

OHIO TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

July 8, 2024

The trustees met in regular session with all members present.

Also present were Asst Chief Jim Watkins, PTFD, Jason Barger, Cpl. Wallace, CCSO, Rocky Rowland, Kimberly Fisher, Jim Oelker, Les Smith and Emily Supinger

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mr. Vogelsang.

Mr. Hinson made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2024 regular meeting, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted "yea"

Jim Oelker spoke to the trustees about a tall grass letter he received. He noted there has been a tree in someone's yard on Chestnut Lane for two years that has not been removed; also has been driving around the township making note of other properties that need attention; feels like he is being singled out. Mr. Vogelsang asked Les if a residential lot must be totally mowed; answer was he thought so if residential. Mrs. Niehaus noted that Les Smith does respond to zoning complaints when they are made. Mr. Vogelsang asked Les to check on the zoning rules for a downed tree, if any. Emily Supinger explained that the ORC for tall grass and weeds is what the township has to work with; also noted that the trustees can declare a nuisance and abate the problem if necessary. Jim Oelker asked what height he had to keep his yard mowed to. Les Smith asked him to mow it to the same height as the rest of his yard. Jim Oelker asked if he could cut his entire yard a foot high. Les Smith noted that the township does not have a grass cutting height requirement, repeating that the township has to go by the Ohio Revised Code.

Rocky Rowland asked about the roadside mowing schedule. Jason Barger explained that the road mower has been broken down and just recently repaired; will be going out later this week to resume roadside mowing.

Asst. Chief Jim Watkins, PTFD gave his report (on file). Chief Watkins reported that the department participated in the New Richmond 4th of July parade and will also participate in the county fair parade. State Route 749 will be closed for 5 or 6 months in early 2025 for repairs. Mr. Hinson asked about the facility study. Chief Watkins reported that the township has decided to build a new police and fire facility somewhere in the former Village of Amelia area, but no timetable is in place as of yet; the project will not affect the operations of Station 45.

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Cpl. Wallace, CCSO: gave his report (on file).

Les Smith gave his report (on file). Reported that the Clermont County building dept. re-inspected the structures at 2858 SR 132 and found no problems; asked what the township can do if the new owner wants to remodel it. Emily Supinger noted that the township should issue a zoning permit if applicable and let the county decide whether or not to issue a construction permit. Ms. Niehaus asked what happened that changed the situation. Emily Supinger noted that a permit may be issued if as a result of the permit the adjudication order is satisfied; also noted that if the county no longer considers it unsafe the township cannot tear it down. Ms. Niehaus asked if the township can push the new owner to do anything. Emily Supinger replied that the township can only enforce the zoning regulations, not county building regulations. Mr. Vogelsang asked if anything has been done on the marijuana issue. Emily Supinger noted that the trustees had previously decided not to ban any facilities due to the voter approval of the issue. Les Smith reported that charges have been filed in municipal court for 2518 SR 132 since the owner has not appeared for mediation hearings. Emily Supinger will prepare a notice for 2811 SR 132 to start the proceeding on that property.

Jason Barger gave his maintenance report (on file). Reported that Billie Smith has offered to clean the restrooms in the firehouse a second time per month for an additional \$25 per cleaning. The consensus was to do so.

OLD BUSINESS:

Generator Sale: Bill Gilpin reported that the generator sold for \$3,000, was paid for immediately and picked up early the next morning.

Fire Equipment Quote: The quote for Vogelpohl for the equipment necessary to install the battery packs for the new extrication equipment was \$2,429.00

Mr. Hinson made a motion to purchase the fire equipment from Vogelpohl for \$2,429.00, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”

COMMUNICATIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Duke Energy Electric Provider Letter: Bill Gilpin reported receiving a letter from Duke Energy indicating that Dynegy is returning the township’s electric accounts to Duke Energy on July 12 and asked if a trustee could follow up on it. Mr. Vogelsang offered to do so.

Ms. Niehaus made a motion to authorize Mr. Vogelsang to discuss the township’s electric account with Duke Energy for renewal purposes, seconded by Mr. Hinson. All members voted “yea”

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Emily Supinger noted that the zoning resolution on the website is not the most current version. Bill Gilpin will forward the word file to Emily Supinger for updating.

Mr. Hinson reported that he and Ms. Niehaus attended the function honoring Mary Lumpkin in Samarian Cemetery. There are red flags in the cemetery where the volunteers have been working.

Ms. Niehaus noted receiving a phone call from a resident that lives near the park concerned about a confrontation between someone using the shelter and someone walking dogs. There was discussion on possibly installing cameras, to which Jason Barger noted that there isn't any power or wifi available for that type of installation.

Mr. Vogelsang noted that he is getting lots of email spam lately.

Bill Gilpin reported that there is a new requirement for all township elected officials and employees to complete fraud reporting training. Bill Gilpin will send out the link to everyone.

Fund balances were discussed.

The following were read and approved with warrants written for same: (payment summary on following page).

Mr. Hinson made a motion to adjourn at 7:59pm, seconded by Ms. Niehaus. All members voted "yea"