

Walnut Township Trustees Regular Meeting

August 1, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Trustees Horn, Leith, Yates & Fiscal Officer Kraner were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance:

Tim Morris – Roads and Parks Supervisor; Mike Berry – Zoning Inspector; Chief Hite – TWTFD and eight (8) guests.

Approve Minutes

June 6 – Regular Meeting: Fiscal Officer Lynn Kraner stated these minutes have not yet been completed.

July 11 – Regular Meeting: Trustee Horn moved to accept the July 11 minutes with discussed corrections. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. Motion passed with three (3) yes votes.

February 7, March 7, and March 16 Regular/Special Meeting: Trustee Horn stated he still hasn't seen the corrected version of minutes for this meeting. Fiscal Officer Kraner stated that she provided those in April or May and there are no other corrections to be made, but agreed to re-send them to Trustee Horn via email.

Approval of Financial Reports & Bills for Payment

Fiscal Officer Kraner asked for approval for checks #25315 thru #25318, and EFT's #592 thru #677.

Trustee Yates moved to approve the checks. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. Motion passed with three (3) yes votes.

F.O. Kraner then states she also needs the reports acknowledged. Trustee Yates made acknowledgement of the reports.

Comments from the floor

Bob Ousley, of Fairfield Beach, asked if anything is planned to be done for the runoff water along Forest, Elm & Grove in Fairfield Beach? They are getting a lot of water running from other streets in the area.

Tim Morris stated that much of Fairfield Beach was flooded out with the recent rain storm. Walnut Township is simply not set up to accept ten inches of rain. However, on Elm St. there was a ditch widened after the flood. He pointed out that ditches can also be cleaned out/repared or replace culverts where needed, if residents inform him of where they are seeing issues. Tim said he's also willing to meet with

members of the community to discuss ideas. He stated ideally, we need an additional storm sewer but we simply can't afford it. Trustee Yates stated that he thinks it would be a good idea for citizens to connect with Tim. Tim then stated it is on his list to clean the ditch out on Rosewood, but with as much rain as we had recently it wouldn't have made a difference during the last storm.

Mr. Ousley then stated that this issue in his neighborhood has been a problem for years, well before the recent storm. They've asked for the ditch in front of their house to be cleaned a few times and nothing has been done. Someone came out one time and dug up a different area of their yard, so he thought there was a miscommunication somewhere.

Trustee Horn asked if there were any ditches that have been closed with culverts in that area? Tim said there are a few, but the problem is you can only have so much cover on a culvert going across a road. When doing that, it cuts down the amount of water able to flow through it.

Rick Cochran, of Fairfield Beach, said he's had several neighbors complain about several hogs on Fairfield Beach, specifically on the corner of Pine Rd. & Daliah Rd. on the SE corner. Trustee Horn stated he's sure that's something that can be taken care of. Trustee Yates said that under Ohio law, animals like that are not allowed as it depends on number of citizens in an area. He suggested to the residents that they call the sheriff. Trustee Leith stated that Mike Berry can follow up, as the Zoning Inspector but also suggested that they call the sheriff.

Kim Ousley stated that by their house, on Elm Rd., there is a house that used to be a modular classroom. It's been vacant for years now and she was curious if there is a status update as to what is going to be done with it? She said someone is still cutting and maintaining the grass. Trustee Leith said they will look into the situation.

Mr. Ousley then asked if there are any ordinances on Fairfield Beach for trash/junk, etc.? He said years ago, someone used to come around and force people to get rid of trash but now there are items sitting outside, such as a TV, for over a month. Tim said the Township cannot really help but he could call the Sheriff, who can then ask the Waste Management company for assistance. Tim said he will call tomorrow.

Trustee Horn then clarified that we can work to have anything unsanitary, potentially affecting people's health cleaned up. He also stated that the Township can send letters to residents regarding trash which can help.

Mr. Cochran then asked what is the zoning around bringing in campers and making new trailer parks, such as off of Shell Beach Rd.? Mike Berry clarified that you cannot have a camper or RV as a dwelling/permanent home. Mr. Cochran stated they have a fence around it, patio, even an outhouse. Mike said there cannot be more than two RV's or campers, and they cannot be in the front yard but there is a fine line between it being considered a dwelling vs. someone staying there for the weekend. Mr. Cochran clarified it doesn't really look bad but he's just concerned about this possibly turning into a huge trailer park. Mike said he will talk to the residents.

Township Department Reports

Thurston-Walnut Fire Department– Jim Hite

Chief Hite stated he needs approval to move Mike Rogers from volunteer to part-time at a rate of \$9.00/hr.

Due to the accident at the station on July 24, the deductible to repair the building is \$1,000 and the deductible for fixing the engine is \$500. The employee was taken for drug-testing, per standard policy.

Chief Hite has also been working on applying for two BWC grants; the first one of which was discussed at the last meeting and will be put towards a chest compression machine. The second grant is specifically for fire stations with payroll under \$500,000, which they qualify for. The grant would be \$15,000 to be put towards gloves, hoods and a washer for fire gear. Currently, the quote they've been given is for \$15,540 so Chief Hite is expecting their response to be to either cut the quote down or pay the extra \$540 themselves.

