

MEETING
UNION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
May 7, 2018

Present: Charlie Prince, Trustee
John Slater, Trustee
Randy Weekly, Trustee
Jessica Slater, Fiscal Officer
Paula Greene, Administration
Dave Cable, Road Supervisor

Regular Meeting

The Union Township Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 pm on May 7, 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 those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to open the meeting.

Guests- Bill McWilliams, Martha Cable, Granville Twp. Fire Chief Casey Curtis, Brett Coffing, Tyler Shipley, John Black and Randy Williams.

Guests

Brett Coffing, a township resident, asked questions regarding the fire levies which would be on the ballot tomorrow and how the levy monies are dispersed to Hebron Fire or Granville Twp. Fire Departments.

Mr. Prince advised per the current fire contracts, which there are seven months remaining, the revenues are currently going to the service area they are generated from.

Mr. Coffing asked if the disbursements of fire revenue would change with the new contracts. Mr. Prince stated we are in the early stages of reviewing contracts.

Mr. Prince wants to address response time to the center of the township and wants a satellite station in the Blacks Road area. Mr. Coffing asked if there have been complaints of slow response time. Mr. Prince stated he did not know of any but knew of times where the response has taken up to ten minutes. The national standard response time standard is four to six minutes. Mr. Coffing has asked if there has been a study completed in the slow response area. Mr. Prince stated the majority of runs are made in the Hebron service area.

Mr. Coffing asked if a satellite station would be staffed by Hebron Fire Department. Mr. Prince states one Granville Township Trustees stated he would not be interested in staffing the satellite station.

Mr. Coffing is concerned as a taxpayer, how would a new station be funded. Mr. Prince stated his intent to fund a new station through current funds.

Mr. Prince stated these are his thoughts only. Mr. Prince believes with the current fire

contract cost response time should be in the National Average of four to six minutes.

Mr. Weekly feels planning a satellite station would take a few years. Mr. Weekly stated his entire career has been in the fire service and over the years the fire service and public needs have grown and wants to plan for future needs. If the fire levies pass, he feels that would be an indication the taxpayers would approve a satellite station.

Mr. Coffing wants his taxes to go to the fire department that services his area.

Mr. Prince gave an example of the MRDD levy, explaining the levy money generated goes to where the need is and not where the funds are generated and taxpayers are okay with this.

Mr. Prince believes the fire revenue needs to go where the runs are generated and have been upfront with the Granville Township Trustees and Fire Chief. Mr. Prince feels he has been very open with his thoughts on funding the fire departments. Mr. Prince stated Granville is preparing to spend a lot of money on a new fire station which should decrease run times into the township.

Mr. Prince explained the levies on tomorrow's ballot are not new. There is a replacement levy that will not increase current taxes and the second is a replacement levy which slightly increases taxes. If passed, taxpayers within the village of Hebron will be accessed on the replacement levy.

Mr. Coffing asked if Granville Village residents would be paying on the levies.

Mr. Slater stated these levies are for the residents of Union Township which include the Village of Hebron. Granville Village is not within Union Township.

Paula explained the taxpayers within the Village of Hebron would be paying on these levies as Hebron has not conformed their boundaries. If Hebron conforms their boundaries, they would no longer be accessed Union Township levies.

Mr. Prince states if these levies pass Hebron will be paying on all three of our fire levies, the same as residents in Union Township.

Mr. Coffing asked if the levy passes would the money go to the department in need. Mr. Prince stated at this point the revenue goes to the department in the area it is generated. Mr. Prince wants to make his thoughts on a new contract known as not to surprise anyone.

Mr. Coffing feels if the tax dollars in the Granville service area goes to another department the residence in the Granville service area would be upset.

Mr. Prince states he does not see why that would make a difference as the MRDD levies go to where the need is. Many people in the northern area of the township, including Mr. Prince, uses State Route 37 to access I-70. Mr. Prince believes Hebron Fire responds to the majority of the accidents on State Route 37 and with assistance from Granville.

Mr. Prince does not have any complaints with Granville Twp. Fire but believes Hebron Fire has the greater need and wants to address that need.

Mr. Slater stated Mr. Prince has made his ideas known. Mr. Slater feels there is support for the current fire contracts. There is a cost in the state of readiness, which is an on-going expense and includes the employees and training. To be in a state of readiness there needs to be a certain amount of funds to make that happen. The current service areas have been dictated by topography and the railroad, however, the activity on the railroad tracks has declined over the years.

