Walnut Township Trustees Regular Meeting

Date: December 2, 2019 Time: 7:00 p.m. Recorder: Patricia McLoughlin

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Attendee	Present	Attendee	Present	Attendee	Present
Bill Yates, Trustee Chairman	X	Jane Baker, Fiscal Officer	X	Chief Bob Price, MFD	x
Terry Horn, Trustee	X	Tim Morris, Roads & Parks	X	Chief Jim Hite, WTFD	X
Doug Leith, Trustee	X	Mike Berry, Zoning Inspector	X	9 Guests	X
		Mike King, Recycling			

Discussion Summary	Action/Decision/Follow-Up
Approval of minutes from November 5, 2019 Regular Meeting	Motion by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn.  Roll call: Yates – yes, Horn – yes, Leith – yes.  Motion passed with 3 YES votes.
Approval of minutes from November 13, 2019 Special Meeting	Motion by Trustee Horn, second by Trustee Leith, Roll call: Yates – yes, Horn – yes, Leith – yes.  Motion passed with 3 YES votes.
Financial Report: Jane Baker, Fiscal Officer: Approval of checks #25507 Approval of EFTS #1130 - #1215 Approval of invoice for Patricia McLoughlin Approval to accept cash summary and fund status report	Motion to approve financial report by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn.  Roll call: Yates – yes, Horn – yes, Leith – yes.  Motion passed with 3 YES votes.

Fiscal Officer's additions: Jane said that she wanted to discuss an email sent by Chief Hite regarding the TWTFD budget. She asked Chief Hite if he presented his budget to the Village of Thurston? She said that the contract states that he must present the budget 60 days prior to the end of the year. She said that Chief Hite did bring it to the township. She asked for Chief Hite to clarify his request to spend \$350,000.00 for payroll? (35% of the budgeted amount for 2019). He replied yes. She said that he has already presented \$390,000.00 for payroll; \$40,000.00 over budget, with almost \$20,846.00 in overtime. She shows a budget with Thurston of \$190,000.00. She is showing a remaining balance of \$192,000.00, which leaves no room to take extra funds. . . EMS is separate: \$33,321.00. Based on what was spent by Walnut Township-Thurston Fire Department, there are no monies for an increase. Jane presented a copy of the budget that was approved and sent to the County Auditor's Office. The Township budget spent is \$3,009,338.06 and budget revenue is \$2,507,000.00 putting us into reserves of \$501,000.00 Trustee Chairman Yates requested a separate budget line item for legal fees; Jane responded that was included in contracted fees, but she would split out a

separate line item for legal fees.

Comments from the public: Chet Hauck, resident of the lake for over 40 years, purchased a house at 3136 Maple Avenue. Chet wants to volunteer to remove 6 trees on and perhaps applying some fertilizer to the grass. Approximately \$3,000 estimate from Simply Tree Service. Chet asked for the Trustees permission to do so. In addition, Chet asked the Trustees for support when discussing this with ODNR. Tim Morris said he would need a certificate of liability from the tree service prior to work being done.

Trustee Leith said that he wanted to provide support from the Trustees for Mr. Hauck with ODNR.

Ron Smith of 3906 South Bank Rd.. addressed the Trustees regarding the center lines on South Bank Rd. and asked that the center lines be moved particularly on the curves.

Tim indicated that a study would have to be paid for by the Township.

## **Township Department Reports:**

Millersport Fire Department: Chief Bob Price – 80 runs MTD, 1159 YTD. #632 to go in for repair, stability issues. As of 12/6 the boats will be out of the water. The fire department received a \$3,000 donation for the hydraulic covers.

Walnut Township-Thurston Fire Department: Chief Jim Hite – see report attached.

Motion by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn Roll call: Yates - yes, Horn yes, Leith - yes. Motion passed with 3 YES votes.

Trustee Horn moved to accept the generous offer from Mr. Houck, second offered by Trustee Leith.

Roll call: Yates - yes, Horn yes, Leith – yes. Motion passed with 3 YES votes.

