

Walnut Township Trustees Meeting

April 7, 2015

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

Trustee Horn made a motion to approve checks 24700 through 24715 and EFTS – 2015-203 through 2015-237, 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.

There was a brief discussion regarding the State Treasurer's new transparent checkbook. Fiscal Officer Kraner will check to see what the township needs to do to participate in this program.

Comments

Ray Sowers, Decker Avenue at Fairfield Beach wanted to know if the Trustees had heard anything about the vacation of Fisher Street. The Trustees have not.

Department Reports

Chief Hite, Thurston Walnut Township Fire Department – The department is looking to replace the car because of costly repairs needed. They have applied for a Block Grant to replace the station generator. They have applied for the BWC grant to purchase 3 Lucas Devices (mechanical CPR device). The department is having a fundraiser on May 30th.

Kevin Clouse, Zoning Inspector – Kevin is attending the RPC meeting.

Mike King - Recycling – Recycling is going great.

Tim Morris – Road Supervisor – PortaJons have been delivered to the Fairfield Beach and New Salem parks.

Tim and Mike continue to patch the roads.

Tim spoke with Joe Weise, ODNR, regarding taking out the trees along Leib's Island Road. It has not been determined who has the responsibility for the road right-of-way; it has been sent to the state to research. The contractor working on the dredging, Mark, has stated that there is washout under Leib's Island Road.

The question was raised as to whether ODNR and barges have to follow the weight requirements of the roads and have the applicable permits. They do have to meet the same requirements.

The county has purchased a Go-Pro to record road conditions.

Tim will be on vacation next week and can accept emails.

Old Business

The Resolution for the County Land Use Plan is pending.

New Business

U.S. Senator Portman sent a letter to follow-up the letter sent by the Trustees. Steven White, his central Ohio liaison, is available to speak with the Trustees on April 20th or 21st.

There will be a meeting in Hebron on April 13th to plan for the Evacuation Drill scheduled for April 25th.

The Trustees would like additional information regarding what is the short term plan for the dam replacement, long term plan and what can be done to complete it in a shorter time period. The Trustees would like to be in the loop to get information as it becomes available.

Trustee Yates will contact Senator Portman's office and will attend the meeting with Tim Schaffer to ask about a boat for the Millersport Fire Department.

There was a discussion regarding putting speed bumps on Summerland Beach Road which is a request of a resident. It is permitted if the county approves. Tim will request that the deputies patrol and give warnings to speeders.

The next Ohio Township Association is June 27th at Berne Township.

The county is requesting an update on the end of Weight Reduction on township roads. This year, there aren't any roads with restrictions.

John Albers responded to a question of the Trustees regarding whether a JEDD prevents the land from being annexed. The JEDD will not block annexation. A municipality can annex land within a JEDD that they are not a party to. Additionally, he recommends doing a JEDD with an entity that has the infrastructure in place.

There are 130 tons of salt remaining on the contract that the township is required to purchase, however, Tim is not sure when we will have to take. The salt/ton rate for 2015/20166 is not available at this time.

The regular Thurston meeting is tomorrow evening. The new Thurston system water has been switched over and the benefit is that it is better tasting with better pressure and the tower is in service. Currently the rates are the same as Baltimore however Thurston will reassess around July 1st. They are currently applying for several grants that would help cover the interest on their loans.

When the Zoning amendments come back to the Trustees, they will have the option to accept any recommendations, reject any recommendations or modify any recommendations. The RPC is formalizing their response at their meeting this evening.

At the property at 13050 Shell Beach Rd, the owners were constructing a temporary structure. Kevin has given them a verbal notice to halt construction. They stated that they have no place to store items while building a permanent structure and would like 90 days with a temporary structure.

At 8:05 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