as Road Supervisor as well as working within his budget. However earlier this year Mr. Evans had some communication deficits with some residents that lead to some concerns of insubordination and improper communication in expressing his opinion to some residents.

Trustee Sims made a motion to offer Mr. Evans a 1% increase in pay which amounts to \$.21 per hr. or a total of \$20.81 for the year and a 6 month performance review where his salary could potentially be adjusted at that time. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

Discussion on the Motion.

Trustee Kratzer asked if Mr. Evans' benefits would remain the same i.e. time and one half over 40 hrs. per week; health and hosp. insurance; \$250 uniform allowance; 3 wks. Vacation; 10 holidays; 3 personal days per year; 3.7 hrs. sick time for every 80 hours maximum accumulation of 480 hrs.? Trustee Sims stated she would like that wording removed where the 3 wks. Vacation, 10 holidays etc. starts and replace it with per the Westfield Township Handbook since we are looking to revise the Handbook and then once that occurs so we would not then have to revise Mr. Evans employment benefits. Trustee Sims stated she would also like to address Lee Evans uniform allowance in a separate motion.

Trustee Likley asked if there was language in the Handbook that would address Mr. Evans benefits i.e. 3 wks. Vacation, 10 holidays, 3 personal days, etc...? Trustee Sims stated between 3-10 years it currently allow for a maximum of 100 hours of sick time but we (Trustees) were looking to revise that.

Trustee Sims restated her motion which is to offer Mr. Evans a 1% longevity cost of living raise, which would total \$.21 per hr. or an hourly rate of \$20.81; time and a half over 40 hrs.; and current benefits. It was seconded by Trustee Likley. ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

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Trustee Sims made a motion to retain the \$250.00 uniform allowance for Lee Evans. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Sims made a motion for Trustee Likley to review and sign the pay sheets of Road Supervisor Lee Evans as Trustee Likley is the Trustee liaison for Roads. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2009-01 Road Force Account

Fiscal Officer Evans stated this Resolution was sent to Bill Thorne. Trustee Sims asked if Bill Thorne had reviewed the document? Fiscal Officer Evans stated no, but Fred Boreman from the County Engineer's Office had. The revision is that the dollar amount was \$15,000 per mile instead of \$5,000. Mr. Evans stated the wording of the Resolution has not changed except for the dollar amount. Trustee Sims asked if the Pros. Office reviewed it? Mr. Evans stated no, it was the same form as last year but if she wanted it sent to the Pros. Office he would. Trustee Sims stated she knew there were changes made to the Road Force Accounts...Mr. Evans interjected yes, the dollar amounts not the language.

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to approve Resolution 2009-01 Authorizing the Township Road Department to proceed in certain instances by force account in the reconstruction, improvement, maintenance and repair of roads and culverts. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

Discussion on the Motion

Trustee Sims stated she wanted the Resolution on Road Force Accounts to be sent to the Pros. Office for legal review.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, pending Pros. Office review. Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes pending Pros. Office review. Motion carried.

Temporary Road Employee (currently \$11.33 per hour)

Currently the rate per hour for temporary road employee(s) is \$11.33 per hour. Trustee Sims stated she could not remember while she was Trustee Liason for Roads that temporary road employees were ever used.

Trustee Sims made a motion to give a 1% cost of living increase for the temporary road employee pay rate resulting in an hourly rate of \$11.44 per hour. It was seconded by Kratzer.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

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Emergency Road Employee (currently \$14.42 per hour)

Trustee Sims stated the Township did use emergency road employees (the Evans brothers) to do snow removal and tree trimming and they did an excellent job.

Trustee Sims made a motion to give a 1% cost of living increase for the emergency road employee pay rate resulting in an hourly rate of \$14.56 per hour. It was seconded by Likley.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Kratzer asked where Trustee Sims was getting this 1% cost of living raise? Trustee Sims stated she was being mindful of the Township's financial situation and was aware other Township employees were not going to receive any increases in their pay however she felt the Roads Dept. has done an exceptional job this year with snow removal and deserved an increase and the Roads Dept. financing could afford to give an increase.

ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Likley made a motion to set wage scale for temp/emergency road help; maintain emergency road help list; Road Supervisor to use his judgment in calling out emergency road help; and Road Trustee Likley to approve all Emergency/temporary road employees time sheets. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Inspector (currently \$425 per month +mileage, postage and other job related expenses such as use of personal cell phone for township business

Trustee Likley stated as Trustee liaison to Zoning he meet with Zoning Inspector Gary Harris on Saturday for an hour and completed his review. Trustee Likley read his written evaluation of Mr. Harris, which would be made part of the original signed minutes. It was Trustee Likley's recommendation that Mr. Harris be re-appointed as Westfield Township Zoning Inspector for the 2009 year at a pay rate of \$450.00 a month. This is an increase of \$25.00 per month.

Trustee Likley continued that there were some issues earlier in the year and ZI Harris had his pay reduced and Mr. Lee Evans was given the position of Ass't ZI and a pay of \$200.00 per month.

Trustee Likley made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Gary Harris as Zoning Inspector at a monthly pay of \$450 per month + mileage, postage, and other job related expenses such as the use of personal cell phone for township business)

Trustee Kratzer stated he sent an email that he felt that Mr. Harris pay should be put back to where it was at \$625.00 a month, but again he did not think that would happen but he would like to see Mr. Harris stay on and felt he should get more money.

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It was seconded by Trustee Sims. ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Sims stated on the agenda regarding Zoning Inspector, it calls for the monthly pay per month plus mileage, postage, and other job related expenses such as the use of personal cell phone for township business. She added that the Trustee should get together with Gary Harris, Lee Evans and Kim Ferencz if necessary about a consistent Township cell phone policy instead of including it in the motions per the agenda. Trustee Likley stated his evaluation of ZI Harris would be put in his personnel file. Trustee Sims added it should also be attached to the meeting minutes.

Assistant Zoning Inspector (currently \$200 per month.

Trustee Sims made a motion to continue with Lee Evans as Ass't Zoning Inspector at the current pay of \$200.00 per month. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

Discussion on the Motion

Trustee Sims stated that Lee Evans performance in this position has been a benefit especially during the summer months as we all know Zoning Inspector Harris is a contractor and that is his busy time as well as for zoning with building and issuance of permits. She added that Lee Evans also is out on the roads and is familiar with any new construction going on in the Township. Lee Evans is also here Mon.-Friday and that is a convenience to our residents.

Trustee Kratzer stated he would like Lee Evans to keep track of when he is performing the duties of Ass't ZI and when he is out on the roads as when he is out on the roads the Township is paying him \$20.00 hr. Trustee Sims stated that the original dialogue we had is that when residents come to the Townhall Lee Evans knows zoning and is doing the Zoning Inspector's job anyhow in assisting residents. He is also doing the Ass't Zoning Inspector's job of informing ZI Harris about the construction going on in the Township and if a permit is required. She concluded that she felt Lee Evans was beneficial in some of the application confusion the Township had early this year.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-no, Sims-ves, Liklev-ves. Motion carried.

Trustee Sims stated she would like to see attendance of both the Zoning Inspector and Ass't Zoning Inspector at all zoning board meetings and more participation at the zoning training sessions.

Set pay scale for Zoning Secretary (currently \$500.00 per month + mileage, postage and other job related expenses for Kim Ferencz and Zoning Trustee Sims to approve time sheet and new rate if set.

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Trustee Sims made a motion to retain Kim Ferencz as the permanent Zoning Secretary at \$500.00 per month plus related expenses. Trustee Likley read the evaluation he completed for Kim Ferencz which would be made part of her personnel file and attached to the approved minutes.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

<u>Set pay scale for Township Secretary for Kim Ferencz ((currently \$13.50 per hr. working 20 hours per week)</u> Trustee Sims stated the work hours were not correct in that they are not to exceed 30 hours per week. Trustee Sims stated she completed Kim Ferencz evaluation as Admin. Assistant and that it is to be attached to the approved meeting minutes.

