

**MINUTES OF THE:  
WALNUT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 5, 2022 - 7:00 PM**

**Township Officials present:**

Trustees Terry W. Horn, William R. Yates and Douglas G. Leith and Fiscal Officer Pam Shaloo.

**Department Heads present:**

Fire Chief - Robert Price; Zoning Inspector – Mike Berry; Roads & Parks Supervisor – Nate Wagner;

**Invited guest(s) present:**

Sgt. Sean Burke – Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office.

**Number of members of the public present: 16**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Trustee Chairman Yates and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**MEETING PROCEEDINGS**

**Sgt. Burke** - Shared that the Pickerington sub-station will be moving to 12009 Stonecreek Dr., Pickerington.

Mr. Duncan expressed concerns about kids tearing up Fairfield Beach park, ATVs driving on the walking path. He believes more patrols are needed.

Robin Thompson expressed concerns about speeding on Lakside Rd.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes for regular meeting of March 1, 2022 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 Special meeting of March 22, 2022 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.

**Financial Report – Fiscal Officer, Pam Shaloo:**

Approval of Checks and Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT’s):

Trustee Leith made a motion to approve checks #25764 through #25769 and Electronic Fund Transfers # 116-2022 through #213-2022, after being certified that funds are available and appropriations have

been made by Fiscal Officer Shaloo. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Horn acknowledged the Fiscal Officer reports: 1) Investment Listing 2) Appropriation Summary 3) Cash Summary 4) Fund Status 5) Payment Listing.

**Resolutions for approval:**

**08-2022** – Scrivener’s error. To correct Resolution 07-2022, verbiage of “transfer” should have been written “advance”. Motion to approve by Trustee Horn and second by Trustee Leith. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**09-2022** – Boat Dock Fund #2905 establishment. Salaries, Repairs/Maintenance, Liability Insurance and supplies/materials.

**10-2022** – Approval to Participate in OneOhio Region 18 Governance Structure Under the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding. Motion by Trustee Leith, second by Trustee Horn. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**11-2022** – Fire Department and Road Department equipment disposal. Per ORC 505.10  
Fire Department – 2000 Ford Excursion; 1997 Ford F-150 & 2008 International Medic to be sold at auction. 30 each self-contained breathing apparatus bottles (SCBA’s) to be discarded.  
Roads Department – John Deere 310 Backhoe; John Deere 820A zero turn mower and Kohler 55 kw generator.  
Motion by Trustee Horn, second by Trustee Yates, motion passed by 3 yes votes.

**2022 – 2023 ODOT Salt Contracts** –Motion by Trustee Horn to pass Resolution to purchase 400 tons of salt, seconded by Trustee Leith. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**Salary increase for Fiscal Clerk:**

Motion by Trustee Horn and second by Trustee Leith to increase Tammy Oliver’s pay from \$15/hr. to \$18/hr. based on gaining proper educational training credentials. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**Comments from the public:**

**Solar projects in Walnut Township** – approximately (6) residents came to speak to express concerns about future industrial solar projects. The stated concerns were drainage, road disruption, loss of farm ground and noise. According to Karl Elder, the Records Office has noted that there is approximately 2,000 acres under lease. Ohio SB52 governs solar projects in Ohio.

Kevin Elder shared a map of farmland in the County. There is payment in lieu of taxes payments for solar projects.

According to Brad Berry Fairfield County leads the way in preserved farm land in the State.

Mike Berry said solar projects fall under the authority of the Ohio Power Siting Board for projects over a 50 MW output size. Under Senate Bill (SB52), County Commissioners can exempt areas of the county or entire county from solar installations.

**Speeding at Fairfield Beach** – Mike Shankle, 5261 Alder Rd. would like 4-way stop signs to control speeding at Alder/Cedar; Alder/Birch; Beaver/Cedar; Beaver/Birch and Alder/Grove. The Township will look into this through the Fairfield Co. Engineer’s Office.

**Liebs Island Dock Applications** –John Nachtraub had a question on item #8 of the Dock Applications. It was decided to change language from “without cause” to “with cause” at the last meeting.

**Drainage at Lakeside** - Robin Thompson had questions about someone placing fill on their property at Lakeside and SR 360. It was noted that the property owner can place fill on their property. This prompted discussion about the 100-year flood plain. Flood plain certificates from Regional Planning are required for everyone building in the floodplain. The first habitable living area must be built at 1’-0” above the floodplain.

**Shelter House Huffman Park** – Alex Wilhelmson. There is a \$5,000 grant from the estate of George Abdella to be used at the Park. Alex is hoping to possibly use this for a shelter house at the park.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Township Fire Department** - Chief Price. Through March, 370 total runs.

**Vehicle disposals** - See Resolutions for approval above.

**Millersport Station roof gutter damage** – Bob has talked with OTARMA (insurance) and we have a \$500 deductible. Bob will be meeting the adjuster since the damage is likely over \$5,000. Trustee Yates has looked at the project plans and determined that “ice guards” were not part of the building specifications. Bill also has photos to give the adjuster.

**Ladder/hose testing** – This is coming up in June.

Medic 631 Medic is back - Brakes, coolant lines fixed. Medic 633 Medic goes in for brakes and preventive maintenance. The tanker is ready for Dept of Transportation inspection within the next several days. All other equipment is up to date on preventive maintenance.

**Jet boat** – Ready for Liebs Island is housed at the Millersport Station.

**Boat trade** - Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office has a 17-foot alumina-craft boat with trailer that they would like trade with Walnut Township for our 14 foot aluminum Grumman minus the new 25 h.p. Evinrude motor and controls. The 25 h.p. motor and controls would go on the 17-foot boat. Motion by Trustee Horn and second by Trustee Leith to make the trade as noted above. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**Medic 634 re-chassis** – The chief is considering buying a new chassis for the current medic to be placed on at an estimated cost of \$161,000. The timeframe to put the box on the new chassis is 90 days.

