

Resolution 2021- 8: Mileage and Necessary Expenses

Mr. Prince moved to authorize necessary expenses for meetings, including parking fees, mileage @ 56 cents per mile, the IRS reimbursement rate, pertinent to Township business, outside the Township. Mr. Slater seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Slater – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes; Mr. Prince-Yes.

Resolution 2021- 9: Out of meeting check signing

Mr. Prince moved to authorize the signing of checks, regular monthly bills, and all previously approved expenditures outside of meetings. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Slater – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes; Mr. Prince-Yes.

Resolution 2021-10: Clothing Reimbursement

Mr. Prince moved for a one-time \$ 100 increase in the clothing allowance for both part-time and full-time employees in recognition of their excellent work on the Hayes Road culvert replacement project. The allowance this year is \$600 for full-time employees and \$350 for part-time employees. It is understood that additional requests may be presented to the board if additional money is required. Mr. Slater seconded the motion. Motion Passed. Mr. Slater – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes; Mr. Prince-Yes.

Resolution 2021-11: Trustees approval up to \$2500

Mr. Weekly moved to adopt the following Resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees, Union Township, wish to act as a Board in charge of maintenance and repair of roads with the Township, THEREFORE; BE IT RESOLVED that all or any Trustee has the authority to improve or repair roads or purchase materials, and supervise and direct its' use in the Township and in general anything falling within the responsibility to the Trustees. Any expenditures exceeding \$2500.00 on the preceding, however, must have the approval of at least two Trustees. Mr. Prince seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Slater – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes; Mr. Prince-Yes.

Resolution 2021-12: Meeting Reimbursements

Mr. Prince moved to authorize payment of required fees and necessary expenses for elected officials to attend and participate in county and state, seminars, and conventions. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Slater – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes; Mr. Prince-Yes.

Resolution 2021-13: Elected Official Salary Distribution

Mr. Slater moved to distribute Trustee's salaries out of funds according to the percent of time worked for said fund. The Trustees will keep logs to determine breakdown. Mr. Prince seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Slater – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes; Mr. Prince-Yes.

Resolution 2021-14: Board of Buckeye Lake Reg. Corp. Appointee from Union Township 2021-2022

Mr. Prince moved to re-nominate and elect Mr. Slater to the Board of Buckeye Lake Regional Corporation. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Slater – Yes, Mr. Prince – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes.

Resolution 2021-15: **TIRC Appointee from Union Township 2021-2022**

Mr. Prince moved to re-nominate and elect Mr. Weekly to represent Union Township on the TIRC (Tax Incentive Review Council). Mr. Slater seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Slater – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes; Mr. Prince-Yes.

Resolution 2021-16: **Refugee Canyon Fire Board Compensation**

Mr. Prince moved that the Board of Union Township Trustees hereby resolves that any township trustee who accepts an appointment to represent the Township as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Refugee Canyon Joint Fire District expressly waives any and all compensation for service on the fire district board. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Slater – Yes; Mr. Weekly – Yes; Mr. Prince-Yes.

Resolution 2021-17: **Refugee Canyon Fire Board Township Representative**

Mr. Prince asked to table this Resolution. Mr. Prince said term expired on December 31, 2020, on the Fire District Board. He will provide a job description for the Township's website. Applications will be turned into the Township Trustees. Mr. Prince will remain on the Fire District Board until a replacement has been chosen. Resolution tabled.

Mr. Slater moved to close the re-organizational meeting and proceed with the regular meeting. Mr. Weekly seconded the motion. This portion of the meeting was concluded at 7:10 pm.

Trustee Slater moved forward with the regular meeting.

Road & Bridge

Dave said the Hayes Road culvert replacement ran smoothly and was completed in five and half days. Additional dirt will be added to the culvert location.

Covid-19 related quarantine: A road department employee's spouse has tested positive for Covid-19. Dave asked how to address the issue. A lengthy discussion was held.

Krista Kovack said she (a nurse) and her husband (a federal government employee) were recently diagnosed with Covid-19. Mrs. Kovack said she became ill first and was given direction by her physician, the CDC, and the Licking County Health Department. The CDC issued a 14-day quarantine, and the Health Department for ten days. The order was extended on the eighth day as Mr. Kovack developed Covid-19 symptoms.

Mrs. Kovack said both employers continued to pay their salaries under the Federal Government Covid-19 emergency orders. The Health Department sent a release letter to Mrs. Kovack's employer at the end of the quarantine.

It was decided the Township employee would remain on COVID-19 leave while additional information is gathered.

Mr. Prince asked if any of the 2021 salt had been delivered. No 2021 salt deliveries have been received. The current salt supply is sufficient.

Minutes

Mr. Prince moved to approve December 28, 2020, and January 8, 2021. Mr. Weekly seconded. Motion carried.

