

**MEETING
UNION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
December 3, 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, Russ Ginise, Michael Bishop, Martha Cable, Curt P. Painter, Laney McLaughlin, Cory McLaughlin, John Black, Tonya Painter, Penny Slater, Hebron Fire Chief Cliff Mason, Jack Justice, Erika Pontious, Gregg Painter, Cory Zigan, Charles Bickley, Brice McKinney

The Union Township Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 pm on December 3, 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

The minutes from November 19, 2018 zoning map amendment hearings and regular meeting will be approved at the December 17, 2018 meeting.

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 passed.

Road and Bridge

Road Salt – The township received the first invoice for road salt the 2018-2019 winter season. Mr. Prince said the road salt was purchased through the ODOT State Bid program and the price of the road salt almost doubled from last year. Other road salt resources are being sought. During snow and ice events a blend of grit and road salt (50/50) will be spread on the main roads. The new small truck will spread salt only in the township's subdivisions. Mr. Weekly received positive feedback regarding the small truck servicing the subdivisions.

Crack Sealing - Dave received approval to meet with the DJL Material and Supply crack sealing company in January to schedule equipment rental in early summer of 2019.

Administration

Building Inspections - Buildings owned by the Township were inspected by OTARMA's property appraiser on November 27. The final report of the inspection will be complete in approximately six weeks. Due to the condition of the church building the insurance company will not provide any coverage.

Map Amendment – The Zoning Commission approved a map amendment submitted by the Irene Martin Trustee. The amendment application will be heard by the Trustees on December 17, 2018 at 6:30pm.

Mowing – Brandon Daubenmire has requested to continue the mowing contract with the township. According to the contract the Trustees must give written notice to Mr. Daubenmire offering an extension to his contract for an additional two years. As there have been no issues with Mr. Daubenmire’s mowing township properties the trustees agreed to ask Mr. Daubenmire what his cost would be to continue the mowing contract for two more years. Approval of the extension will be based on a possible rate increase.

Trash Collection - Mr. Slater received a notice from a new company who would like the opportunity to provide trash removal services in the township. The company understands the township is currently in a contract with Shackelford Disposal. The township is in the second year of a three year contract, with an option to renew the services.

Licking County Trustee and Clerks Association Meeting – This meeting will be held January 5. Jessica will notify the Association of those attending when the dues payment is issued. Mr. Slater moved to pay the Association’s dues. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion carried.

Fire

Granville - Austin Lecklider, Assistant Prosecutor, Licking County Prosecutor Office approved the language in the revised contract to Granville Twp. Trustees that Mr. Prince provided.

Mr. Prince said he attended the November 28, 2018 Granville Township Trustees meeting and gave a presentation on the contract changes.

Granville Twp. Trustees Kevin Bennett and Bryn Bird sought a two year contract that included a 60-90 day cancellation clause. Trustee Dan VanNess accepted the one year contract. All trustees approved of the 60-90 day cancellation clause. At this time the Granville Township Trustees have not returned the contract.

Mr. Slater asked to clarify the Granville Trustees request of a two year contract with a 60-90 day cancellation clause. Mr. Prince agreed that was statement.

Mr. Prince said as they did not have contract with the language discussed at the Granville Township meeting, approving the contract should be postponed until they had the revised contract.

Mr. Prince said a two year agreement was not possible as the trustees have a Joint Resolution with Hebron to discuss a Fire District with Hebron. Granville Trustees felt the addition of the 60-90 cancellation clause would address the fire district if a district was created. The Trustees decided Granville’s contract would be addressed at the next township meeting or by calling for a special meeting.

Hebron - Mr. Prince received a six month contract proposal from The Village of Hebron, beginning January 1, 2019 with an option of an six month extension. Assistant Prosecutor Lecklider's has reviewed the contract. Mr. Prince believes Mr. Slater and Mr. Weekly received emailed comments regarding the contract from Mr. Lecklider.

Mr. Prince said Hebron Village made two changes to the contract proposal the first one Mr. Lecklider accepted.

The contract proposal is to end on June 30, 2019 or earlier based on the opinion from the Attorney General's Office regarding the funding of a Fire/EMS District and Dr. Kramer's study. Mr. Prince believes the township may receive the Attorney General's Office's opinion in January.

Mr. Prince said Hebron Village originally wanted to hold monthly meeting to discuss a Fire District but are now requesting bi-weekly meetings beginning in January.

Mr. Prince said the contract asks that a committee consisting of representatives of the township and village report it's findings and conclusions to both boards on or before July 1, with the objective of placing fire district funding on the November 2019 ballot. Information is to be available to the voters prior to the November election.

Mr. Lecklider approved the following change in the contract - "agreement may be extended until December 31 by mutual agreement."

Mr. Lecklider did not approve of added language of "respect to the compensation 100 percent of the fire revenue generate in primary service area espically upon the formation of a fire district where by Union Township and the Village of Hebron shall immediately contract with the district for Fire and EMS services and until such times the fire district receive's it's own revenue Union Township and the Village of Hebron shall contribute 100 percent of it's Fire and EMS revenue to the fire district."

Mr. Prince said he understood the objection as the Township cannot agree to this portion of the proposal.

Chief Mason said the intent of this statement was based on the approval of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, that a fire district could be funded in this manner.

Mr. Prince said the language had been changed to the "township has no obligation contribute revenue to a joint fire district."

Mr. Prince said as Mr. Lecklider has approved the contract the trustees should move forward with the contract.