Chassis are a 15-18 month production timeframe. New medics are in the \$325,000 cost range, which gives a substantial cost savings.

**Training** - continues on abandoned house on Lecrone Ave in Millersport. Scheduled for a burn in the next few months.

**Regional Planning (RP)** – Representative Robert Slater III – One item to note, RP voted down a proposed AirBnB in Berne Township.

**Zoning** – Mike Berry.

March Activity – 14 total permits. 4-homes; 1-addition; 4-fences; 2-decks; 1-ZR Amendment; 2-Variances. Violation letters issued – 2. Returned 89 phone calls.

**Property Maintenance** – Scott Arnold. Scott sent in the Violation Log for March.

**0 Taylor Rd., Birchfield** - Trustee Horn noted that this is being sent to Municipal Court.

**13050 Shell Beach Rd., Maharg** – Scott and Terry will be meeting with Ms. Maharg to discuss clean up progress.

**5507 Orchid, Sheets** – Owner has agreed to demo the house utilizing County grant funds.

**11600 Cherry Lane, Sheets** – Progress is being made. Cars are gone and intends to get junk/debris removed.

**Roads and Parks Supervisor** – Nate Wagner

**Equipment disposal** – John Deere Backhoe, John Deere Zero-turn mower and Kohler generator noted above in Resolution 11-2022.

**Parks, Fairfield Beach playset** – Nate suggests the recycled plastic playset be removed due to safety considerations. Nate is applying for a \$50,000 grant for a new playset that will be awarded this summer. Trustee Horn moved to remove the playset, seconded by Trustee Leith, motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**Parks, Trash cans** – Currently using 55-gallon drums. There was discussion on better methods.

**Roads** - Richland Township purchased - a Dura-patcher and would like to purchase emulsion from us at out cost. Motion by Trustee Leith, seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**Roads Survey and 2002 Repairs** – Nate met with Eric McCrady with the Fairfield County Engineer's Office (FCEO) drove the roads and gave Nate suggestions on road repairs. He will also be meeting with the Shelley Co as well.

**SR 256/SR37 ODOT Intersection** – As an FYI, this project will go from April through October. There is concern that people will travel on undesignated Township roads to detour the project and damage our roads due to increased traffic.

**Liebs Island Dock Inspections** – There was discussion about a checklist for us to use from KLA Consulting.

**In-house Equipment Maintenance** - Trustee Leith commended Nate for his efforts and expertise in handling equipment maintenance in-house. All agreed. Good job Nate!

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**North Walnut Storm Water Conveyance Study** – Trustee Horn noted that consulting work by ms Consultants is in progress. Aerial and ground Survey work is in process.

**Fairfield Beach Storm Water Upgrades Feasibility Study** - Trustee Horn also noted that ADR has submitted a proposed fee and scope of work at a cost of \$34,100. The Agreement will be between the County, Walnut Township and ADR utilizing ARPA funds. Trustee Horn suggests that we apply for a \$750,000 Critical Infrastructure grant that is due in June of 2023.

**Tornado Shelter** - Soils borings/samples have been taken. Project must be substantially completed by end of November 2022. We are considering using the park for parking.

**Liebs Island Boat Docks** - Sign-up deadline is April 28. Trustee Leith said that we could end up with (5) docks available to go on a waiting list.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**2022 Lawn Mowing for Parks/Cemetery's/Millersport Station Quote** – Nate received quote from Lynwood Service for a total cost of \$712 per mowing. Includes the following: Fairfield Beach Park; New Salem Park; Huffman, Lagoon, Runkle Parks; Walnut Creek Cemetery, Walnut Twp garage and Millersport Station 1. Motion by Trustee Horn to accept quote per mowing, Trustee Leith seconded. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

**2022 – 2023 ODOT Salt Contracts** – Nate suggested 400 tons. See Resolution above.

**SCBA Bids** – Atlantic at \$249,808.18 had the best bid and was \$9,000 below the other bid. Warren Fire was \$257,334.10. We are utilizing a First Responder grant, Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to make this purchase. Motion to accept the bid by Trustee Leith and seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion passed with 3 yes votes. Trustee signed the Contract with Atlantic Fire. Resolution 13-2022 Motion by Trustee Horn and seconded by Trustee Leith to enter into agreement with Warren Fire. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

### **Fairfield County Health District Advisory Council (DAC)**

**Report** - Trustee Leith reported that our costs for 2023 will go up 5% at a cost of \$45,600 + &2,400 increase from 2022. The new Director, is Joe Ebel and will be working to help communities with clean up bad properties. The total Health Dept. budget is \$4 million. Townships and Villages are approximately \$500,000. Lancaster will be asked to also pay 5%.

**Mosquito Spraying** - There is money left-over from the Phoenix Tire cleanup years ago in the amount of \$75,000 and will be used for mosquito spraying this year at a cost of \$65/mile sprayed.

**OTARMA Safety Grant** - \$1000 goes to the F.D. and \$500 to be used by the Roads Dept.

**Fire/EMS Safety Committee** – Trustee Yates will be setting up a meeting soon. Part of the discussion will be moving forward with a future fire levy.

**Fire Dept Hours** – Senator Shaffer is working on a Senate Bill expanding the number of part time hours fire/EMS personnel can work on an annual basis.

**Additional Comments from the public:**

**Adjournment:** At 10:10 PM, Trustee Leith made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Minutes Recorded By: Trustee Horn

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Pam Shaloo, Fiscal Officer

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William R. Yates , Chairman

Douglas G. Leith , Vice Chairman

Terry W. Horn