

MEETING
UNION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
December 17, 2018

Present: Charlie Prince, Trustee
John Slater, Trustee
Randy Weekly, Trustee

Jessica Slater, Fiscal Officer
Paula Greene, Administration
Dave Cable, Road Supervisor

Guests

Granville Twp. Fire Chief Casey Curtis, Michael Bishop, Martha Cable, Laney McLaughlin, Cory McLaughlin, John Black, Erika Pontious, Gregg Painter, Cory Zigan, Carl Porter, Doris Porter, Bill McWilliams, Chris DeMent, Brandee Painter, Dale Hamilton, Charles Bickley, Michelle & Curt Doran.

The Union Township Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 pm on December 17, 2018 at the Union Township Complex. Roll call showed the following trustees present: Trustee Charles Prince, Trustee John Slater, and Trustee Randy Weekly. Jessica Slater, Fiscal Officer, was present. Trustee Prince led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Mr. Weekly moved to approve the minutes from November 19, 2018, December 3, 2018 and December 10, 2018. Mr. Slater seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Weekly moved to approve the minutes from the Lees and Asman map amendment hearings held on November 19, 2018. Mr. Slater seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bills

The Fiscal Officer certified that the money to pay the bills was in the treasury or the process of collection. There were no questions regarding the bills. Mr. Slater moved to approve the bills. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Road and Bridge

Mileage – The Licking County Engineers Office requested confirmation of the Township’s mileage. After a brief discussion Mr. Weekly moved to approve the Township’s mileage at 51.018 miles and it was seconded by Mr. Slater. Motion carried.

Administration

Map Amendment – Earlier this evening the Board of Trustees heard a request filed by the Irene Martin Trust to rezone a four-acres of a 144-acre parcel from Agricultural to Rural Residential 4 located at 3278 Palmer Road. The Trustees approved the request.

2019/2020 Mowing Contract – Brandon Daubenmire submitted the mowing rate for the township’s cemeteries and complex grounds. The proposal included a ten percent rate increase from the current contract. After a brief discussion Mr. Slater moved to extend the mowing contract with Brandon Daubenmire, with the ten percent rate increase in

mowing fees for two years. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Trustees

Buckeye Lake Region Corporation – An invoice to continue the Township’s Membership for 2019 in the amount of \$550 was discussed. Mr. Slater gave a brief overview of BLRC and their goals. Mr. Slater moved to continue membership with the Buckeye Lake Regional Corporation for 2019. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bike for Buckeye Lake – Bike for Buckeye Lake is requesting the Trustees recognize the organization by means of a Resolution (25-2018) they have provided to the Trustees. Mr. Prince said the goals of the organization were to promote bike riding in the Buckeye Lake area. The group also raises money to purchase bicycles and helmets for area youth.

Mr. Slater moved to approve the resolution and Mr. Weekly seconded it. Roll call: Mr. Slater-yes; Mr. Weekly-yes; Mr. Prince-yes.

Trebel Aggregation – A new electric aggregation rate of .0484 is available to the township. The rate could vary .05 before the rate is locked in. Mr. Prince explained the electric aggregation program in the Township. Mr. Slater moved to approve a Resolution 26-2018 committing to the new rate. Mr. Prince explained that Trebel will not execute the contract if the new rate exceeds .05 cents. Mr. Prince was authorized to sign the new contract. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Slater-yes; Mr. Weekly-yes; Mr. Prince-yes.

Fire

Contracts – The 2019 Fire and EMS contract with Granville Township has been completed and signed. Hebron Council will hold a Special Meeting, Tuesday, December 18, for the purpose of signing the 2019 Fire and EMS contract with the Township.

Chris DeMent asked actions did the Trustees take after returning to regular session at the Special Meeting held on December 10.

Mr. Prince said the trustees placed an offer to purchase a property on State Route 37 the purpose of a satellite medic station. The property would be owned by the Township operated by Hebron Fire. The purchase was not for the proposed Fire District.

Michelle Doran expressed concerns of funds being used to purchase the property. Mr. Prince said there were funds available within the Fire revenue.

