

**MINUTES OF THE:
WALNUT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
March 01, 2022 - 7:00 PM**

Township Officials present:

Trustees Terry W. Horn, William R. Yates and Douglas G. Leith.

Fiscal Officer Jane Baker was absent. Pam Shaloo, deputy fiscal officer, was present.

Department Heads present:

Fire Chief - Robert Price;

Zoning Inspector – Mike Berry

Roads and Parks Supervisor – Nate Wagner

Number of members of the public present: 32

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Trustee Chairman Yates and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

MEETING PROCEEDINGS

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for February 1, 2022 Regular Mtg were presented for approval. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve the minutes. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

The minutes for February 15, 2022 Special Mtg were presented for approval. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve the minutes. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 2 yes votes and 1 abstention.

Financial Report – Deputy Fiscal Officer, Pam Shaloo

Approval of Checks #: 25761 to 25766. Approval of Electronic Fund Transfers #: 62 to 130.

Trustee Leith made a motion to approve checks #25761 through #25766 and Electronic Fund Transfers #62 through #130, after being certified that funds are available and appropriations have been made by

Fiscal Officer Baker. Trustee Horn acknowledged Investment Listing, Appropriation Summary, Cash Summary, Fund Status and Payment Listing. They also signed off on Bank Reconciliations. Motion for approval of checks and Electronic Fund Transfer by Trustee Leith. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Resolution # 07-2022 – Deputy Fiscal Officer, Shaloo, this Resolution is for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds; Transfer from the general fund to the Sub Grant – it's a place holder until we get the money back from the sub grant and then we'll move it back to general fund. Fund #2273 is ARPA, Grant #1, Fund #2274 is ARPA Sub Grant #2 (\$400,000.00 to be transferred, amount of Sub Grant). Motion to approve the Resolution by Trustee Leith, funding coming from North Walnut Conveyance Study seconded by Trustee Horn. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Comments from the public:

1. A few residents had questions about the stormwater study on Fairfield Beach and wondered if there could possibility be something like that done on Lieb's Island due to flooding there, too? Chairman Yates and Trustee Horn provided the backdrop for the study and suggested sending photos and documenting damages in dollars from as far back as they could, to help the township get additional FEMA Grants.

2. Many residents were attending the meeting to talk about the docks on Lieb's Island. Due to rumors and misinformation spreading, residents Michelle Glenn, Kenny Bank, Wayne Conway, and Dorinda Geer and others wanted to get some answers to their questions and concerns about dock fees and dock ownership. Trustee Leith spoke with the group and reassured them that no decisions had been made about the docks, but he wanted to get it set up as boat season was approaching. There was discussion about Walnut Township Lagoon and Runkle Parks dock fees on Lieb's Island. Only inland property owners have access to the Township Park docks. He did invite the residents to be a part of the solution to any costs that might be incurred this summer (perhaps up to \$200.00) but that will be reviewed by the Township to determine if that is the appropriate amount to cover costs. Trustee Leith will be working to update the Rules and Regulations that will become a part of the agreement with Island renters. He thanked them for being there to provide input to the discussion. To keep the ball rolling, Chair Yates made a motion to adopt the Walnut Township Dock Rules with adjustments as noted by Trustee Leith using Options 2 & 3 as the basis. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. It passed with 3 yes votes.

3. Mr. Duncan, had two questions: Is Tornado Shelter still moving along? And what's the Status on the Fairfield Beach Stormwater Conveyance Study. Trustee Horn said that the Fairfield Beach Stormwater Conveyance Study is a longer discussion and he didn't have a quick answer for him. The grant money has to be obligated by the end of 2024. We have to find a place for water detention, and we have to find a place for water quality improvement, and we don't have those. We don't have an engineered plan, so we don't know what size the detention has to be, we don't know what size of area of the water quality component so there's a lot of unknowns. We were hoping to put another grant with this – but we may not have time to get another grant with it because of timing and deadlines to spend the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Township Fire Department - Chief Price is going to cancel the postal mailbox fee in Thurston and move the mail to the new firehouse.

A pay scale was missed in previous meeting for EMT intermediate (EMTI) which needs to be added at \$15.00/hr. Trustee Horn made a motion to add the EMTI to \$15.00/hour retroactive to February 1. Trustee Leith seconded. The motion was passed with 3 yes votes.

AED heart monitors are located at 2 of the stations provided through Fairfield Medical Center. They are working to get one in downtown Millersport and at Lieb's Island State Park.

He would like Batteries Unlimited to be added to the approved Vendor's list. He will work with the Fiscal Officer. Chair Yates says that if you need something, put the vendor on the list and don't wait a month for approval.

There has been no official insurance filing on Building 631 for storm damage. Ice tore off the front gutter and half of the gutter on the back of the building. He will call about that tomorrow to see what the insurance will cover.

