Union Township Trustees June 20, 2022

The Union Township Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 pm on June 20, 2022. Fiscal Officer Jessica Slater's roll call showed the following trustees: John Slater, Roger Start, and Jeff Sharps. Paula Greene, Township Administrator also present. Trustee Slater led the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests: Bill McWilliams

Minutes

Mr. Start moved, and Mr. Sharps seconded to approve the June 6 minutes. Motion carried.

Bills

The clerk certified the money to pay the bills in the treasury or is in the collection process. Mr. Start motioned to pay the bills. Mr. Sharps seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments

None

Road and Bridge

Columbia Gas Right of Way application was submitted for a project in the Newark Industrial Park on Alford Way. Mr. Slater and Dave have reviewed the application and recommend approval.

Motion- Mr. Sharps moved, and Mr. Start seconded to approve the Columbia Gas Right of Way application as presented. Motion carried.

Fire and EMS

Draft Joint Resolution to Dissolve the RCFD Fire District – Mr. Sharps met with Prosecutor Carnes, Mayor Layton, and Attorney Untied. Equipment purchased during the operation of the Fire District needs to be identified, and how to address outstanding financial issues. The District's Fiscal Officer will work remotely, and the Township's address will be used for the District's physical address. Mr. Start asked for a detailed explanation of how the remaining bills and funds are distributed. The County Auditor's Office will assist with the financial issues per the ORC. It was decided to meet with the Township's legal counsel to discuss the District's dissolving. Mr. Sharps said Hebron needs to understand that the Township needs to have a plan before passing the resolution to dissolve the District.

Future Contracts – An agreement for services will be drafted for Granville and West Licking Fire District (WLFD) to provide services until the end of the year. WLFD understands they are providing services for the funds we have.

WLFD contract - A three-year draft contract was submitted to the Trustees. Exhibit A - the boundary map was not included. The boundary line will remain the same, and the map will be added later.

A discussion was held on the cost of WLFD service, millage, and EMS billing. Mr. Slater wants soft billing to continue. Mr. Start asked if the revenue from EMS billing would be credited to the contract cost. Mr. Sharps will ask. Mr. Start asked how Mr. Sharps felt about the proposal; he is not in favor of a three-year contract and feels the level of service will improve Union Township, and nothing is perfect, but this is a good situation for the Township.

The millage was discussed again. If Hebron conforms their boundaries, the Township will receive less Fire revenue; therefore, it needs to increase the millage. In addition, the annexation of property would affect revenue. Again, this issue will need to be discussed with WLFD.

Mayor Layton asked that the Township form a fire district around Hebron so that Hebron would not have to conform their boundaries, still giving them the benefit of voting for elected officials. The Trustees felt that creating a Township District would confuse voters.

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Granville Township Fire wants to continue the previous contract with the Township and asks where the boundary would be. Mr. Start said the boundary would have to be the railroad tracks for funding purposes. Mr. Sharps said he discussed the coverage south of the railroad tracks with the Fire Chiefs; all felt the area would be well serviced by both departments. Mr. Sharps said both departments get along with each other.

Mr. Start wanted a public meeting when the WLFD contract was complete. Therefore, a special meeting was set for July 20, 2022, at 7:00 pm to discuss Fire Contracts with the public.

Economic Development

Licking County Collaborative Visioning Public/Private Partnership Proposal-Mr. Sharps attended a recent meeting and felt it was well attended with representatives from the public and private sectors. An email explaining goals and a cost-sharing plan was sent to the Trustees. Government officials attending the meeting support the involvement of the private sector. A consulting firm (yet to be retained) will develop a county-wide vision and stress that its plan will not interfere with each entity's plans. This is a 65% private/35% government cost-sharing project, with the Township's share being \$2,000.00.

Motion – Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded, to approve an expenditure of \$2,000 to the Licking County Collaborative Visioning Public/Private Partnership/Evans Foundation to participate in the project. Motion carried.

Montrose/Focus Group – The first meeting was held where members of the group met and learned the project objects. The group will meet weekly via Zoom and reach out to the community for input.

Mr. Start asked to enter into an executive session to discuss Economic Development.

Executive Session – Mr. Sharps moved, and Mr. Start seconded, to enter into an executive session per ORC Section 121.22(G)(8) to discuss economic development matters at 8:05 pm. Mr. Start moved to return to the regular meeting at 8:33 pm. No resolution or formal activity was taken during the executive session.

Administration

Angle Variance - The BZA met on June 14 and approved the road frontage reduction request.

Zoning Complaint – The prosecutor will review the Baker violation for an opinion on to proceed with the violation via the ORC or zoning violation.

GovDeals/Cruiser – The Cruiser ad will be ready soon; therefore, a resolution is needed. Public notice of the sale needs to run twice, ten days apart, in the Newark Advocate. The Govdeals auction will run for ten days with a minimum bid, suggested by Mr. Sharps, of \$10,000.

Resolution 25-2022 Sale cruiser on GovDeals

Mr. Sharps motioned, and Mr. Start seconded Resolution 25-2022.

Roll call: Mr. Slater - yes

Mr. Start-yes

Mr. Sharps-yes

Cemetery Regulations – Trustees want more time to review. Mr. Sharps suggested implementing new rules on the first of the year. Mr. McWilliams oversees cemeteries and will forward their rules. Mrs. Slater would like a sign stating the rules posted at the cemetery. The current rules were drafted from cemetery rules in the area. Billboard – Richard Kennedy submitted a permit application for a billboard on Thornwood Drive. The permit was denied for failing to meet setback requirements. The proposed billboard would be located 158' from a residence. Road Name - The Commissioners accepted the North Coyote Way and South Coyote Way name change.

Trustees

Mr. Sharps thanked Dave for clearing the road after the storm. The Trustees had no further comments.

There being no further business, Mr. Start moved, and Mr. Sharps segunded to adjourn at 8:50 pm.

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President

Jeff Sharps

Trustee

Roger \$ ar

Vice President

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Fiscal Officer

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