Mr. Slater feels the revenue generated by the service area needs to remain in the service area. Mr. Slater stated contract negotiations have begun and he hopes to have new contracts long before the end of the year.

John Black asked if the state of readiness is the reason behind the discussion of a satellite station on Blacks Road. Mr. Slater referred to Mr. Weekly's comments as a satellite station would take time to plan.

Mr. Slater stated they wanted to be proactive by planning a satellite station and before we receive any complaints. Development in the township has declined due to economics but Mr. Slater feels at some point development will return and wants to be prepared for the need of additional need Fire and EMS. Mr. Prince feels development has increased.

Mr. Slater stated the tax burden on Union Township residents for fire and EMS service is minimal compared to the areas to the west of Union Township. Residents in other areas of the county pay up to 11 mills for Fire and EMS Service.

Mr. Prince feels we have two excellent departments with good people and good equipment. Mr. Slater agreed. Chief Curtis stated all of his firefighters are also certified EMT's. Five of the six Hebron Firefighters assisting with our Clean Up day also were certified EMT's.

Mr. Slater feels there are three components of running a fire service, people, equipment/building and response time.

Randy Williams asked if State Route 37 will be widened as he feels the traffic is getting out of hand. Mr. Prince has no knowledge of plans to widen the highway. Mr. Slater said widening the highway has been discussed over several generations. Tyler Shipley commented nothing has been discussed in the State House.

Granville Township Fire

Chief Curtis had nothing to discuss.

Williams Violation

Randy Williams stated has 6.5 acres located at 3927 Lancaster Road in which he and his family are living in a 37-foot travel trailer, sitting next to a 6,000 sq. ft. building that is going to be his home. Mr. Williams stated he has been told he cannot live in the trailer while finishing his home. Mr. Williams is attending the meeting to resolve the issue.

Mr. Williams states he has owned the land since 1985 and is converting the 150' x 40'

barn into his home. Mr. Williams stated two-thirds of the building is there and has electric, water, and heat, but not sewage. Mr. Williams stated the sewage, what little there is, runs into tanks.

Mr. Weekly asked if he was living in the camper. Mr. Williams stated he was. Mr. Weekly asked if Mr. Williams had a completion date. Mr. Williams felt the residence would be complete in three months and everything is there. Mr. Williams stated he has all of his final trusses which are ready to be put up.

Mr. Weekly asked if Mr. Williams has obtained permits for the structure. Mr. Williams said the building is existing 1970 or earlier. Adrian and Ronald Smith, owners of the Granville Mill and Harold Atteberry.

Mr. Weekly asked if he had to comply with Building Code. Mr. Williams asked why as the building was existing. The original roof caved in and which he is replacing. Mr. Weekly asked if Mr. Williams had sewer and plumbing installed. Mr. Williams stated the plumbing is existing and has to put in sewage.

Mr. Prince stated his name was discussed regarding zoning issues. Mr. Prince explained the trustee's authority on zoning is limited to zoning classification changes, recommended by the Zoning Commission.

Mr. Prince stated he understood the Health Department was talking to him regarding sewage issues. Mr. Williams stated he is now "good" with the Health Department and has been cleared and has no problems. Paula Greene has not been advised by Chris Hill of the Health Department that Mr. Williams has been cleared.

Mr. Slater asked Mr. Williams what he meant by being "cleared". Mr. Williams responded there had been a final inspection. Mr. Williams stated someone had reported he had been dumping raw sewage on the ground. Ms. Hill came out and did several inspections. The final inspection was completed two weeks ago when Ms. Hill came out with her assistant. Mr. Williams's states had a tile going around the building for drainage. Mr. Williams stated Ms. Hill advised he could not use the tile for drainage, therefore, he removed the tile. Mr. Williams stated Ms. Hill returned and said he was cleared.

Mr. Slater stated he was cleared from the dumping of raw sewage but not cleared for a sewage permit. Mr. Williams stated he has yet to obtain a septic permit. Mr. Williams stated a Mr. Flowers has to come out and do a soil test and then gives a recommendation on the size of the septic. Mr. Williams everything else is existing, as there has been electric since 1970, there is propane gas everything else is existing.

Mr. Slater inquired about a legal access to the parcel. Mr. Williams stated he was given access by Adrian and Ronald Smith through their main driveway making it a shared driveway. Mr. Williams stated the shared driveway was removed when he purchased the property. Due to other situations, he needed the original access and was granted access to Ronald Smith while he was alive. Mr. Williams stated he has written permission from Adrian's wife at home if anyone needs it. Mr. Williams stated Linda was the only existing sister who deeded the property to her son-in-law and daughter. The original house has been demolished.

