

Union Township Trustees
March 15, 2021

The Union Township Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 pm on March 15, 2021, via zoom. Fiscal Officer Jessica Slater's roll call showed the following trustees present: John Slater, Charles Prince, and Randy Weekly. Dave Cable, Road Superintendent, and Paula Greene, Township Administrator was also present. Trustee Slater lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest via Zoom: Leslie Herro, Rick Black, Jeff Sharps, Michaela Sumner, Jenna Myers, and other unidentified callers.

Ullman Map Amendment – The Trustees approved a map amendment request filed by Joesph and Kristen Ullman for 0 Mill Dam Road. A 7.5-acre portion of their 25-acre parcel was changed from Agriculture to Rural Residential 4.

Minutes

Mr. Prince moved to approve the March 1 minutes. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion carried.

Bills

The clerk certified the money to pay the bills was in the treasury or is in the process of collection. Mr. Weekly motioned to pay the bills. Mr. Prince seconded. Motion carried.

Appropriations – Mrs. Slater said the Licking County Auditor had not released the 2021 appropriations, and a special meeting to approve the appropriations before the April 1 deadline will be needed. A special meeting notice will be posted before the meeting.

Health Insurance – The employee health insurance will increase by 9.5 percent. Mr. Prince shared concerns by Licking Memorial Health Systems after September. During the meeting, Mrs. Slater contacted Jim Organ (Insurance Rep), who advised he had not been notified of the change. Mr. Organ said he would research the matter.

Road and Bridge

Salt – The 2021 State of Ohio salt contract was discussed. Mr. Slater recommended researching options that may be less expensive than purchasing from the State. Dave recommends a 50/50 salt and grit mix as increasing grit and decreasing salt is not as effective.

Roads – The trustees requested a list of roads in need of chip seal for the next meeting.

Hayes Road Culvert – Leslie Herro said Hayes Road at the new culvert was rough to drive over. Dave explained the fill material was settling. The road is monitored, and additional material is added as needed.

Fire & EMS

Fire Board Position – The Trustees interviewed two applicants. They determined that Union Township resident Jeff Sharps, the current Truro Township Fire Chief, is well qualified for the position.

Mr. Prince moved to appoint Jeff Sharps as the Township resident representative to the Refugee Canyon Joint Fire District Board. Mr. Slater seconded.

Roll Call Vote - Mr. Slater-yes; Mr. Prince-yes; Mr. Weekly yes. Motion passed.

MOU – The Fire District and Township's attorneys continue to work on a utility Memorandum of Understanding.

Administration

No report.

Engineer's Estimates – After being asked by another Township, Mr. Prince said he recently learned that the Engineer's estimates were included in the road project bid packet from the Township. Mr. Prince said he researched and found ORC 5575.02 address advertising for bids. The last line of the section states, "the board is not required to provide notice of project cost estimates when advertising for bids under this section." Mr. Prince said he developed a resolution similar to those adopted at the Township's annual organizational meeting that would remove the engineer's estimate from the bid documents for consideration at the next meeting.

Mr. Slater said he understood his concerns and requested they are recorded in the minutes to address at the next meeting.

Dave said he knew the Township Mr.Prince was referring to and that as a result of not including the estimate sheet, the project was scratched and rebid, which delayed the project. Dave also said estimates are part of the pre-bid meeting conversations he holds with the contractors before the submission deadline. Including the estimates aids in the project going smoother. The Township Mr. Prince referred to did not hold a pre-bid meeting.


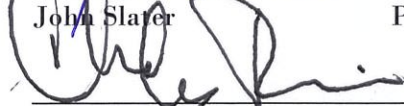
The Licking County Prosecutor's Office advised Paula that the bid sheet was a public record and to be included with the bid packet. Mr. Prince said that according to the ORC statute, it does not have to be released with the original bid documents.

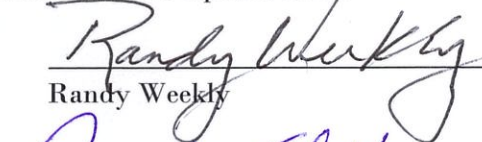
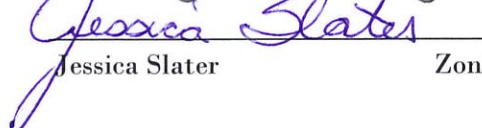
Mr. Slater said it needs to be determined whether or not the estimate sheet is a public record and that he understands Mr. Prince's view. Rick Black recommended discussing the situation with a prosecutor, as they have been in a similar situation: rebidding delays the project's completion.

7196 Lancaster Road – Mr. Slater received a complaint on the condition of this property. Paula said she would follow up on the complaint.

Mr. Weekly moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. Mr. Prince seconded.

The next regular meeting of the Union Township Trustees will be April 5, 2021.

	_____
John Slater	President
	_____
Charlie Prince	Trustee

	_____
Randy Weekly	Trustee
	_____
Jessica Slater	Zoning Clerk