

UNION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting ~ December 19, 2022

The Union Township Trustees met at 7:00 pm on December 5, 2022. Fiscal Officer Jessica Slater's roll call showed the following trustees: John Slater, Roger Start, and Jeff Sharps present. Also in attendance were Paula Greene, Township Administrator, and Dave Cable, Road Superintendent. Trustee Slater led the Pledge of Allegiance. Guest: Martha Cable, Patrice Francis, and Andrew Gulick.

Minutes

Mr. Start moved, and Mr. Sharps seconded, to approve the of minutes December 5 and Special meeting December 8, 2022, meetings. Motion carried.

Bills

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

Public Comments

Patrice Francis – Asked about the Fire revenue and the Trustees plans. Ms. Francis is interested in organizing a group to campaign for the Fire/EMS levy. Ms. Francis was advised the subject would be discussed during the Fire/EMS.

Road & Bridge

General items – The Ford F550 was due to be delivered but has not arrived. Mr. Slater and Dave viewed a large dead tree on Refugee Road that was in danger of coming down. The tree was too big for the Road Department to take down. The Trustees instructed Dave to obtain estimates to remove the tree and advise the Trustees. Roads during Sunday's snow event.

Fire/EMS

Final Election Results – The Licking County Board of Election certified election results on December 6, 2022. The Township's levy failed by three votes.

Sale of Property – A discussion was held on selling the property at 6265 Lancaster Road. It was felt that at this time it was appropriate for a resolution to place the property for sale, noting details of the process to sell are being determined by the Prosecutor's Office.

RESOLUTION 2022-53 Authorizing Sale of 6265 Lancaster Road

Mr. Start moved and Mr. Sharps seconded that the real property located at 6265 Lancaster Road, Hebron, Ohio, 43025, Permanent Parcel Number 073-329706-00.002, is no longer needed for public use and desires to sell the Premises pursuant to R.C. 505.10(A)(6).

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

New Levy millage –The trustees discussed millage for the May ballot as there will be two renewals (3 mills) due in the fall. Mr. Slater said after the previous meeting's discussion he believes placing 7 mills on the spring ballot would be favorable due to the concern of confusing the voters with levies on the spring and fall ballot. Mr. Start agreed. It was also felt it would be cleaner to combine the current levies into the seven mills Mr. Sharps said he is unsure as to whether to ask for a temporary or permanent millage. A discussion was held.

The Trustees asked resident Patrice Francis her opinion. Ms. Francis agreed with the Trustees regarding the seven mills, but felt the community needed to be informed better than they were for the fall election. Mr. Sharps agreed that the group who was supposed to send information failed to do so and did not want to see that happen again. The Ohio Revised Code does not permit Trustees to use public funds to campaign for a levy. As a resident a Trustee can support a levy. Ms. Francis said she understands.

The Trustees discussed should the spring levy fail, the Township would need to join West Licking Fire District, whose millage is over 9 mills and would service the entire township.

Paula will have resolutions to certify funds at the December 30 meeting.

Administration

End of the year meeting and Organizational meeting –

Motion – Mr. Sharps motioned and Mr. Start seconded to hold the end of the year meeting on December 30, 2022, at 9:00 am. Motion carried.

Organizational Meeting – Due to the JEDD hearing scheduled for January 19, 2023, the following motion was made:

Motion – Mr. Sharps moved and Mr. Start seconded the following schedule for the Following meeting on January 19, 2023: Organizational meeting ~ 6:15 pm/JEDD Hearing ~ 6:30 pm/Regular meeting ~ 7:00 pm Motion carried.

Cost of Living Pay Increase – Mrs. Slater proposed a 3% cost of living pay increase for the employees to start the first pay period in January. The Trustees agreed that the employees should have the increase.

Resolution 2022-54 Pay Increase Mr. Start motioned and Mr. Sharps seconded a 3% cost of living pay increase to begin the first pay period in January 2023.

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

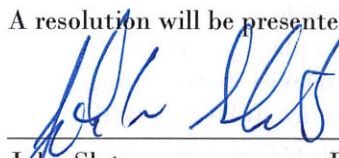
Social media intern – Mr. Sharps said two students applied to assist with setting up a Facebook page and felt both could fill the position. The job description is in review. It was suggested that that the students attend the December 30 meeting.


Economic Development

Comprehensive Plan RFQ – Mr. Start interviewed the three applicants (Envision, OHM and Crossroads Community Planning) and contacted their references. Mr. Start said Crossroads Community Planning was the highest proposal, however, the proposal read “up to \$48,500” whereas OHM proposed fee was \$47,000. As Crossroads Community Planning is currently working on the Zoning Resolution it was felt the fee might not reach their limit. Mr. Start said Envision is based in Cleveland was not a good option. Both Mr. Slater and Mr. Sharps agreed that Crossroads Community Planning would be the best option.

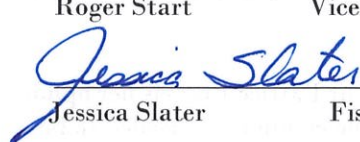
Motion – Mr. Start motioned and Mr. Sharps seconded to approve the Crossroads Community Planning Proposal. Motion carried.

A resolution will be presented for this project during the January Trustees meeting.



John Slater President


Jeff Sharps Trustee

Roger Start Vice President


Jessica Slater Fiscal Officer