

the special session of the Washington Township Trustees

At the Township Hall, Lewistown, Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM

The Washington Township Trustees met in special session on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM at the township hall with Trustees Tucker Berg, Jason Faulder, and Don Lewis present. Others present: Fiscal Officer, Lisa Miller, Gary Bias, Chief Core, John Dawson, Aubrey Snapp, Jason Cummins, Carlotta, Landon Weiner, Rod Beck, Robin Reames, Terry Miller and Jesse Avila.

Item of Discussion: Washington Township Park / Ball Association

**I. Parks Discussion Only**

Trustee Lewis: We're here to discuss the future and not the past of the parks. Trustee Berg: I called for the special meeting because it all happened so fast at the last meeting the Trustees need to know what the agreements are, what happened and moving forward what are we going to do. Do we need a contract? Where is this going? Trustee Faulder: I was in the meeting via teleconference which was spotty at best. But, in past years it was mentioned by a Trustee that the township didn't need the money and to let the ball association have it.. Jesse Avila: We used to go to Huntsville for these tournaments but that didn't work out. Washington Ball Association has the ballfields in use from April to July. I was able to start using their fields in 2018. I guess we need to come up with an agreement who gets the money the township or the ball association and how much. I'm afraid to cash the checks we have I don't know if we'll have a ballfield. I take care of the chalk, dumpster, port a pots, etc.. Aubrey Snapp: For the first two years in 2018 and 2019 the ball association actually took care of getting all of the dumpsters, port a pots, etc.. In Lewistown and Russell's Point which Jesse reimbursed us for later. The Washington Ball Association has always used the fields from the first of April thru July (if we hold an end of season tournament). We provided the bases, in fact, I purchased two full sets of bases, four home plates, and it's our liner, our equipment that you are using for all of your ball games. We also hauled in dirt for the fields and had a lot of volunteers there to get all of the work done. I worked 30 unpaid hours as our agreement was that you would be reimbursing me which I would donate to the WBA. I also had to pay girls to work the concession stands which after that we made very little as most people who attended brought their own pop-ups, grills, food, etc.. From my perspective Jesse, we had an agreement, the township did not. In fact, there is an email you sent to over 60 teams stating in black and white that the Village of Lakeview (Village of Lakeview because Lakeview Ball Association didn't exist last year so no one using the fields) and Washington Ball Association were requesting \$100 per team and the teams could write the check to you and you in turn would write a check out to Washington Ball Association and the Village of Lakeview. You were ready to write that check out and the only reason you didn't was because I told you I wanted to talk to both Washington Township and the Village of Russell's Point to figure out a fair way to split it. I told you that and did speak with Don Lewis and Robin Reames. I know you texted a group that included myself and Chief Freyhoff about meeting up to decide how to split the money, even though you had already advised in our agreement that you were giving WTBA all of it as it was our equipment, our ball funds spent on additional equipment you requested I purchase, we worked the tournaments not getting paid as it was to be a donation to the Washington Township Ball Association. Instead, someone asked for the money and we end up with \$0 and you end up with dugouts. I'm fine with the dugouts but not getting any of the money as agreed for time worked, equipment purchased and used, dumpsters, etc.. is **not** okay especially because you knew all of that per your agreements with Washington Ball Association and the Village of Lakeview before ever giving any money to Washington Township, Village of Russell's Point and Lakeview.

I worked the June 2020 tournament and rearranged our practices and games for you as well as cleaning / stocking the bathrooms, and all other organizational duties, equipment needs, you requested. In 2018 and 2019 there was no money to be made so no one cared. No one asked about it, township said fine keep the fields cleaned up and you can use them. But, in 2020 there is money to be made and everyone wants a piece of the pie; that's my problem with it. Fine if you want a piece of the pie but be fair and don't do it behind my back. Let's be fair and just figure that out. I want to know what would be fair, how to make it fair, and how to move forward going with an actual agreement for all so there are no questions. Trustee Faulder: I think that would be the fairest thing so moving forward everyone can use the fields. Trustee Berg: I guess adding to that with you guys having expenses and hours in there we're grateful for but we have a roof we've spent \$15,000, bathrooms, fence, walking path, etc. Aubrey: Wouldn't those be expenses you would have had anyway as part of taking care of a piece of township property? We could have continued using the port-a-pots, in other words, we didn't ask for restrooms but they are very nice and we appreciate the work the township did to build them. Trustee Berg: We do put money into the park and have to spend money to keep it up. Aubrey: But, ball association aside, you would have done those improvements any way for the public and anyone else wanting to use the park. I'm all for the dugout and anything to improve the park. I like the teams coming here – it helps small businesses as well. I love to see kids using the fields. I just want it to be done fairly and this was not. Again, in 2018 and 2019 when there was no money to take away for townships/villages or anything else to gain from these tournaments you didn't hear anything from them. But, then in 2020 when it has already been agreed the donations would be given to the Washington Ball Association and the Village of Lakeview for working the tournaments, allowing use of our ball equipment / supplies, purchasing bases and other items at your request, from our budgets, etc....now everyone wants to show up to take some or all of that money. Trustee Lewis: Ok, let's get to 2021. Aubrey: I first want to know about 2020, what can be done to make that fair because what happened, wasn't fair. Then we can move on to 2021. I don't have a plan, don't know what a fair split would be but it needs to be made right as only the Ball Association and Lakeview had an agreement with Jesse. I'm open to suggestions.