Trustee Sims made a motion to retain Kim Ferencz as Admin. Assistant at a current rate of \$13.50 per hour with a work week not to exceed 30 hours per week. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-no, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Boards-Set compensation (currently \$30 per meeting)
Trustee Sims made a motion to set the compensation at \$30 per meeting for zoning board members. It was seconded by Trustee Likley.
Discussion on the Motion

Trustee Kratzer stated the meeting minutes of the Zoning boards and Trustees have been lengthy and Kim has sent them out by e-mail. However Trustee Kratzer asked if the Zoning members were going to have to print out their meeting minutes without any compensation for paper or ink? He added that the minutes were originally sent to the members via the mail but if they are going to have to print out the minutes he believed the members should be compensated for ink and paper. Trustee Likley stated he e-mailed a request to the board members about all the paper copies that were made and suggested that the minutes be indexed and e-mailed and the members could decide if they wanted to print out the minutes. The copying and paper were an expense to all of us and the Township. Trustee Kratzer stated it was easier for the zoning boards in their meeting process to have a hard copy available. For the Trustees it appeared a bit different in that things could be read via e-mail and if they needed to be printed then they could be. For minutes a hardcopy should be provided.

Trustee Sims stated the motion that was made was for board compensation and the changes being proposed would be best addressed by the two zoning boards and how they would like to proceed.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

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Set Honorarium for year (2009) Jill Kemp.

Trustee Likley stated he spoke with Jill Kemp about this. She does not get paid per meeting but has requested an honorarium. Trustee Likley stated after speaking with Jill Kemp he asked Bill Thorne about honorarium payment. The response from Bill Thorne was that an honorarium is not recommended and that the pay should be no more than what the other board members receive and in actuality should be a stipend. Trustee Likley asked that this letter be made part of the public record. Letter would be attached to approved meeting minutes.

Trustee Likley stated per his conversation with Jill Kemp he offered an honorarium pay of \$120.00.

Trustee Likley made a motion to offer Jill Kemp an honorarium pay of \$120.00 for 2008. The motion died for lack of a second.

Trustee Kratzer stated he did not feel \$120.00 was nearly enough for all the meetings Jill Kemp attended last year. Trustee Likley stated his conversation with Bill Thorne was that Bill Thorne said he would offer \$75.00. Trustee Kratzer stated he contacted Guilford Twp. and they pay their board members an honorarium every month for each meeting they attend in the amount of \$25.00. Guilford also pays its zoning members to attend workshops at the Dept. of Planning Services. Trustee Likley stated the board members are paid monthly. Trustee Kratzer stated the honorarium is only paid once a year. If it was set up monthly we would not have to be doing this at the beginning of the year.

Trustee Sims stated in years past the honorarium has gone over \$400.00. An honorarium is a diminimus amount of a gratuity. At all times Jill Kemp had the option of being paid the \$30.00 per meeting like the other board members. Per Bill Thorne the position of an honorarium is circumventing the Ohio Public Retirement System. Per Bill Thorne you cannot base the honorarium on attendance or participation. It is to be a diminimus amount. Trustee Likley asked if Fiscal Officer had any comments on how the State Auditor would look at this? Fiscal Officer Evans stated last year the Township paid \$300.00 and Bill Thorne thought that was exhorbinent. All Township employees are required to pay into PERS or Social Security. She added she spoke with the Fiscal Officer of Guilford Twp.and they are considering changing their honorarium because that individual attends every meeting. However if they did not that individual would probably be replaced. Therefore, an honorarium was not the way to go.

Trustee Sims stated her non-support of an honorarium was not a lack of support for Jill or her position. It is the payment method. She could receive the payment method or not be

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compensated if it caused issues with her retirement. The honorarium circumvents the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and she does not support that.

Trustee Kratzer asked Trustee Likley to present his motion again.

Trustee Likley made a motion to offer Jill Kemp an honorarium pay of \$120.00 for 2008. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer.

Discussion on the Motion

Trustee Sims again stated her non-support of an honorarium was not a lack of support for Jill or her position. The honorarium circumvents the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and she does not support that.

