

UNION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
Special Meeting ~ November 14, 2022

The Union Township Trustees met in a special session at 9:00 am on November 14, 2022. The Fiscal Officer's Jessica Slaters roll call showed the following trustees: John Slater, Roger Start, and Jeff Sharps. Trustee Slater led the Pledge of Allegiance. Paula Greene, Township Administrator was also present. Guests: Kylee Chow, Elizabeth Chaffee, Mike Wright, Patrice Francis, Steve Ryan, Tom and Judy Marshall, and Chief Casey Curtis.

The purpose of the special meeting to discuss the fire levy election results, plans for future levy/election/funding for fire/Ems services and a general business item.

General Business – Due to the upcoming expiration of the estimate, Paula requested a motion to purchase the Allworx Phone System from Centratch. Mr. Start's earlier question of monthly fees had been answered – there are no monthly fees. There being no further discussion:

Motion – Mr. Sharps motioned, and Mr. Start seconded to purchase a Allworx Phone System in the amount of \$3,737.00 from Centratch. Motion carried.

Election/levy discussion –The election results have not been certified; 23 provisional and unknown number of absentee ballots to be counted, but there is a need to plan ahead. A new levy would need to be filed with the Board of Elections by February 1, 2023.

The guests felt the mailer from Charlie Prince mislead voters and were disappointed mailers for the levy, or at least explaining the levy were not sent. Residents with Granville addresses received a mailer in support of the levy after the election. It was also felt that Mr. Prince used Granville School's "permanent income tax" levy, to confuse voters. Mr. Marshall was very upset as he said he donated to the Public Safety to campaign for the levy. The need for a new committee was discussed. The Trustees explained the ORC prohibits Township to campaign for a Township levy. It was suggested to hold additional public meetings once a new levy was filed.

Mr. Sharps said a recent opinion from the Prosecutor's Office said the proceeds from the sale of 6265 Lancaster Road could not be used to pay for fire contracts. However, it is believed this opinion stems from purchases made from a bond. The Prosecutor's Office will continue to research, and Mr. Sharps has emailed the State Auditor's Office for an opinion. Chief Curtis said when Granville Twp. the revenue from the sale of the two houses they owned went into their Fire Funds.

The Trustees discussed placing a new levy of seven mills (combining the 2022 renewal of 3 mills with the 4 mills) and whether the mills should be permanent or renewable. More research is needed.

Mr. Sharps said he will be speaking with both West Licking Fire District and Granville Township Trustee representatives regarding coverage for 2023. The possibility of the


Township joining West Licking Fire District and that property owners would be paying 8.9 mills was discussed. Mr. Sharps said that the Township has good working relationships with both departments and felt a resolution to the problem could be found.

The Board discussed the sale of 6265 Lancaster Road. It was decided that the property should be appraised.

Motion – Mr. Sharps motioned, and Mr. Start seconded to appraise 6265 Lancaster Road to begin the sale of the property process. Paula will contact the Prosecutor Carnes to confirm the process of retaining an appraiser. Motion carried.

There being no further business Mr. Sharps moved, and Mr. Start seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 am.


Notice for the Special Meeting was posted on the Union Township Website on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 9:30 am



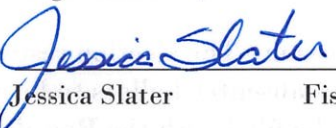
John Slater President



Jeff Sharps Trustee



Roger Start Vice President



Jessica Slater Fiscal Officer