

**REGULAR MEETING  
UNION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES  
June 17, 2019**

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

The Union Township Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 pm on June 17, 2019, at the Union Township Complex. Roll call showed Charles Prince, John Slater, Randy Weekly, and Jessica Slater were present. Trustee Prince led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests: Jack & Marsha Justice, Granville Twp. Fire Lt. Brandon Reese, Leslee Herro, Bill Mc Williams, Greg Carr, Rick Black, Granville Twp. Trustee Dan VanNess, Dan Blatter, Deena & Bob Seaton, Brittney Smith, Jenn Sowd, Paul Franta, Michael & Beth Wait, and Licking County EMA Director Sean Grady.

**Minutes**

The May 20 and June 3 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Weekly moved to approve both sets of 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 the process of collection. Attorney Mark Stemm advised to have the first of four JHP settlement payments prepared in the event the court appointed receiver for OPEC-HC approves the settlement with JHP. The first payment is due June 30. Mr. Prince asked the trustees to sign the check which would not be mailed until Mr. Stemm gives the directive to do so. Mr. Weekly and Mr. Slater agreed. With no further questions regarding the bills, Mr. Slater made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion passed.

**Road and Bridge**

James Road Culvert – A 4' x 64' culvert needs replaced, due to deterioration on James Road (approx. ¼ mile west of Canyon). James Road is a boundary road therefore Union and Granville Townships will work together on the project next week. The pipe has been ordered.

Dura-patching –Dura-patching will continue when the rains stop.

**Administration**

Variances - The Board of Zoning Appeals will hear a variance request on June 25, 2019.

Beaver Run Road and SR37 – Paula Greene spoke with Lt. Aaron Vollmer, Post 45 Commander, Ohio State Highway Patrol regarding the recent traffic complaints. Lt. Vollmer researched accidents in the area of Beaver Run Road and State Route 37 that occurred from January 1, 2017 through June 11, 2019. Lt. Vollmer advised the volume

of accidents in this area were similar throughout Licking County.

OTARMA Insurance – OTARMA Insurance is evaluating IT risk for townships throughout the state. The Township’s review was held on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. No issues were found.

OTARMA Building Valuation – Paula spoke with OTARMA. The new cost to replace values will not increase our current policy cost. The shelter house and church coverage have been reduced to liability only and will slightly lower 2020 coverage cost.

OPWC – Paula contacted Jillian Flowers, the new Ohio Public Works Commission District 17 Liaison regarding filing a new grant in October. Ms. Flowers advised a training session will be held in August. Training date to be determined.

Zoning Violation Update – A motion for summary judgement was filed by Asst. Prosecutor Austin Lecklider, Licking County Prosecutor’s Office regarding the complaint the township has against Randy Williams for living in a camper. Mr. William’s attorney requested Mr. Williams and his family be allowed to remain in their camper until November 30. Paula does not agree with the proposal. Mr. Lecklider requested input from the Trustees. All Trustees agreed not to allow the Williams family to continue to live in the camper. There is a trial date of August 6.

Chip Seal Bid Packet – Paula received the Chip Seal Bid Packet today. A bid opening date will be set soon.

Air Conditioner Repairs – The meeting room air conditioner fan was replaced.

#### Trustees

Hebron Fire Contract Extension - Mr. Prince has discussed an extension of the current fire contract with Hebron Village Council; one councilmember was against an extension but voted for it. Mr. Prince said the Council was reluctant to pass an extension but did so unanimously on June 12, 2019. The contract has been extended through the end of August.

Mr. Prince said the Trustees need to approve the extension adding that there may be a need for an additional extension. The conditions of the extension remain the same as the original contract. Mr. Slater asked for clarification that they are still investigating the viability of a fire district and not committing to entering a fire district. Mr. Prince agreed. Mr. Weekly moved to approve the extension as stated. Mr. Prince seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Prince said the next fire district committee meeting would be held when Chief Mason has completed his presentation which should be in the next couple of weeks.

JBA – Mr. Prince explained the process of hiring a design firm for projects at 6265 Lancaster Road. JBA submitted a quoted for scope of project fixed fee of \$24,000. Mr. Weekly said with his experience of these projects he feels JBA’s fee is in line with the project. Mr. Prince said he felt the fee was high. Mr. Slater said they can stop the project if the cost exceeded what they feel is reasonable. Mr. Black asked the Trustees to specify

the fee was for engineering cost only. Mr. Prince explained the \$24,000 engineering fee includes but not limited to: architect engineering design and plans, structural, plumbing, electrical engineering along with other services specified in the contract. The equipment building will be a 36' x 40' with garage doors on both sides to allow equipment to be "pulled through" and not backed into the bays. Mr. Prince explained the building's setbacks and driveway locations. It was felt the second set of garage doors would be a minimal additional cost. Mr. Prince said there would not be a paved driveway. The township will be responsible for widening the driveway apron.

