

Walnut Township Trustees Meeting

September 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Trustees Doug Leith, William Yates and Terry Horn were present.

The minutes for the Public Hearing on August 18th were presented for approval. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve the minutes with an addition noted. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

The minutes for the regular meeting on August 18th were presented for approval. Trustee Leith made a motion to approve the minutes with an addition noted. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes

Trustee Horn acknowledged the receipt of the Cash Summary by Fund, Payment Listing, Fund Status and Appropriation Summary by the trustees.

Fiscal Officer Kraner stated that the amended certificate was received from the Fairfield County Auditor. The newly passed State of Ohio budget for 2016 includes an additional \$10M in funds to be distributed to townships in Ohio. Half of the funds will be divided evenly between all the townships in Ohio. The other half is to be apportioned based on township road miles. The township's anticipated revenue for the general fund for 2016 will be updated to reflect this increase prior to the submission of the Certificate of Total Amount at the beginning of the year. Also included in House Bill 64, the biennial budget, any township officials elected or appointed after September 29, 2015 will receive a 5% pay increase once they take office.

Trustee Horn made a motion to approve checks 24837 through 24849, and EFT 2015-567 through EFT 2015-604, after being certified that funds are available and appropriations have been made by Fiscal Officer Kraner. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Comments from the floor –

Bobbie Slater asked why ODNR is putting a 6 foot fence in front of the properties on West Bank and North Bank during the construction of the new dam. Also, which side of the sidewalk would the fence be on – the lake side or the property owner’s side.

There was a discussion regarding the difficulty of fire and ems to access these homes with the fence in place.

Department Reports

Chief Hite – Thurston Walnut Township Fire Department – Captain Traster and Terry Enswiler have resigned. Lt. Schmidt has been promoted to EMS Captain. Ben May and Jared Daily are being removed due to lack of availability.

The furniture at the station was infested with bed bugs and was removed, the station was professionally treated. New furniture will need to be purchased.

Engine 2 was sold for \$2,900.

There was a discussion regarding contacting the fiscal officer when the firefighters have questions or need information. Previously, Chief Hite and Fiscal Officer Kraner had discussed that all contact would go through him or Jamie Carroll. This ensures that they are aware of what information is needed. Fiscal Officer Kraner has requested that Chief Hite send a text so that she can respond promptly.

There was a discussion regarding requiring Knox Box’s at commercial properties. Chief Hite stated that there is no way to enforce at this time because the township has not adopted the Ohio Fire Code. Trustee Yates made a motion to adopt the Ohio Fire Code in Walnut Township to give the fire department jurisdiction to enforce the fire code. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

This will be used to require all new commercial builds to have Knox BoxOX’s and require the Fire Chief to sign-off on any new structure before occupancy is granted.

Kevin Clouse, Zoning Inspector – Kevin has had 65 permits so far in 2015.

He notified the county regarding the Buckeye Lake Winery plans to place advertising signs and was told that they cannot be in the right of way. Ohio Locos is the signage company the winery is working with and they were notified of this requirement. Kevin measured 20 feet from the center line and it is in the mowing area, so it is possible signs can be placed there.

A property owner at Ivy and Cypress roads is looking to convert an existing structure into a residence, which would give them 2 dwellings on the same piece of property. The definition of R2 zoning leaves room for interpretation as to whether this is permitted. Kevin is suggesting removal of the 's' on residences to indicate that only one residence may be located on an R2 property.

Tim Morris – Road Supervisor – The township did not receive the Critical Infrastructure Grant for the roads at Fairfield Beach. The Fairfield County Commissioners did approve a grant to the township of approximately \$106,000 that will be used in 2016 for road resurfacing at Fairfield Beach.

Trustee Horn suggested that a letter be written to the Commissioners thanking them for their assistance in the application process and for the \$106,000 grant for roads in Fairfield Beach. He asked that Fiscal Officer Kraner prepare the letter.

Truck 6 needs to have the radiator repaired and the oil pan replaced.

Mike and Tim will be meeting with Jeremiah Upp, Eric McCrady and Jeff Baird from the Fairfield County Engineer's office to discuss their concerns regarding road conditions and the equipment that will be using the roads during the dam construction. They will be asking ODNR to make repairs to the roads for any damage their equipment causes but they can't require them to repair. The county will be making the contact and doing all the paperwork. Jeremiah Upp will also be contacting Representatives Stivers and Balderson regarding the concerns about road damage.

Jason Wesley from ODNR wants to have trees along Lieb's Island road embankment removed and is asking who owns the road. Tim has contacted the state to find out the ownership as the township does not know who owns the road, as of now it belongs to the township.

Tim is working on the Issue 2 application for Cherry Lane Phase III.

The bond release for Utility Pipeline requested by Kyle Underwood was signed and Fiscal Officer Kraner will mail.

Doug Cooperrider from Shelly suggested not resurfacing the section of Sellers Drive that will be used as a staging area for the dam construction. Tim has decided to use the funds to resurface a 1,000 foot section of Old Millersport Road

Tim asked if additional funds are available for durapatching for 2015. He and Mike are making good progress but have used the majority of the funds in the current purchase orders. Trustee Leith made a motion to approve an additional \$15,000 in funds for the durapatcher; to be distributed between the emulsion, stone and trucking as Tim designates. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

The trucks have been cleaned and are ready for the parade.

Old Business

Fiscal Officer Kraner will follow-up with Jason Dolan and Burnham and Flowers.

New Business

The Trustee will meet at 5:00 for the parade.

Mr. Albers responded regarding the Thurston annexation and stated that there isn't anything the township can do to stop it.

A resident at Fairfield Beach has requested that the stop sign at Alder and Grove be moved to the hill. Tim will check on a traffic study and follow-up with the resident. .

At 8:54 PM, Trustee Horn made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Lynn Kraner, Fiscal Officer

William Yates, Chairman

Terry Horn

Doug Leith