Regional Planning Commission Representative – Trustee Horn had a person who expressed interest, but still no candidates.	
Zoning – Mike Berry – Permits: (10)  • 5 additions  • 2 sheds  • 1 variance – hearing December 12, 2019  • 1 Ag exempt  • 1 Commercial  • 4 violation letters	
Trustee Horn noted that the terms of Ben Patterson, Zoning Commission, and Mark Helms, BZA would be ending in 2019. It was decided to ask these gentlemen if they would serve another 5-year term. There is still an open position for an alternate on the BZA, Trustee Horn will advertise on Facebook for the BZA alternate and the Regional Planning Commission Representative.	
Recycling: Mike King – any updates on the trailers? Mike is to contact Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action in the morning. Trustee Horn suggested signs stating video surveillance be posted.	
Roads & Parks – Tim Morris  Working on new mowing bid package for 2020. He suggested that each park be broken down separately and have certified spraying license. Tim discussed with Jane the possibility of hiring a part time person for spraying.  Truck 2 – the front end is gone, with a \$4500.00 estimate for repair. Tim said the equipment is aging and this is going to be an ongoing problem.  Tim put together a list of equipment inventory for insurance purposes and with Trustee approval he will send to Cheryl Downhour at the County Engineer's Office.	
Old Business: 5725 Blacklick Eastern (aka SR 204) – letter was sent to property owner on November 22, 2019 and they were given 30 days to comply to render the property in a condition no longer dangerous to life or health or unfit for human habitation.	
Office data storage – Drop Box was updated, Trustee Horn to get together with Jeff Swartz to discuss data storage.	

## **New Business:**

Property maintenance code – Special meeting: Trustees to meet with the City of Lancaster Law Director representative Dan Cogley on Friday, December 6, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

Trustee Leith represents the Township on the District Advisory Committee for the County Health Department and attended their November 7, 2019 meeting. The CHD requested a 5-7% increase in monies to the townships and villages for the next budget. The DAC passed a motion stating no increase in monies for the next budget. The CHD requested DAC approval for a new negotiated 2 year contract for service to the city of Lancaster. Proposed contract stated a 2.5^ increase for 2020 and no increase for 2021. DAC approved by motion a one year only contract for a 2.5% increase for 2020.

Walnut Township Trustees Reorganization Meeting to be held January 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., with a regular meeting to follow.

Motion by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn, Roll call\_Yates – yes. Horn – yes,, Leith – Yes. Motion passed with 3 YES votes.

Motion for Trustees to enter into Executive Session for personnel ORC 121.22G

Motion by Trustee Horn to enter into Executive Session,

at 8:45 p.m. second by Trustee Yates. Roll call: Yates - yes, Horn yes, Leith – yes. Motion passed with 3 YES votes. Trustees exited Executive Session at 9:40 p.m. Motion by Trustee Leith, Trustees voted to give a 3% raise to Tim Morris, Mike King and Mike Berry second by Trustee Horn. Roll call: Yates – yes, Horn effective January 1, 2020. yes. Leith – yes. Motion passed with 3 YES votes. Motion by Trustee Horn to give raises, second by Trustees also voted to give a \$1500.00 bonus to Tim Morris and a \$500.00 bonus to Mike King. Trustee Leith. Roll call: Yates – yes, Horn - yes, Leith - yes. Motion by Trustee Horn to give bonuses, second by Trustees voted to increase hourly rate for Recording Secretary Patricia McLoughlin to \$13.00 per hour effective January 1, 2020. Trustee Leith. Roll call: Yates - yes, Horn yes, Leith – yes. Motion passed with 3 YES votes. Motion by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn. Motion to set the 2020 Reorganization meeting for January 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Roll call: Yates - yes, Horn yes, Leith – yes. Motion passed with 3 YES votes. Motion by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn. Roll call: Yates - yes, Horn -Motion to adjourn at 10:20 p.m. yes, Leith – yes. Motion passed with 3 YES votes.

Trustee Chairman Yates	Trustee Terry Horn
Trustee Doug Leith	Fiscal Officer Jane Baker