Mr. Slater reviewed that current funding of the contract would remain 100% of Hebron's service area. Mr. Slater is concerned the trustees would not be able to commit to bi-weekly meetings.

Mr. Prince said the contract is worded as the “President of the Board of Trustees or it’s designee would attend the meetings. ” Mr. Prince said he could attend the meetings whether or not he continues as President of the board, noting he has a lot of time invested in researching the Fire/EMS service.

Mr. Slater asked if the meetings would be open to the public allowing for more than one trustee to attend.

Mr. Prince believed the committee would decide if the meetings were open to the public and the intent of the meetings was not to hide information and sub committees could be established allowing all of the trustees to provide input. Mr. Weekly said a meeting notice could be published if more than one trustee wanted to attend.

Paula reminded the board that more than one trustee present at a meeting required the meeting to be open to the public. Mr. Prince agreed.

Mr. Slater believes the terms are doable and but feels the biweekly meetings would be a challenge.

Chief Mason said biweekly meetings shouldn’t be an issue and fulfilling the bi-weekly condition was not an imperative part of the contract. Chief Mason said the Village of Hebron wanted the Trustees to understand creating a Fire District was a priority to the them. Chief Mason said parts of the current contract were not met, stating the current contract requires payment be made in four equal payments was not fulfilled.

Mr. Slater said there were parts of the contract Hebron also failed to comply with such as submitting a five year capital improvement plan to the Trustees and if the proposed committee meetings topics were to be rehashing what parts of the current contract were not fulfilled, nothing would be accomplished.

Chief Mason said the intent of the meetings is to determine what needs to be accomplished to create a fire district.

Mr. Prince believes if a meeting was missed there would be no negative consequences to either party and completion of the findings needed to be done by early August for the issued to be placed on the November ballot.

Laney McLaughlin asked if the meetings were to discuss or setup a fire district.

Mr. Prince said the purpose of the meetings is to discuss and create a detailed plan ~~to~~ concerning the organization, naming, establishing territory, by laws, staffing, equipment and funding of a district.

Mrs. McLaughlin felt the plan was not to discuss a fire district but to begin a fire district.

Russ Ginese asked as a resident of the township serviced by Granville Twp. Fire how his

interest and concerns would be addressed and feels his service area should be represented.

Mr. Weekly said his area could be part of the fire district.

Mr. Prince said he wants to respect Hebron's request for a fire district. Mr. Prince said the trustees have been open in their discussion about creating a fire district, but some issues will be difficult to discuss with a large audience where every point is debated. Mr. Prince said the meetings with long discussions has led to giving up and continuing the current contracts for another year.

Mr. Slater said Mr. Prince was rehashing history again and that we are beginning a conversation with resistance and that we (trustees) have not given up. Mr. Slater his intent is to fund the departments so they are ready for their emergencies. Mr. Slater we have had a five year contract which the township has abided to and extended the contract for additional year. Mr. Slater feels saying "we have given up" is a poor representation of the situation and disagrees to the constant pointing out parts of the contract that were not upheld. Mr. Slater agrees there were portions of the contract that needed improvement to better serve both parties, but if we were going to work towards a future we need to do so.

Mr. Prince agreed to working toward the future and had hoped to accomplish more than what had been done.

Mr. Slater said there were issues to worked out adding currently the trustees have little input in the operation of a fire department outside of providing funding. Mr. Slater said he was willing to investigate a fire district adding we may learn a district is not what is best. Mr. Slater said a fire district that was setup properly would give the most control.

Chief Mason said the Ohio Revised Code gives a fire district the authority to contract with another department for Fire and EMS protection. Chief Mason said Hebron's plan is to discuss what is best for all of Union Township residents which may include contracting with Granville Township.

Mr. Slater said the voters would have the final say. Chief Mason agreed.

Mr. Slater said is willing to discuss a fire district but is upset with some of the things that have gone on.

Mr. Prince asked for a motion to accept Hebron's contract.

Mr. Weekly made a motion.

Mike Bishop expressed concerns of agreeing to a contract with a requirement the Trustees might not be able to uphold and thought the contract could be worded in a manner where meetings could be added as needed rather than violate a condition of the contract.

Mr. Slater said feels at least one trustee will be available to attend each meeting. Mr. Prince expressed his commimment to attending the meetings whether or not he's President of the Board next year.

Mr. Slater said being President was not a concern in attending the meetings as all the trustees were participating in the meetings with Hebron. Mr. Prince agreed.

Mr. Weekly repeated he made a motion to accept Hebron's contract as written with the Procecutur's Office Amendments. Mr. Slater seconded.

Roll Call - Mr. Slater – yes; Mr. Weekly -yes; Mr. Prince-yes.

Mr. Prince advised the audience should Granville's contract be available prior to the next regular meeting, a special meeting would be set for an evening and notification would be made by email and publication.


Executive Session

Mr. Prince moved to enter Executive session to discuss the purchase of property at 7:40pm. Mr. Weekly seconded it. Motion approved.

At 8:50pm Mr. Slater moved to leave the executive session and return to regular session.

There being no further business, Mr. Prince asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Weekly made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:53p.m.

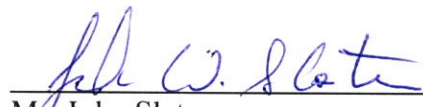
The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, December 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm.




Mr. Charlie Prince



Mr. Randy Weekly



Mr. John Slater



Jessica Slater Fiscal Officer