Bills

Mr. Weekly motioned to pay the bills. Mr. Prince seconded. Motion carried.

Administrative

Map Amendment – The Zoning Commission will hear a map amendment request filed by Lee Zazworsky on January 27.

Fire/EMS

As of January 6, 2021, all apparatus building inspections have been completed. The temporary hoop building was sold on gov.com and should be removed from the property within 30-45 days, depending on the weather.

Mr. Slater said he would like to see a monthly report from the Fire District.

Mr. Prince said during their first board meeting, they unanimously passed a motion not to receive compensation for being on the board. Fire District Board meetings will be held on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. Dr. Forshey was re-elected President of the Fire Board, and Mr. Weekly is now Vice-President.

Mr. Weekly said Chief Mason was preparing a year-end report that will be made public once completed.

Trustees

1.8 mill levy - Mr. Prince proposed placing the expiring 1.8 mill Fire/EMS levy on the May ballot as a “replacement” and not a “renewal.” A replacement would not raise millage but would collect additional revenue based on the return to the original voted millage and current property valuations.

Mr. Prince contacted Brad Cotrell, Chief Deputy, Licking County Auditor’s Office, who said the current levy generates \$482,987.00 a year; a “replacement” levy would generate an additional (approximately) \$56,000 a year if approved by voters.

Mr. Prince wanted to pass the first resolution this evening before the February 3 filing date, or a special meeting would be needed.

Mr. Slater said the levy issue needed to be discussed. Previously, Ken Phillips, who conducted the 2018-2019 audit for the State Auditor, advised the Township could not put on another levy as Refugee Canyon Fire District is a separate entity. Mr. Prince and Mr. Weekly said they were not aware of this advice. Mr. Cotrell did not indicate the levy could not be placed on the ballot. There are three options with the 1.8 mill levy: 1) not to renew; 2) renewal, or 3) replacement.

Mr. Slater was concerned Mr. Cotrell was not aware of all the issues. Paula said she spoke with Carolyn Carnes, Licking County Prosecutor’s Office, who said the Auditor of State should issue an opinion on the matter. It was decided that Paula will contact the Licking County Prosecutor’s Office and the Auditor of State for an opinion as soon as possible. At that time, the Trustees will move forward as recommended.

Gypsy moth – The Ohio Department of Agriculture will be holding a virtual open house on February 9 at 6:00 pm concerning the gypsy moth abatement program in Licking County. There is one treatment area in Union Township.

Resolution 18-2021 – Dinsmore Law Firm bond to purchase the tractor and mower.

Mr. Prince moved to approve the Resolution. Mr. Weekly seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Slater-yes; Mr. Weekly-yes; Mr. Prince-yes

Hayes Road Culvert – Mr. Weekly commended Dave and the crew on their work replacing the Hayes Road culvert and feels in the future money could be saved by the Street Department making repairs that have required hiring outside assistance in the past.

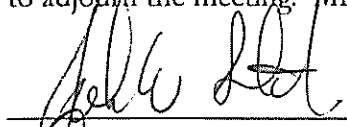
Oil & Gas Exploration – Precision Geophysical (a company providing geophysical surveying for oil and gas exploration) expressed interest in testing the Beaver Run and Refugee Road area. The company has worked in the Township before without incident. A company representative will speak at a later date. Before any testing could begin, a contract (approved by the Prosecutor's Office) and proof of insurance would be required.

Public Comments

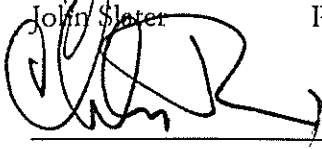
Patty Costello asked Mr. Prince about the levy discussed earlier in the meeting, as there was some confusion as to who (Township or District) wanted the levy on the May ballot. Mr. Prince explained the Fire District had placed the 8.5 mill levy on the 2020 ballot. The Township's levy is a 1.8 mill replacement levy.

Mike Bishop asked if there is a 12 ½ percent reduction on the replacement levy. Mr. Prince said there was not. Mike forwarded the Federal Policy on COVID leave to Paula.

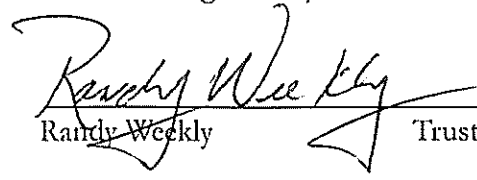
The next regular meeting will be held on February 1, 2021, at 7:00 pm. Mr. Prince motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Weekly seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.



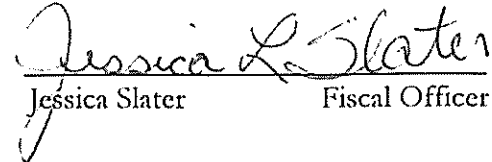
John Slater President



Charlie Prince Trustee



Randy Weekly Trustee



Jessica Slater Fiscal Officer