

**UNION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JULY 6, 2020**

The Union Township Trustees met in regular session on July 6, 2020, at 7:00 pm with Trustee Charlie Prince opening with the pledge of allegiance. Roll call showed Trustees Charlie Prince, John Slater, and Randy Weekly present. Fiscal Officer Jessica Slater; Township Administrator Paula Greene; and Road Supervisor Dave Cable were present.

Guests: Martha Cable, Bill McWilliams, and Refugee Canyon Joint Fire District Chief Cliff Mason.

Bills

The clerk certified the money to pay the bills was in the treasury or is in the process of collection. There being no questions, Mr. Slater motioned to approve the bills. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion passed.

Road & Bridge

Cemetery –Gravestone maintenance in Licking Baptist Cemetery has been completed.

O'Neill/Enterprise Drive Project - The berm work is finished. Dave believes all the project work has been completed.

Stone Creek – Crack sealing work has begun. No excess stone was found on the main street, but three of the side (T-end) streets were found to have the excess stone. Dave said some of the stone came from residential landscaping projects and recommends Strawser Leasing (Columbus), at \$180 per hour, to sweep the intersections and the short streets in Stone Creek, Fairmont, and Old Farm Road. Mr. Prince said he had received several complaints, and he and Dave viewed the streets in the three subdivisions. It is noted that several homes in the area are undergoing landscaping or pool construction.

Motion – Mr. Slater moved to hire Strawser Leasing to sweep designated areas of Stone Creek, Fairmont, and Old Farm Road at \$180 per hour. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion passed.

Fairmont - Dave discussed installing a temporary speed bump at the significant S curve in the subdivision, and Hebron Village has a set that can be used for testing purposes. Mr. Slater said we need to establish that all the homeowners want the speed bump and recommended contacting Casey Curtis to determine if the residents want the speed bump. Signs announcing the speed bump will need to be installed also. Mr. Prince authorized Dave to contact Casey Curtis regarding the issue.

Overtime - Mr. Prince questioned an employee's overtime. Dave said the employee sprays mosquitoes twice a week in the Township and the Village of Buckeye Lake and is reimbursed by the Village for the application and chemicals used.

Church Building – Mr. Prince received a complaint of windows broken out of the building.

Mr. Prince discussed demolishing the building and possibly saving the steeple to preserve some of its histories. Mr. Prince said as old wood is valuable, there is a possibility someone would remove the building for the wood. Mr. Slater said he agreed with harvesting any material that could be reused, but wanted total removal of the building. Paula said the Township would need to contract the demolition and salvaging of material. The removal of any unwanted material by the salvaging company would be included in the contract. Mr. Prince will obtain some names and numbers of companies who take down barns. Dave will secure the doors and windows of the building.

FIRE/EMS

Bids – The bid opening will now be held on July 20 at 6:45 pm. Mr. Prince said the revised ad would include new dates and the removal of the prevailing wage requirement. Mr. Prince said through recent emails, Austin Lecklider, Licking County Assistant Prosecutor, advised that the prevailing wage does not apply to this project as the cost is under \$250,000, the two buildings are not connected (at this time), and the project is new construction. The four unopened bids, submitted on time, will be secured with Paula for opening at the July 20 meeting. Paula said she did not receive the email from Mr. Prince with the ad language. A new ad was ready to be sent to the Advocate.

Department Report – Refugee Canyon Joint Fire District Chief Clifford Mason was present and said the Licking County Regional 911 Center suspended the automatic monthly reports. Chief Mason has made a public record request for the report.

New building site- The trustees discussed site preparation for the new apparatus building. Mr. Slater had previously discussed the site work (drainage) with Mr. Weekly but had not committed to preparing the site for construction. Mr. Prince said he thought Mr. Slater was leveling the ground, and the Township would use their equipment for the trench and other work.

Administrative

Resolution 2020-25 Cares Act - The Cares Act Resolution, as approved by Carolyn Carnes, Civil Chief, Licking County Prosecutor's Office, was presented. Ms. Carnes received the Resolution Mr. Prince drafted. After review, Ms. Carnes determined the language added by Trustee Prince would have directed all CARES funding to pass through the Township to the Fire District, and the Township would not receive any CARES funds. Paula read aloud Mrs. Carne's letter dated July 6, 2020, which included her opinion on the Resolution presented by Mr. Prince and the requirements needed to obtain CARES funding on the Fire District's behalf.

An agreement between both entities would need to be signed before any CARES Act funds are released to the Fire District. Mrs. Carnes said she would draft such an agreement for both parties to review. The Fire District would need to submit to the Township all documents and invoices for COVID-19 related purchases, including health care documentation for any employee COVID-19 related claim. Mrs. Carnes also reminded the board the CARES ACT funding would be audited with hefty fines for violations found during an audit.

Paula and Mrs. Carnes both participated in the Ohio Township Association CARES Act -19 video presentation. Points during the presentation were to document everything, ask if your legal representative if you have questions and advising that each agency receiving funds will be audited in the future.

