

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

WALNUT TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OH - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

11420 Millersport Rd., Millersport, OH 43067

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2025 – 7:00 PM

#### **Township Officials present:**

Trustees Terry W. Horn, William R. Yates and Fiscal Officer (FO) Amy Amspaugh, were present. Trustee Douglas G. Leith was absent

#### **Department Heads/Staff present:**

Roads & Parks Supervisor - Nate Wagner; Zoning Inspector - Mike Berry; Fire Chief- Bob Price; Township Administrator- Tammy Oliver were present. Property Maintenance Inspector - Kelly Smith were absent. The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Trustee Chairman Yates.

**Invited guest(s) present:** Fairfield County Sheriff's Office – Sgt. Luke Williams.

**Number of members of the public present:** 13 as recorded on Sign-in sheets.

### MEETING PROCEEDINGS

**Sgt. Williams** – Shared from the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office January 2025 reports. Several people did state that the speed trailer out at Fairfield Beach by the Tornado shelter has made a difference in speeding cars.

**Comments from the public:** A group from the Village of Baltimore came and explained a housing development they are planning to build. They would like to have a meeting with Walnut Township about this matter. We will set up a date to discuss later. Mayor Gina Matos thanked the Fire Department for all their life saving work they have done in the past month.

#### **Parks and Roads Supervisor – Nate Wagner;**

**Roads:** Nate asked Carol King to put a blurb in the paper about snow plow safety on the road to the public about staying back and giving them room. Old salt barn is getting cleaned out. He has ordered salt and ordering more. Truck 5 broke down and had to have fixed.

**Park:** Nothing to report.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Trustee Horn made a moved to approve the meeting minutes for the January 15, 2025 Re-organization meeting. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 2 yes votes.

Trustee Horn moved to approve the meeting minutes for the January 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.

Trustee Horn moved to approve the meeting minutes for the January 30, 2025 Hearing #24-125. Seconded by Yates. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.

Trustee Horn moved to approve the meeting minutes for January 30, 2025 Special Meeting. Seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.

It was decided to hold on approving the minutes for the January 22, 2025 Special Meeting.

#### **Financial Report – Fiscal Officer, Amy Amspaugh:**

1. Amy reported the status of the current 7- month CD we have with Vinton County Bank, that comes to term in April 2025. She reported that she opened a new 6- month CD for \$1 million with Vinton County Bank with a current rate of 4.01%.

2. Amy would like to meet on March 12<sup>th</sup> to go over the budget and Permanent Appropriations for 2025. Trustee Horn moved to have a Special meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> to go over the budget and Permanent Appropriations for 2025. Seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.
3. Fifth Third Bank: Trustee Horn went and received all the information we need to have the Fiscal Officer, Amy Amspaugh added to the account. Amy would like to have all the Trustees on the account as signers with her. And have Tammy Oliver added with reading rights. Trustee Horn moved to add signers of Horn, Yates, and Leith to the Fifth Third account. Seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Township Fire Department - Chief Robert Price;** We applied and received the first payment of the Safer Grant for 2023. He has applied for 2024 and waiting to see if it gets approved and we get money back for it. He stated we took possession of the new ladder truck on January 31<sup>s</sup> 2025. Will be having training on the new truck soon for our Firefighters. Hoping to have it in service By March 17<sup>th</sup>

### **Zoning – Mike Berry**

10 permits issued in January: 4 homes, 1 fence; 4 variances; 1 residential solar. Sent out 20 letters all were variances. Semi-trailer has been removed. Returned 65 phone calls. Prosecutors' office has taken the first steps on the Short-Term rental.

### **Parks and Roads Supervisor – Nate Wagner;**

**Parks:** We have received a Nature Works agreement for Leibs Island from ODNR and Amy Brown-Thompson, Prosecuting Attorney has executed and Nate is ready to sign it. Nate is putting together a lawncare package for the next meeting. We meet the threshold we must put out for bids and he wants to advertise for proposals. And the next meeting we will review the proposals and decide lawncare for next year. Bickel Church road is failing between Millersport Rd and Lake Rd. The top coat is crumbling and the sub base is sponge. He has put signs out stating it is "rough road" until the time comes, we can fix it when weather is warmer. He has received the tornado shelter occupy permit.

**Roads:** Nate has the Road mileage Certification he needs signed. Trustee Horn moved to submit the Road Mileage Certification form of 57.272 miles. Seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.

**Property Maintenance – Kelly Smith;** Kelly was not in attendance but sent in a request for Approval of Property Maintenance to send the following non-compliance property, 13560 McLeish Street (AH4R/PM24-26) to the Lancaster City Law Director's office for review and possible court action. Trustee Horn moved to give Kelly Smith permission to send this property to the Lancaster City Law Director's office. Seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.

**Regional Planning Commission Representative-Mike Berry;** Went to meeting for February, and Carri Brown the auditor gave lengthy presentation of how to split lots and tie lots together and the process.

**Township Administrator- Tammy Oliver;** Just helping Amy get the books cleaned up and getting ready for 2025.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Fairfield Beach Signs update-** Very close to getting spots all filled. Trustee Horn has been talking to a landscaping company about what we could do around the signs. Trustee Yates would like to get more quotes from other companies also.
2. **Tornado Shelter Update-** Nate already went over. But our next thing is parking for out there.
3. **Salt Storage Facility Update-** Still need to get the last half of the bill from the company.

4. **Grant Updates:**

- a) Community Project U.S. – EPA \$1 Million grant we will receive money just have to go through the process.
- b) Ohio One-Time Community Investments program of \$500,000.00 we have in the bank.
- c) Ohio Capital Fund of \$1 Million can not apply for this one until we have ownership of easements that we need to get, to construct the project.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Re-appoint Ben Patterson, retroactively, to the Zoning Commission for a 5-year Term from January 1, 2025 to December 2029. Trustee Yates moved to re-appoint Ben Patterson. Seconded by Trustee Horn. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.
- 2. Re-appoint Mark Helms, retroactively, to the BZA for a 5-year Term from January 1, 2025 to December 2029. Trustee Yates moved to re-appoint Mark Helms. Seconded by Trustee Horn. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.
- 3. Approval of Resolution 05-2025- The Walnut Township Trustees in Fairfield County, Ohio, supporting The Ohio Commission for the United States Semi-quincentennial (America250-OH). Trustee Yates moved to approve the Resolution 05-2025. Seconded by Trustee Horn. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.
- 4. Setting Date for Records Retention Committee meeting for March 12, 2025. Records Committee includes, Fiscal Officer, Amy Amspaugh, Trustee Yates and administrator Tammy Oliver and a Fairfield County Auditor representative. Meeting mandated yearly. Trustee Yates moved to set March 12<sup>th</sup> for records retention meeting if Fairfield County Auditor can attend. Seconded by Trustee Horn. Motion carried with 2 yes votes.

**Additional Comments from the Public:** Robert Slater II went to New Albany for a meeting that was talking about a Data Center and the Ohio Sitting Board.

**Adjournment:** At 9:04 pm, February 19, 2025 Trustee Yates made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion carried with 2 yes votes.

Minutes Recorded By: Amy Amspaugh

---

Amy Amspaugh, Fiscal Officer

---

William R. Yates, Chairman

Terry W. Horn, Vice Chairman

Douglas W. Leith