

May 6, 2024
Regular Meeting

The Union Township Trustees met on May 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm for a regular meeting. Fiscal Officer Karen Nethers roll call showed the following trustees: Roger Start, Jeff Sharps and John Slater present. Paula Greene, Township Administrator, Dave Cable, Road Superintendent, were present. Trustee Start led the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests: Jason Smith, Martha Cable, Greg Large and Alan Masters.

Minutes – After two corrections to the minutes, Mr. Slater moved, and Mr. Sharps seconded to approve the, April 15, 2024, minutes. Motion carried.

Bills – Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Public Comments-

Greg Large – Mr. Large was present as a representative for Water's Edge. Mr. Large asked what road projects were scheduled for this year. Blacks Road between SR 37 and Blacks Road with funds from a OPWC Grant. Alan Masters, also of the Reserve inquired if a tower near Deeds and State Route 37 was a cell phone or emergency weather siren tower. It was explained it was a cell phone tower.

Fiscal Officer

Packets – The fiscal officer presented informational packets to the trustees and said she would be providing the Trustee packets for each meeting. A form verifying they received the packet will also be provided. Mr. Start asked if the information could be sent prior to the meeting. Mrs. Nethers said the financial reports would not reflect the most current finances if the information was sent prior to the meeting but was open to suggestions on how information was provided. Mr. Start said as we have a new fiscal officer now would be the time to update how information was dispersed and if Mrs. Nethers had any questions to feel free to ask.

Reconcile Cash Balance – Mrs. Nethers talked with Julian & Grube regarding reconciling the cash balance for the Township. After a brief discussion, the following motion was made

Motion – Mr. Sharps motioned, and Mr. Slater seconded, to enter a contract with Julian & Grube to reconcile the Township's cash balance. The contract is not to exceed \$5,500. Motion carried.

Road and Bridge

OPWC 2024 – Dave discussed possible OPWC projects for 2024, those being the resurfacing of Deeds Road (1.2 miles) or Refugee Road from the Village line to State Route 37. The Trustees recommended that Dave begin researching for the application.

Hayes Road – Igle Construction made the repairs to Hayes Road today.

Administration

Zoning Commission Meeting – May 9, 2024, at 6:00pm to review the Comprehensive Plan Draft.

Resolution 2024-25 Prohibit Wind and/or Solar Facilities

Mr. Start moved and Mr. Sharps seconded hereby find that it is in the best interest of Union Township to hereby request that the Board of Licking County Commissioners prohibit the construction of all utility-scale wind and/or solar facilities within the unincorporated area of Union Township pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 303.58.

Roll call: Mr. Start – yes Mr. Sharps – yes Mr. Slater-yes

OPWC Membership Voting – OPWC District 17 Election Form was sent to the Trustees. There were questions on the voting procedure, therefore the matter was tabled until the May 20 Trustee meeting.

TIRC Representative – Alternate Paul Rutter no longer resides in the Township. Mr. Start recommended Township resident Jennifer Kurkowski be appointed as the Alternate.

Motion – Mr. Start motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded to appoint Township resident Jennifer Kurkowski as an alternate representative to the TIRC Board. Motion carried.

Hebron Repairs – Mayor Mockus and Fiscal Officer Debbie Morgan delivered a check for the “general fund” repairs to Paula on April 26, 2024. Mayor Mockus said they were investigating why the “Fire/EMS” repairs had increased; they were speaking with the County regarding the issue and would go to the State for an opinion. The Licking County Prosecutor and Auditor’s Office advised the Township that the repair was calculated correctly. The Village did not have appropriate funds to cover the costs. There has been no communication since April 26. Mr. Sharps said Auditor Mike Smith had contacted him and stated that the totals were correct. A discussion was held on fire revenue. Mr. Start requested Asst. Prosecutor Carnes contact Attorney Untied and requested the funds Hebron had allocated be disbursed, along with and plans to make the repairs whole.

Cemetery Rate Increase – Jessica Slater researched and prepared a suggested price increase for cemetery services. Mr. Sharps said he checked around and found the prices to be in line with other cemeteries.

Motion – Mr. Sharps motioned and Mr. Start seconded to accept the proposed Cemetery price increase listed below. Motion carried.

2024 Pricing	Service
\$975.00	Open/Close Weekdays
\$1275.00	Open/Close Saturdays
\$450.00	Cremations – Weekdays
\$650.00	Cremations - Saturdays
\$975.00	Single Grave Space
\$75.00	Deed Transfer fee

Executive Session - At 7:48 pm Mr. Sharps moved and Mr. Start seconded to enter into Executive Session -Street employee position- executive session pursuant to R.C. 121.22(G)(1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing. At 8:12pm, Mr. Slater moved, and Mr. Sharps seconded the motion to return to the regular meeting.

Motion – Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded to hire Jason Smith for the position of full-time Road Worker at an hourly rate of \$23.00 per hour. Mr. Smith’s Years of 16 years of public service will also be recognized. Motioned carried.

Motion-Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded to increase Denny Vest’s Hourly rate to \$23.00 per hour (Road Worker).

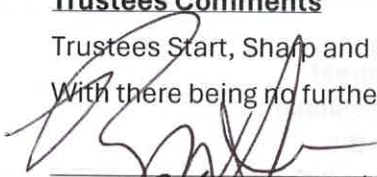
Mr. Smith thanked the Trustees and was looking forward to bringing his experience to the Township.

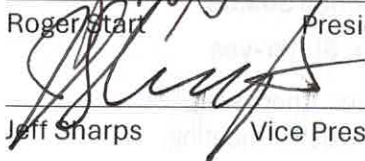
Executive session- At 8:15pm Mr. Start moved and Mr. Sharps to enter Executive Session - PURSUANT TO ORC 121.22 (G)(8) TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION RELATED TO THE MARKETING PLANS, SPECIFIC BUSINESS STRATEGY, PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES, TRADE SECRETS, PERSONAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF AN APPLICANT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE THAT INVOLVES PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS OR THE EXTENSION OF UTILITY SERVICES THAT ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT. At 8:23 pm, Mr. Start moved and Mr. Sharps seconded to return to the regular meeting. No action was taken from the Executive Session.

Trustees Comments

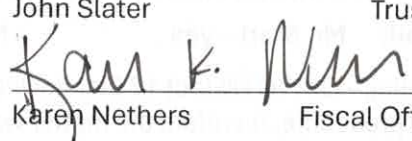
Trustees Start, Sharp and Slater had no further comments.

With there being no further business. Mr. Start moved to adjourn at 7:35 pm. Mr. Sharps seconded.



Roger Start President


Jeff Sharps Vice President

John Slater Trustee


Karen Nethers Fiscal Officer