

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

WALNUT TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OH - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

11420 Millersport Rd., Millersport, OH 43067

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 15, 2025 – 7:30 PM

Township Officials present:

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

Department Heads/Staff present:

Roads & Parks Supervisor - Nate Wagner; Zoning Inspector - Mike Berry; Regional Planning Commission Representative - Robert W. Slater II were present. Fire Chief - Robert Price; Township Administrator – Tammy Oliver; Property Maintenance Inspector - Kelly Smith were absent.
The regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Trustee Chairman Yates.

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

Number of members of the public present: 6 as recorded on Sign-in sheets.

MEETING PROCEEDINGS

Sgt. Williams – Shared from the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office December 2024 reports. Sgt. Williams was informed of concerns of traffic speeding by the Fairfield Beach Park and Tornado shelter. He will have a speed trailer put out on those streets.

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 Leith made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the December 3, 2024 Regular Meeting. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Leith moved to approve the meeting minutes for the December 5, 2024 Joint Hearing Walnut Township and the Village of Thurston Meeting. Seconded by Trustee Horn. Motion carried with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Horn moved to approve the meeting minutes for the December 11, 2024 Special Public Meeting Announcement. Seconded by Yates. Motion carried with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Leith moved to approve the meeting minutes for the December 20, 2024 Special Meeting. Seconded by Trustee Yates. Motion carried Yea: Trustee Leith and Trustee Yates. Abstain: Trustee Horn.

Trustee Leith moved to approve the meeting minutes from the December 30, 2024 Special Trustee Meeting. Seconded by Trustee Horn. Motion carried with 3 yes votes.

Financial Report – Fiscal Officer, Amy Amspaugh:

Amy reported the status of the current 7- month CD we have with Vinton County Bank, that comes to term in April 2025. And she would like to invest another \$1 million in a 6- month CD with Vinton County Bank with a current rate of 4.01%. Trustee Horn moved that Amy is permitted to invest \$1 million in a 6- month CD at 4.01% with Vinton County Bank. Seconded by Trustee Leith. Motion carried with 3 yes votes.

Amy and Tammy will be working on an "Investment Policy" soon and then Amy will invest with Star Ohio also.

Comments from the public:

Daria Arbogast asked about a letter she received from AEP and opting out of their service. She was directed to check the website for info on what works best for her.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Township Fire Department - Chief Robert Price; Chief Price was not in attendance.

Regional Planning Commission Representative-Robert Slater II;

He attended the Granville Town meeting tonight. They spoke about possible growth for the schools and houses being built. He attended the Regional Planning meeting last week and stated that Commissioner Levacy and Commissioner Fix attend regularly.

Zoning – Mike Berry

8 permits issued in December: 3 home, 1 addition; 3 sheds; 1 Ag- Exempt. Sent out 6 letters, 1 was a violation, other 5 were for a rezone. He went to court December 20th on Semi-trailer case. Magistrate/Judge ordered owner to remove by January 31st. Amy Brown-Thompson from the Fairfield County Prosecutor office has moved forward with the short-term rental citations for 3617 South Bank and 3224 Shepard Ave. Returned 55 phone calls.

Property Maintenance – Kelly Smith; Kelly was not in attendance

Township Administrator- Tammy Oliver; Tammy was not in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Tornado Shelter Update-** Have 98% of punch list complete. Have just a few more things to go.
2. **Salt Storage Facility Update-** Still need to get the last half of the bill from the company.
3. **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. **Set date for Rezone meeting:** The rezone Hearing #24-125 and Special meeting will be January 30, 2025, at 7 pm.

Additional Comments from the Public:

Dave Zollinger would greatly appreciate if the Walnut Township Trustees would draft and sign a letter to the County Commissioners, of Fairfield County, urging them to vote against the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project.

Trustee Leith moved to go into executive session for purpose of ORC 121.22 (G4) at 9:05 pm. Seconded by Trustee Horn. Motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Came out of executive meeting at 9:25

Adjournment: At 9:26 pm, January 15, 2025 Trustee Leith made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion carried with 3 yes votes.

Minutes Recorded By: Amy Amspaugh

Amy Amspaugh, Fiscal Officer

William R. Yates, Chairman

Terry W. Horn, Vice Chairman

Douglas W. Leith