Mr. Prince asked if any CARES Act funds not spent had to be returned, and it does.

Resolution 2020-25 CARES Act– Mr. Slater moved to pass the Resolution. Mr. Weekly seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Prince – yes; Mr. Slater – yes; Mr. Weekly – yes. Resolution passed.

McNamara Settlement – Ms. McNamara returned the release, but added language where the Township could be criminally liable for her alleged damages. The release was void when she added to the agreement. Mr. Slater felt enough time had passed for the release to be signed and that the offer should now be withdrawn. Mr. Prince agreed but wanted to allow additional time before the offer was permanently withdrawn. Paula will advise Ms. Carnes.

Motion – Mr. Slater moved to withdraw the Township's offer to Ms. McNamara alleged damages during the Canyon Road Project if the agreement is not signed by July 26, 2020. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion passed.

Text Amendment - The Zoning Commission approved the following changes. Included are their notations:

1) Billboards will be placed 660' from the edge of the road right of way.

The board discussed alternatives to the 660' setback and the sight issues with billboards at intersections. At this time, the board felt the 660' setback was appropriate, as it is impossible to determine a setback for each intersection.

2) Billboards shall not be located within 1000' from any residence or district where single-family dwellings are a permitted use.

The proposal listed distance between a structure and a billboard shall be 3000'. The distance between billboard and structure now is 100'. Troy Township, Delaware County has 1000' between structures and billboards. Millersburg Ohio's zoning requires 1500' between a billboard and any residence or district where single-family residents are a permitted use.

3) Billboards shall be located no less than 50' from the side and rear property line.

The Commission felt billboards needed a side & rear setback as there is none listed in the zoning resolution.

Paula said billboards eventually should be a conditional use. Mr. Slater asked if billboards could be listed as a conditional use now. The entire text amendment process would need to start over, and language for approving a conditional use would need to be created and approved.

A hearing before the Trustees for the Text Amendment will be held on July 20 at 6:45 pm.

Zoning – A variance hearing was held on June 24 for a reduction in lot size requirements. The applicant wants to purchase .07 acres of his neighbor's property and add to his parcel. A stream runs through the property, and the applicant has been maintaining the .07 acres.

Brust property – Two estimates have been submitted to clean the Brust parcel, one very high and one very low. The company that submitted the low estimate was going to visit the site.

Electric Aggregation – Mr. Prince, said he would be signing the Bi-Annual Certificate for the PUCO on behalf of the Township and send it to PUCO as the Certificate is due to be renewed.

Fire Levy - Notice of fire levy expiring in 2021 was submitted for review by the trustees.

Annexation parcel - Mr. Prince spoke with Brad Cotrell, Licking County Auditor's Office regarding the collection of fire revenue from the 206 acres recently annexed into Heath. Mr. Prince said the Township would continue to retain this levy revenue. Mr. Slater said he believes the Township might receive a portion of millage collected over 15 years. But the percentage of what is received declines to where the fire district would not receive any revenue from the annexed area.

Vision insurance – Jessica provided vision insurance applications to the trustees and Dave. It was recently learned that the new insurance carrier did not include a vision plan.

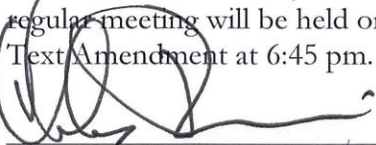
Motion – Mr. Weekly moved to select Option One of the VSP vision plan options, made retroactively in 2020. Mr. Slater seconded. Motion passed.

Water and Sewer District - Mr. Prince, said Hebron Mayor Jim Layton and Councilmember Rich Moore would like to discuss a possible Regional Water and Sewer District, so we would have control of what happens with water and sewer in the Township. Mr. Prince said he has done a little research and found a water only district could be established. Mr. Prince said he feels it's worthwhile looking into because Heath continues to annex township territory, and Hebron is leading.

Sweeping –Dave Strawser of Strawser Leasing texted Dave and will be at Stone Creek to begin sweeping tomorrow.

Minutes - Mr. Slater moved to approve the minutes with a minor word adjustment. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion carried.

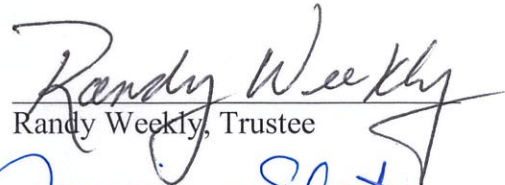
Mr. Slater moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. Mr. Weekly seconded. The next regular meeting will be held on July 20, 2020, at 7:00 pm with a special meeting to hear a Text Amendment at 6:45 pm.



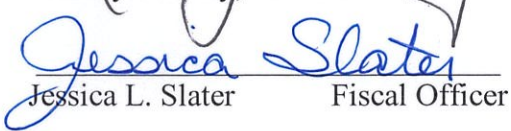
Charlie Prince, Trustee



John Slater, Trustee



Randy Weekly, Trustee



Jessica L. Slater

Fiscal Officer