ROLL CALL-Sims-no, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Set BZA Appointment. Ron Oiler term expired 12-31-08

Trustee Likley stated the Township received a letter from Mr. Oiler that he would like to continue to sit for another term on the BZA. Trustee Likley stated Mr. Oiler has been an exemplatory member in his attendance and participation at zoning training. Trustee Sims agreed that Ron Oiler should be reappointed to BZA.

Trustee Likley made a motion to reappoint Mr. Ron Oiler to the Board of Zoning Appeals for another 5 yr. term. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer. ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes.

Set Zoning Commission Appointment. John Miller term expired 12-31-08

Trustee Likley stated he spoke with John Miller and he wanted to continue his position on the Commission. Mr. Miller has also attended various training sessions as well. Trustee Sims agreed with the continuation of John Miller on the Zoning Commission.

Trustee Likley made a motion to reappoint Mr. John Miller for another 5 yr. term on the Zoning Commission. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer. ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

<u>Trustee workshop Date to review applications to interview for Zoning Commission</u> vacancies.

Trustee Likley stated there were no vacancies for the Zoning Commission but there was for an alternate to the BZA. Trustee Sims stated she would like to table the review pending another advertisement in the Gazette and Trading Post as she did not feel the existing applications would have full Board approval. If no new applications were submitted by the Trustees next meeting in February, then we should set a date to review the applications we have on file. Trustee Sims stated she believed there was only one application currently on file and if the Board did not want to advertise and wanted to

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move on that application she would proceed. Trustee Likley stated he thought there were a few applications on file for previous board appointments and the Board should decide if those applications are warranted for consideration. The board decided to place an ad in the newspapers and then assess the situation at the Trustee meeting in February.

MISC.

Mileage Rate (2008 rate \$.485 per mile) INFORMATION ONLY (IRS set \$.585 per mile for 2009)

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to set the mileage rate for \$2009 at \$.585 per mile as he heard gas prices are going to double by June. It was seconded by Trustee Sims. Discussion on the Motion

Trustee Sims and Likley both agreed that the Township should be consistent with the IRS policy.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Hall Rental (currently \$20 per opening and closing AND \$13.00 per hour to clean hall not to exceed 4 hours per incident.

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to keep the Hall Rental rates as currently stated. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Cell Phone Policy (Requires a revision to Resolution)

Trustee Likley stated it was previously discussed that the Auditor had some issues with Township cell phone policies. Fiscal Officer Evans stated Bill Thorne from the Pros. Office has reviewed the Township's cell phone policy, which was consistent with many other Townships in the County. In the policy it states \$10.00 per employee per month if they use their own personal cell phone for Township business. This applies to Mr. Harris and Trustee Sims and if Kim Ferencz also is applicable she could be added. Trustee Kratzer uses his phone for Township business and is not reimbursed the \$10.00. The Township has only one employee that has a Township phone and that was Lee Evans the Road Supervisor. Fiscal Officer Evans asked if Trustee Sims had the phone that was issued to her? Trustee Sims stated it should be at the Townhall because she never used it. Fiscal Officer Evans stated it was not here. Fiscal Officer Evans stated she reviewed Lee Evans personal usage of the phone and it was more than 10% but less than 15%. Therefore she felt that the \$5.00 per pay or \$10.00 per month should be increased.

Mr. Evans stated he wanted to make it easy for the Fiscal Officer and \$10.00 per pay or \$20.00 a month should more than cover his personal calls. Trustee Likley suggested \$7.00, which got closer to the 15%.

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Trustee Likley made a motion to adjust the cell phone policy to \$7.00 a pay period deduction for Road Supervisor Lee Evans. It was seconded by Trustee Kratzer. ROLL CALL-Sims-yes, Kratzer-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Kratzer made a motion to adjourn the organizational meeting. It was seconded by Trustee Sims.

ROLL CALL-Kratzer-yes, Sims-yes, Likley-yes. Motion carried.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Ferencz, Westfield Township Admin. Ass't.

Yrustee Jim Likley, Chairperson

Tim Kratzer, Trustee

Carolyn Sims, Trustee