

**Union Township Trustees**  
**Special Meeting**  
**April 15, 2022**

The Union Township Trustees met in Special Session at 10:00 am on April 15, 2022. Fiscal Officer Jessica Slater's roll call showed the following trustees present: John Slater, Roger Start, and Jeff Sharps. This meeting's purpose is to discuss future Fire/Ems services in Union Township.

The Village of Hebron held a special meeting on April 13, 2022, to discuss fire/EMS options. Mr. Slater attended the meeting and said the Council formed a committee to investigate service with West Licking Fire District.

Mr. Start asked if conforming the boundaries was discussed. Mr. Slater said it was and felt most Council members favored conforming the boundaries. The Board discussed the matter.

Mr. Sharps said the Village of Hebron has not responded regarding contracting with the Township for Fire/EMS services. Mr. Sharps was informed that Hebron would formally be a part of the West Licking Fire District, and the debt on the station, equipment, and employee situations are being discussed. Mr. Sharps advised West Licking Fire Chief that he was not in favor of the Township joining their fire district and paying the higher millage but would be interested in contracting.

Mr. Sharps spoke with Chief Majors and believed lower millage (6 mills) would be acceptable to West Licking as they would not be operating a station in the Township. Service to the southern portion of the Township would depend on Hebron's direction. He has also spoken with Granville Township regarding service to the Township.

A discussion on the effective rates and revenue was held. Mr. Start asked when the Township would formally withdraw from the District. Mr. Sharps thought that if both parties wished to dissolve the District, we would not have to wait until the end of the year, as in the prosecutor's opinion. Mr. Start said we should get out earlier if we could. Mr. Slater said withdrawing from the District before November would help the levy pass.

Mr. Start asked if the Township should put on a three-mill levy or six-mill levy and make a two-mill reduction when the levy passes. Mr. Sharps said the auditor's office would not overlap collection if a six-mill levy would pass but has concerns about passing a six-mill levy. In addition, some voters may not understand that the six mills would be the total collected.

Mr. Sharps said the Trustees need to move forward with determining service and not wait for Hebron to decide and noted West Licking reached out to him regarding fire protection. Mr. Start asked what lengths of contracts were available and would like to see us out of the District before November. Mr. Start feels Hebron wants the Township to increase our millage to 7.5 mills.

Mr. Sharps said a Granville Township would be presenting a contract to RCFD to provide service until the end of the year for \$150,000. The auditor estimated the previous tax collection (half-year) at \$150,000. Mr. Sharps asked if the trustees had reviewed the MOU agreement between Granville and Union Township to work together to re-establish regular service.

Mr. Start gave a brief update on the meeting with Lakewood Schools regarding TIFs.

Mr. Start moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 am without further business. Mr. Sharps seconded. Motion carried.

  
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John Slater                      President

  
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Roger Start                      Vice President

  
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Jeff Sharps                      Trustee

  
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Jessica Slater                      Fiscal Officer