Zoning – Mike Berry

Zoning permit activity for July: three new homes, two pools, two fences, one deck and two accessory buildings. Mike is also working on moving three junk cars.

Mike talked with Mike Bryson who has 4.788 acres zoned R2 in New Salem and wants to have the zoning changed to Rural Residential. Mr. Bryson believes the Trustees told him during a previous meeting that once he had 5 acres that the zoning could be changed to Rural Residential upon request and wanted to verify this. Trustee Horn said the zoning district would have to be changed according to the Zoning Resolution and re-zoning process.

Parks & Roads – Tim Morris

Tim stated there has been a complaint around mowing in the park. He said that the Trustees made a decision to cut down on the frequency of mowing in the parks to save money. They used to be mowed weekly but are now only being done every other week.

He met with the Prosecuting Attorney, Joshua Horacek, regarding the drainage issue between two residents on Grant Ave. in Hollywood Farms. Joshua told Tim that because it's not flooding the roads and is not on a dedicated road right-of-way, the Township can't do much to help this situation. However, Joshua also said he would do some research on it.

There was discussion with Rich Warren of Grant Ave. regarding a culvert that was recently dug up by a neighbor and is now causing flooding in the area. Mr. Warren believes the culvert was originally installed by the Township and would like for the Township to replace it. Tim stated that this culvert is not on a dedicated portion of the public roadway and that we cannot work on it. This was confirmed by Joshua Horacek at with the prosecutor's office. Joshua will be doing some additional research to confirm.

The Prosecuting Attorney also asked if we had any traffic incidents on Taylor Ave. (this is pertaining to the parking issue dispute between neighbors)? Tim told him no, there have been no traffic incidents. Mr. Horacek then told Tim to drop the issue and leave it alone, as it's a civil dispute.

Tim also met with John Cleek of CDC who was working on the Community Development Block Grant for Regional Planning. Tim has determined that there is not enough time to finish the Townships in-kind work because of the delay in the project due to the archeological study. The in-kind work includes tree trimming, ditch cleaning, etc. The Grant work will be bid next year. Trustee Leith then stated that from a budget standpoint, we need to ensure that the money allotted for that project is carried over.

Tim also provided an update on the Sign Safety Grant; we have received all but five signs, with the missing ones now on their way. Once the remaining signs are in, we have one year to get the signs installed.

Trustee Leith asked Tim if Leitnaker Rd. is done? Tim confirmed that is correct. He also stated that Leonard Rd. will be chip & sealed.

Old Business

Update on Aetna 2016 Payment

Fiscal Officer Kraner said the issue was that she was supposed to give Aetna 30-day notice of the Township canceling the insurance. She disputed everything he was saying and ultimately the attorney said that if Lynn could provide documentation of the fact we had insurance as of January 1, we would not owe them any money. Lynn sent the paperwork and is awaiting confirmation of their receipt.

Ballards Lane Ditch Petition

County Commissioners Hearing is scheduled for August 22 at the Fairfield County Courthouse at 10:30 AM.

New Business

Village 2017 Salt Contracts

Trustee Leith stated we will bill the villages the same way we have in the past. We have some salt left in the barn now, so once we get through that and eventually have to get a new shipment, we will go to the **new contracted cost of \$__.**

Trustee Leith moved to accept the motion. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with three (3) yes votes.

PNC Request for Employment Verification

Fiscal Officer Kraner stated that this has been taken care of.

Shepherd Ave. Storm Sewer

Trustee Horn would like to make a clarification on the project on Shepherd Ave. Tim Shaffer was unable to confirm that money will be available from the Lakes in Distress fund to assist with this project. Ohio Public Works Commission requires a 25% up-front fee, which we were hoping to come from the Lakes in Distress fund.

Trustee Horn reported that he believes the start of the design of the storm sewer should be put on an indefinite hold since the Lakes in Distress fund source has not been finalized. Once funding has been identified we can go for the Ohio Public Works grant.

There was discussion about hiring FeeCorp to video the present storm lines to determine if we can find any blockages and fix them on the spot if any. In addition, we would have a record of the location of the lines that we could use for the design of a new system. The cost is \$1,482/day and Tim thinks it would take 1-2 days to complete.

Trustee Horn then suggested we give Tim a \$4,000 budget to determine exactly what the issue is with the storm water on Shepherd. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. Motion was approved with three (3) yes votes.

Sweet Corn Festival

Request from Kim Keener to approve the use of some of our roads for a 5K race. Trustee Horn moved to approve. Trustee Yates moved to second the motion. Motion was passed with three (3) yes votes.

Buckeye Lake 2030

The Township received a copy of the signed Community Support document this week.

Additional comments from the floor

Tim stated he received a phone call from Baltimore PD about a stray donkey on Cherry Lane. He informed them he does not have the ability to pick up a donkey and was unable to provide assistance. He wanted to make the Trustees aware of the situation in case they hear about it.

Executive Session

At 8:49 PM, Trustee Leith moved to move into Executive Session in accordance with ORC 121.22-G8-2 to discuss Economic Development. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. Motion was passed with three (3) yes votes.

Executive Session ended at 9:03. Trustee Yates moved to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Leith seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:05.

Minutes Recorded by Shannon Franz

Lynn Kraner, Fiscal Officer

William Yates

Terry Horn

Doug Leith, Chairman