

**Union Township Trustees**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**February 6, 2024**

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

Minutes – Mr. Slater moved, and Mr. Sharps seconded to approve the January 16, 2024, minutes Motion carried.

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

Public Comments- Thomas Large, Deeds Road, spoke on the condition of the guard rails at Canyon and Lees Road. The semis that travel through cannot make the turn and damage the guard rails. The Trustees informed Mr. Large the bridge and guard rails are maintained by Licking County. Dave will inform them of the current damage.

Patty Costello – Mr. Start read an email sent by Patty Costello asking the Trustees to do more to keep the residents informed. Ms. Costello wanted the Trustees to address projects in Union Twp. that belong to the State of Ohio. It was decided to post meeting agendas. The request to zoom meetings was discussed; due to the expense of equipment needed to zoom meetings, the Township would not zoom meetings. Mr. Sharps said the State of Ohio allowed townships to zoom meetings (with Trustees and staff zooming from their homes) during the pandemic. The Trustees feel they are doing the best they can to keep the public informed.

**Road and Bridge**

Mower/Tractor -Mrs. Slater advised that funds are available to repair the boom (mower).

**Motion – Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded that Southeastern Equipment repair the boom for \$9,001.00. Motion carried.**

Crack Sealing - A discussion was held regarding crack sealing roads. In 2023 no roads were treated. Mr. Slater found that the road department has been more successful repairing the roads than companies that have been hired in the past. The material is 86 cents a pound/2250 lbs. per skid. Three skids are needed. The application machine comes with the product.

**Motion – Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded to purchase three pallets of crack seal material at .86 per pound. Motion carried.**

Certify Millage – The Township's mileage is due for the 2024 certification.

**Motion – Mr. Slater moved, and Mr. Sharps seconded to certify the Township's Mileage to be 49.726 miles. Motion carried.**

**Administration**

Beaver Run and State Route 37 Intersection Update – ODOT completed a safety study of State Route 37 but would not implement improvements for two years. Paula advised Matt Hill that there is a sight line issue for the east side of Beaver Run and the narrow apron on the west side. A meeting with ODOT was set for February 14. Mr. Start will attend the meeting. Dave and Paula will also attend.

ROW permits – Item Number 2 “No work between December 1 and April 1” on the Right of Way Permit Application is no longer needed.

**Motion – Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded to remove item number 2 “No work in the right of way between December 1 and April 1.” Motion carried.**

Oversize Load – Over the next several weeks a combustion chamber will be delivered to 522 Milliken, in the Newark Industrial Park in three to four oversize loads. Charter City, Columbus office will oversee the transport. To make the turns in the Industrial Park two of the townships' ditches will need to be filled in. Charter City is working with the township to obtain the permits. Licking County Engineer's Office will require a road bond of one million dollars and have asked the township to be included on the bond. After a brief discussion the Trustees agreed to be added to the county's bond.

Marijuana sale – A resolution was presented to prohibit the sale of marijuana in Union Township:

**Resolution 2024-17 PROHIBITING THE OPERATING OF ADULT USE CANNIBAS OPERATORS IN UNION TOWNSHIP. Mr. Slater motioned, and Mr. Sharps seconded to approve Resolution 2024-17 to prohibit according to O.R.C. 3780.25 adult use cannabis operators, as well as cultivators, processors, and retail dispensaries of adult use marijuana from operating within the unincorporated area of Union Township. as defined in R.C. 3780.01.**

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

Map Amendment – Nancy Geiger request to rezone Storage units (built in the 1970's) from agricultural to general business. Mrs. Geiger plans to sell the storage units and needs to split the parcel.

Farm ground rental – Approximately 4 acres of farm ground in the cemetery is available to rent. The trustees recommended posting the parcel for rent on the website, asking sealed bids to be submitted by the next meeting.

### Economic Development

Mr. Start learned the State will launch the All-Ohio Future Fund in February. The State has allocated 750 million for infrastructure needs.

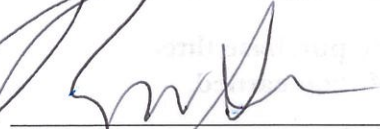
### Public/Trustee Comments

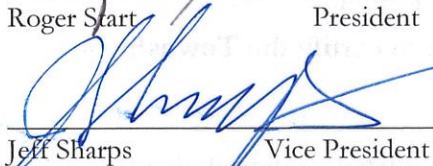
Mr. Start – Lakewood Schools will hold their State of School on February 29 at 6:30 pm and have invited the Township to speak. At this time no Trustee will be available. The bidding process has begun for the Township's section of the Waterline Project.

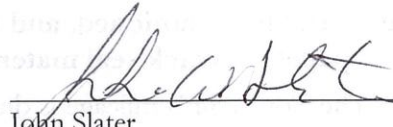
Mr. Sharps had no further comment.

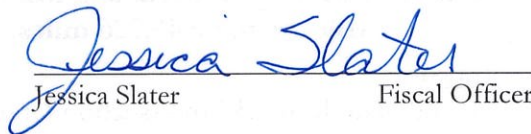
Mr. Slater advised the State plans to replace the Swamp Road bridge in May. Swamp Road will be closed at the bridge.

There being no further business, Mr. Sharps moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Slater seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm. The next meeting of the Union Township Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, February 20, 2024. The Township will observe Presidents Day on February 19.

  
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Roger Start                      President

  
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Jeff Sharps                      Vice President

  
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John Slater                      Trustee

  
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Jessica Slater                      Fiscal Officer