Laney McLaughlin said the location of the proposed purchase would not allow response to the north should there be a train on the tracks at the time of a call and property owners in the area are required to carry flood insurance as the area is in the flood plain.

Mr. Prince said the EMS Station would be in operation within a year regardless if the Township joins a Fire District and this location would improve response time. The frequency of train traffic has declined over the years. Mr. Prince said the offer would be terminated if the property was found to be in the flood plain.

Mike Bishop asked if Dr. Kramer's study has been completed and if the property was in the area Dr. Kramer felt a satellite station should be located.

Mr. Prince said he had discussed the location with Dr. Kramer, who has determined the township needs a satellite station. Mr. Prince said this is not the best location but the property affordable unlike other properties along State Route 37.

Chief Curtis said Dr. Kramer informed him, the Trustees were interested in purchasing a property that he felt was located to far north and would cause services to be duplicated.

Mr. Prince said Dr. Kramer provided a response map which showed some overlap in the six minute response times from Granville and the property and said further location south would reduce the overlap of services.

Chief Curtis asked how boundaries would be determined with the new satellite station. Mr. Prince said Chief Curtis and Chief Mason would need to determine response areas.

Mr. Bishop said Chief Mason previously stated during a township meeting that Hebron Fire could not operate a satellite station. Mr. Prince said Chief Mason said Hebron would build a satellite station. The Township is providing the building and Hebron Fire will staff.

Mrs. McLaughlin expressed concerns of heavy traffic, including semi-trucks traffic, on State Route 37 with regards to an emergency vehicle attempting to enter the highway. Mr. Prince said accidents with semis happen, but feels traffic slows in this area as they are approaching the railroad tracks. Mr. Prince said Dr. Kramer and Chief Mason have approved of the location.

Concerns of the Trustees buying property prior to the completion of the study were voiced.

Mr. Slater said verbal preliminary study findings have determined there is a need to reduce response time. Mr. Slater feels this is not the best location for a satellite station, but the property became available. An agreement with the adjoining property owner is necessary and is pending before the purchase can be completed. Mr. Slater said other locations are being sought.

A discussion was held on how the purchase was being funded and where the money was coming from. The property will be purchased from fire funds existing prior to the current contract. Mr. Prince said a competing offer was made on the property therefore the Trustees decided to place an offer on the property.

Gregg Painter asked when Mr. Prince learned of the other offer. Mr. Prince said he placed an offer on the parcel December 11, after the Trustees discussed the purchase in Executive Session and after returning to open meeting the trustees passed a motion to place an offer on the property.

Mr. Painter said everyone left after the trustees went into executive session and there was no notice of the trustees making an offer to purchase property that evening.

Mr. Prince said the notice included the Trustees would go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the possible purchase of the property. Mr. Prince said the purchase might not go through and the Licking County Prosecutor's Office reviewed the Special Meeting notice prior to posting.

Mrs. Doran is concerned with the trustee's actions, as Dr. Kramer's study has not been released and establishing or funding satellite station has not been presented to the voters. Mrs. Doran said Chief Curtis has requested to review the current response area as he feels Granville can assist in reducing response time south of the railroad tracks. Mrs. Doran said she doesn't understand the rush in this issue.

Mr. Prince said funding is available and the property is affordable. Dr. Kramer's 2004 report said a centrally located satellite station would be needed within four years, but growth slowed, but he feels the area is now growing. Mr. Prince said the timing might not be perfect but the opportunity to purchase an inexpensive property became available.

Mr. Bishop believed Granville offered to extend their boundaries without an increase in revenue. Mr. Prince said he had not seen that offer from the Granville Township Trustees.

Chief Curtis said Dr. Kramer suggested the change in boundaries during a township meeting. Chief Curtis said he has asked during another meeting to review the boundaries and has not received any support from the trustees. Mr. Prince said Granville might present a proposal to change the response areas.

Mr. Bishop feels adjusting the boundaries now would help to resolve the response time issues, adding during a chimney fire at his residence and two accidents that occurred in front of his home Granville Fire was the first to arrive on the scene with Hebron arriving two to three minutes later. Mr. Bishop's residence is in the Hebron service area. Mr. Bishop said he also wants to see improved response times.