Mr. Weekly moved to accept JBA's architectural proposal. Mr. Slater seconded. Motion passed.

Brittney Smith asked how the Fire District's name was determined. Mr. Prince said the name "Refugee-Canyon Fire District" was chosen from names submitted to the Committee and that it reflects the heritage of the area. Mr. Weekly said the community was asked to submit names suggestions in the Fire District Committee minutes. Other names suggested conflicted with existing entities.

Mr. Black said he has been told Hebron intends to turn over the remaining debt of the Hebron Fire Station renovations to the fire district and asked what the amount of that debt was. Mr. Prince said there is a \$95,000 a year payment adding the township does not own any fire/ems equipment. Mr. Prince said Hebron is purchasing a new fire truck at the cost of \$600,000. Mr. Black said when Hebron planned the renovations to the fire department, Hebron officials did not want any input from the township and the township residence would not be paying for improvements.

Greg Carr asked if the township would have to absorb Hebron's (fire department) debt. Mr. Prince said when a fire district is formed, they typically absorb any outstanding debt related to the Fire Department. Mr. Carr asked why the trustees are pursuing something when the costs are unknown. Mr. Prince said they have not committed to the district and need to gather more information.

Bob Seaton said the Trustees know the building on Lancaster Road will house some type of fire whether through a contract or a district, adding he is not in favor of a district.

Leslie Herro asked for an update on the Fire District talks. Mr. Prince said there have not been any meetings but believes they will begin soon.

Ms. Smith asked if Mr. Prince has talked with Chief Curtis regarding his proposal. Mr. Prince said he will talk with Chief Curtis by the end of August.

Mr. Seaton asked if district funding would be put on the ballot before going into a fire district. Mr. Slater said he does not believe we should enter a fire district on the current funding and it's not in our best interest to enter a fire district without knowing the cost. Mr. Slater said the community needs to agree to the creation of a fire district.

Ms. Smith asked each trustee to guarantee that north of the tracks will continue to receive their current services and response times regardless of who provides the services. All trustees agreed that the response times will be the same or better.

Ms. Smith then asked how a fire district can operate a substation if there is no money in the budget to contract with Granville and how that improves their services. Mr. Slater asked where she received this information. Ms. Smith said Chief Mason's presentation did not include funds for Granville Fire's services into the Township.

Mr. Slater said Chief Mason's plan was being amended and he (Slater) cannot commit to a Fire District with 9 -10 operating mills. Mr. Slater feels the confusion that the satellite station will only be operated by a fire district, which is not true. The 6265 Lancaster Road station is to improve response time whether it is a Township owned/operated department or is operated by contract with Granville or Hebron and who operates the Lancaster Road location is yet to be determined.

Ms. Smith said there have been several options proposed of who will operate the Lancaster Road station and Mr. Slater statement has clarified her concerns.

Mr. Prince said advance notice will be given prior to Chief Mason's presentation.

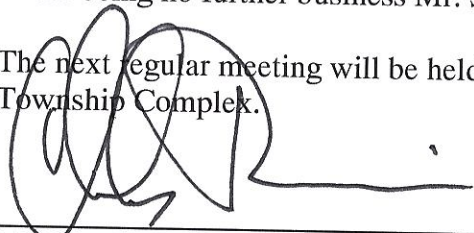
Executive Session

Mr. Prince moved to enter executive session at 7:47p.m. to discuss an employee matter. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion.

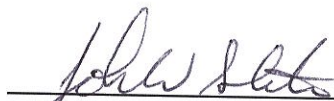
At 8:05pm, Mr. Slater moved to return to regular session.

There being no further business Mr. Slater moved to adjourn at 8:07pm.

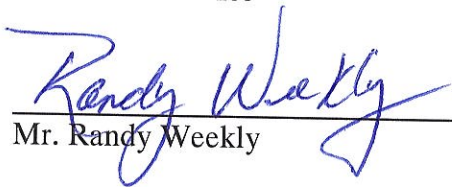
The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July1, 2019, at 7:00pm at the Union Township Complex.



Mr. Charlie Prince



Mr. John Slater



Mr. Randy Weekly



Jessica Slater

Fiscal Officer