Mr. Slater stated Mr. Williams statement that he has written permission, does not make it clear that he has legal access. Mr. Williams stated he has spoken to “all of them” and they do not have a problem with Mr. Williams making an access through their property. Mr. Slater stated Mr. Williams needed some sort of easement or right of way to make access. Mr. Slater explained to Mr. Williams, he needed to obtain permits to build a residence.

Paula Greene stated if the barn was going to be turned into a residence, Mr. Williams still would be required to obtain permits through the Licking County Health Department and Licking County Building Code as well as the township. The residence would have to be on an approved foundation. There have been barns turned into residents in the township which have been required to go through the same process as a new build.

Paula explained one issue of the violation is the camper he is living in, does not meet our 1600 sq. ft. minimum living area and the camper is not on a permanent foundation. Mr. Williams stated he is living there while he rebuilds his residence. Martha Cable commented she did not believe one was allowed to live in a camper.

Mr. Slater stated the building needs to be meet code requirements and be approved to be a house. Mr. Slater advised Mr. Williams he needs more than here say comments that he has been given legal access. Mr. Slater stated there are several steps to be taken to turn the barn into a residence and that he is not as far along as he believes.

Mr. Prince stated the issues with the Health Department needed to be resolved before he moved forward. Mr. Prince explained the variance process and that the Board of Zoning Appeals. Mr. Williams asked what needed to do to apply for a variance. Paula requested he contact her later in the week and set up a meeting. Mr. Williams stated he spoke with George Todd earlier today who had been on that committee when he divided the property.

Minutes

The minutes from the regular meeting April 2, 2018, meeting were reviewed. Mr. Weekly motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Slater seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Bills

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

Road and Bridge

Swamp Road - Guardrail that was previously damaged in a truck accident has been repaired. We have received the bill for the repair and will forward the information to our insurance company.

Road Salt - The O.D.O.T. Salt Contract is due by Friday, May 18. Dave requested 500 tons of salt be ordered. The check to join the South Western Ohio Program has been processed however there has been no contact with them.

Mr. Prince advises Walnut Township Trustees have contact information for them. Walnut Township Trustees will be ordering from both agencies.

Mr. Prince wanted to approve the O.D.O.T. resolution ordering 400 tons of road salt and if we are unable to contact SWOP4G, to change the amount of salt to be ordered from O.D.O.T.

Chief Curtis asked if the trustees would have a special meeting to approve the change of tonnage ordered in the resolution. Mr. Prince stated a special meeting would be held with a 24-hour notice.

Mr. Prince was concerned of storing a surplus of salt in the township's salt storage building. Currently, there is approximately 350 tons of salt in storage with a capacity of 700 tons.

Dave is concerned with SWOP4G as both he and Paula have attempted to contact this company since January with no response.

Mr. Slater being new to SWOP4G may be a reason for the lack of contact with us, but feels a second source of road salt would benefit the township.

Mr. Weekly asked of O.D.O.T. required a resolution, which they do.

After further discussion, Mr. Prince moved to approve Resolution 21-2018 committing to 400 tons of road salt for 2018-2019. Mr. Slate seconded the motion. Roll call was taken: Mr. Slater – Yes, Mr. Weekly – Yes, Mr. Prince - Yes

Canyon Road Culvert Project Awarded

The Shelly Company's bid is the lowest at \$116,992.09. Mr. Slater moved to approve the bid and seconded by Mr. Weekly. The motion was approved. Roll call was taken. Mr. Slater – Yes, Mr. Weekly – Yes, Mr. Prince - Yes

2018 Resurfacing Bid

Paula Greene announced the 2018 Resurfacing Project had been published in the Newark Advocate on April 28. Bid packets request have been made by the Shelly Company and Smalls Asphalt as well as several construction advertising companies. A Pre-bid meeting will be held on May 14th at 10:00 a.m. Bids will be received up to 6:30 pm on May 21, with bid opening to be held at 6:45 pm.

Zoning

Second dwelling – The utilities connected to the house have been disconnected. Due to the recent rainfall, an extension to May 15 was given to have the house removed from the property.

2018 River Round-Up

The 2018 River Round Up committee will begin meeting at the end of May.


Purchasing Agreement

The purchasing agreement from Ricart Ford for the purchase of a 2018 Ford F550truck was signed by Trustee Prince.

There being no further business Mr. Prince asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Slater made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



Mr. Charlie Prince



Mr. John Slater



Mr. Randy Weekly



Jessica Slater Fiscal Officer