All American provided a quote on Thermal Imaging Cameras for two fire trucks and the rescue unit. For 3 Thermal Imaging Cameras by Flir (2 @ \$2716, 1 @\$2725), 2 truck chargers (\$450.00 each), and 2 hand-helds (\$435.00 each) the quote came to \$10,000.00. Trustee Horn moved to allow Chief Price to purchase the cameras & chargers. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. It passed with 3 yes votes. Chairman Yates said it was OK to take the money from EMS billing.

3 more trucks are going in for Department of Transportation (DOT) annual inspections and preventive maintenance.

Chairman Yates is calling a Special Meeting for Tuesday, March 22 at 7:00 pm. The Fire Department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (S.C.B.A.) opening bids will be the topic of discussion that evening.

The drug dispensing machine approved at last month's meeting has been backordered and should arrive in 4 months.

Roads and Parks Supervisor:

Nate Wagner has been working on the Tornado Shelter.

He said the storm on Feb. 3 & 4 was costly and tough on equipment. It took a week to clean off the snow and ice from the roads.

300 tons of salt have been received and the contract is fulfilled. Hopefully that will get the Township through the remainder of the winter.

The 2022-2023 ODOT salt contracts are due in April so we need that on the agenda next month.

Air tanks and windshield wipers on Truck #6 needed repaired at a cost of \$1600.00. Tools have now been purchased at a cost of \$400.00. Instead of sending trucks out for repair, Nate now has most everything he needs to make most repairs in house.

10 tons of cold patch for pot holes have been received and they will be working on this week.

The Township did not receive the ODOT grant Nate applied for.

Mowing quotes have been received by Lynnwood Services, Thornville, OH. The prices have not been raised for this year (\$603.00 per mowing) plus there was a quote for the New Walnut Township Fire Station 630 for \$109.00 per mowing.

Zoning Inspector – Mike Berry’s report for February;

7 permits were issued; 2 for homes, 2 for additions, 1 for a sign, 1 for a fence and 1 for a pool.

He issued 2 letters for violations: A shed with no permit (getting application), a new deck with no permit (now in process of application). There is also a Fence on Refugee St that had a letter sent on 26 February.

Still working with the lot split for Mr. Duncan on Beaver and Pine.

A letter was received today (03 01 22) from the Bishop family who had Zoning Permit #21-110 issued and paid for on August 10, 2021. They are asking for a refund of the amount of \$800.00 because they have given up on building on that lot due to the illness of Mr. Bishop. Trustee Leith moved that the Township refund the money due to extenuating circumstances. It was seconded by Trustee Horn and it was passed with 3 yes votes.

A Zoning Commission Mtg is scheduled for March 17 at 7:00 pm

Property Maintenance:

Scott Arnold was absent but Trustee Horn said that Mr. Arnold will need to sign documents for the City of Lancaster’s Law Director’s Office to start the legal process for 5507 Orchid Dr. when he returns this week.

OLD BUSINESS

North Walnut Township Stormwater Conveyance Study and agreement with MS Consultants:

The Fee is \$428,423.00 and the finish date is December 31, 2022 with MS Consultants. Chair Yates wants to be sure that the plan becomes ours after that so we as a Township can build upon it. Trustee Horn made a motion to accept the agreement with MS Consultants, dated 03-01-2022. Trustee Leith seconded it. The motion passed with 3 yes votes. This agreement is associated with Resolution #18-2021.

Fairfield Beach Stormwater - review and update:

Trustee Horn reviewed information gathered thus far. There are three components for the system: 1) the pipe, 2) detention pond – detaining the water so it doesn't enter the lake faster than what it currently does and 3) water quality – keeping it the same as it is now, to filter out pollutants so the water entering the lake is as clean as it would be before the new system is installed. Chair Yates – as long as it doesn't destroy the park.

Trustee Horn; we have to have a plan so that funds are obligated by the end of 2024, options for additional funding; H2Ohio Grant application is due April 1 – there is not enough time for apply for this, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program through FEMA, there are not enough historic damages to qualify for this grant.

Rough numbers from Eric McCrady of the Fairfield Co. Engineer's Office; \$120.00 per ft for pipe @ 3520 linear feet = \$422,000.00 total cost just for the pipe per the current preliminary plan Not included is design, detention pond, water quality component and the land. We will not be able to do the entire project with \$424,000 that is now available

An ecological (ECO) survey is needed as a first step and would cost approximately \$3500.00

Big unknowns for us: How much land does the detention pond need and how much land does the water quality component need.

Trustee Horn will attend the Allocation Grant Hearing, scheduled for March 15th with Nate to see if this grant can be used in conjunction with ARPA funds to help with this project.

Trustee Horn will talk to a consultant to try and determine the design fee for this project.

NEW BUSINESS

No specific new business items were discussed

Adjournment: At 11:02 PM, Trustee Leith made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Minutes Recorded By: Diane Powell

Jane Baker, Fiscal Officer

William Yates, Chairman

Doug Leith, Vice Chairman

Terry Horn