Mrs. Doran said she feels Mr. Prince is not listening to the residents and has a personal agenda in this issue.

Mr. Prince reviewed Granville's 2017 response time by run and discovered over 66% of the EMS responses were over six minutes; 32% over eight minutes and 14% were over ten minutes. Mr. Prince believes changing the boundaries would not reduce response time for either department due to the location of their stations.

Mrs. McLaughlin asked the location of the center of the township. It is Blacks Road and State Route 37. Mrs. McLaughlin asked if the Trustees purchased the first location and another property closer to the center was found even if the property was more expensive, would the township sell the first property and purchase the centrally located property.

Mr. Prince said a more centrally located property would discuss later in the executive session. Mr. Prince said he wants what is best for the public as the residents are paying over a million dollars a year for Fire and EMS service that response time needs to improve.

Mr. Prince said the Trustees are looking for a property with a residence to be remodeled into an EMS station such as Monroe Township recently did. Mr. Prince feels the proposed location could be purchased and remodeled for \$200,000.

John Black said he shared Mrs. McLaughlin's concern of semi traffic on the area of State Route 37, as it would be difficult and dangerous for semi's traveling downhill stop for emergency vehicles. Mr. Prince said he understood.

Mrs. Doran asked if the satellite station would be staffed with full or part-time EMS personal. Mr. Prince said the station would be staffed 27/7 with part-time personnel.

Chris DeMent sees Union Township Trustees as a customer of Hebron who is mandating how the business will be conducted and asked if the Trustees have considered their own fire department. Mr. Prince said opening their own Fire Department would be too expensive to operate.

Mr. DeMent is concerned as Hebron taxpayers will be paying 11 mills for Fire/EMS services after January 1 and South West Licking Fire District operates on 11 mills that the township taxpayers will be forced into paying 11 mills also. Mr. Prince said 11 mills was far to high.

Mr. Slater said they are trying to avoid 11 mills for Fire/EMS protection. Emergency services may need to be realigned if a district is not formed or levies fail.

2019 Organizational Meeting

Mr. Weekly moved to hold the Township's 2019 Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 7:00pm. Mr. Slater seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Executive Session

Mr. Prince moved to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the purchase of property at 7:58pm. Mr. Weekly seconded it. Motion approved.

At 8:20 Mr. Slater moved to leave the executive session and return to regular session.

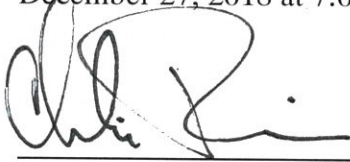
Mr. Prince advised the audience another property, for a satellite EMS station has become available.

Mr. Weekly moved for Mr. Slater place an offer on a property located in the township for the purpose of housing a satellite EMS station. Mr. Prince seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Canyon Road Culvert Project – Gene McNamara has declined a settlement offer to install 150’ of two-line barb wire fence and a corner post along the southern eastern portion of her property which adjoined the culvert project. Ms. McNamara wants the fence to be capable of containing cattle to be installed where she believes fencing was removed during the project. After a brief discussion, Mr. Slater moved to affirm the Township’s original offer of the installation of a corner post at the south east corner of the McNamara property line with 150’ of two strands of barb wire and fill/drain several wet spots on both sides of the roadway. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. Motion passed.

There being no further business, Mr. Prince asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Slater motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:27p.m.

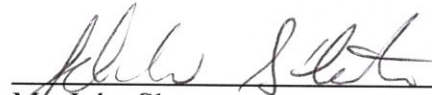
A Special Meeting for the purpose of end of the year issues will be held on Thursday, December 27, 2018 at 7:00 pm.



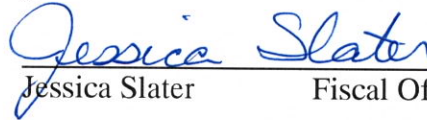
Mr. Charlie Prince



Mr. Randy Weekly



Mr. John Slater



Jessica Slater

Fiscal Officer