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Jesse: It's \$500 to play in the tournaments. \$100 per team go to the ball association and village. Aubrey: \$400 is Jesse's I don't care what he makes nor am I trying to cut into his profit. I was trying to be honest and split with the Township and RP Village and got screwed...actually, not me – the kids got screwed.

Fiscal Officer Miller: Money aside, back in the day when we had nothing in that park – no swings, shelters, ball diamonds, etc.. nothing for kids to do. It was former Trustees Mary Kreglow Rick Beck and myself who started the development of the park for the kids and residents of Washington Township. If township residents want to have a family reunion or schools want to hold a little laker football practice, summer ball practice/games, that's why it was developed so our own Township had a place for residents and children to go and play. The agreement is that the WBA takes care of the fields and uses them from April – July. The paid tournaments is no problem as long as the township summer ball comes first. Outside ball tournaments are mostly from other counties not even local so ok to use them as long as they're not being used by township ball association and/or schools, residents. They are why we developed it – so happy to share but local Washington Township residents, kids, schools, come first. For Washington Township there are expenses in the park like mowing, electric supply, etc. which are going to be paid whether anyone played at or used the park at all. Emptying the septic does cost \$275 so that is an additional cost.

Rod Beck to Aubrey: Me and my wife do a lot of work and you're taking all the credit. She cleaned the bathrooms all day long. Aubrey: You both get paid a lot to do that, I didn't. I'm taking credit for the things I purchased for Jesse's tournament and/or volunteered for. You did that in July, 2020 – I was purposely left out of the July, 2020 tournament.

Jesse: You weren't left out. Aubrey: I most certainly was and have an email I can pass out to everyone here to prove that you did purposely leave me out of the July, 2020 tournament - probably to pay Rod and Trish more money even though I cleaned and stocked the bathrooms at the June, 2020 tournament as a volunteer. Terry: I think the restrooms should be closed during the paid tournaments and bring in the port a pots. You have 65+ teams coming in here and she is up there cleaning those restrooms all of the time – practices and games. It's a lot of work. I would keep them closed. Trustee Lewis: No, I think we should open them. Trustee Faulder: Let's get back on point here so we can figure out what we're going to do financially. Future, Jesse you work that out with John and Aubrey. If you use Russells Point fields meet with them. Get the details figured out about who is doing what, costs, time, etc.. and keep all agreements fair. Aubrey: I want you to have these tournaments and can change our schedule in June so you can go ahead and have your tournament. Trustee Lewis: So the June and July tournaments are ok with you? Aubrey: Yes, I have to make some change but that's no problem. We do have some pre-season and post-season tournaments but can work around Jesse's two tournaments.

Trustee Lewis: I make a motion we donate \$1200 to the Washington Ball Association. And, in the future we split the money from Jesse between the Ball Association and the Township 50/50. Trustee Faulder seconded the motion a vote was taken and all answered "Aye" – motion passed.

Trustee Faulder: OK – we're going to split it 50/50 and donate \$1200 to the ball association – does that work for everyone and Aubrey you're ok with that? Aubrey: Yes, that works for me. Trustee Faulder: Jesse – you, Aubrey, and John will need to meet to decide what needs done and who's responsible for what. That's between you and them...not the township. All agreed? All: Yes

With no further business to come before the group Trustee Lewis made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 PM and Trustee Faulder seconded. All answered "Aye". Motion to adjourn carried 3-0.

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Lisa A. Miller, Fiscal Officer

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Don Lewis, Chairman

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Jason Faulder, Vice Chairman

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Tucker Berg, Member