

**Minutes of Regular Trustee Meeting
Liberty Township, Licking County, Ohio
December 11, 2023 6:30 p.m.**

Opening

- A regular meeting of the Liberty Township Trustees was held on Monday, December 11, 2023 in the Township Hall. Bill Seigel, township trustee chairperson, called the meeting to order a 6:30 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and stated that the meeting is being recorded.
- Roll call was taken with the following answering as present: Bill Siegel, and Bill Bogantz.
- Bill S. stated that the minutes from previous meetings are available in the back of the room.
- **Doug Strait made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2023 meeting. Bill Bogantz seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
- **Doug Strait made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 16, 2023 special meeting. Bill Bogantz seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**

Resident Input

- Kris Simmons asked about the status of the property at 7041 Harmony Church Road. They have gotten a permit for their building and the sign issue is still being worked. He was told to contact the Zoning Inspector, Woody Fox, who is sick today, for more detailed information.
- Wayne Howard and Kathy Wiseman asked about building on Wayne's property. They were told that they may need a variance, but Woody Fox is the person to talk to about starting the permit/variance process.

Soil & Water – Kristy Hawthorne, Licking County Soil & Water

- Kristy gave information about the soil & water conservation district and distributed a handout.
- Bill Sigel asked about the flooding on Nichols Road
- Kristy said that stormwater is currently their main focus.

Zoning

- The Monthly Report was read by Melodie which included 5 permits and totaled \$3146.20
 - 2023-CUP-001 Andrew Humphrey \$800.00
Parcel 040-116358-00.000
Private Airstrip
 - 2023-CUP-002 Mark & Linda Harger \$0.00

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Parcel 040-116436-00.000

Private Airstrip

- 2023-CUP-003 Adam Foit \$800.00

7357 Sportsman Club Road

Music Festival

- 2023-P-041 Michael Pribonic \$871.20

3580 Riley Road

Barndominium

- 2023-P-042 Joel Ruiz \$675.00

7041 Harmony Church Road

Accessory Building

- Zoning issues were discussed as much as possible without Woody's presence.
- An update on the conditional use permit for the airport on Harmony Church Road and Bill Bogantz read a statement addressing the information posted on-line
- An upcoming conditional use permit was mentioned as well as a rezoning

Old Business

- Accepting a bid for the new Administration Building
 - The trustees have 2 bids that they are considering
 - Master Renovations was \$441,100.00; Slabaugh Builders was \$494,700
 - The trustees were not able to connect with all the references of Master Renovations.
 - Legal counsel says we have to have a good reason if we don't take the lower bid.
 - The trustees would like to spend more time comparing the bids
 - Bill Siegel made a motion to accept the bid from Slabaugh Construction Company. The motion died for lack of a second.
 - The trustees decided to schedule a special meeting on 12/13/2023 at 6:30pm to make their final selection.
- MOU on water & sewer – the trustees have a new proposal that they need to review.
- Four Corners Intersection – the potential development at SR 37, SR 310 and Windy Hollow was discussed.
- Miles Long Estate – no update since last meeting
- Roads
 - Brush hogging is in progress
 - No progress has been made by the state on state bids for trucks
 - Bill Siegel said that two of our trucks are not safe
 - Build times for new trucks ordered appears to be about 2 years.
 - The trustees will look into making repairs to the existing trucks and get estimates

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- Cemeteries – no update
- Rental Agreement for 7111 Northridge Road – Doug is still looking for a management company. The two he found he didn't find acceptable. The house is "owned" by the fire fund.
- Website conversion and email subscription service – Bill Bogantz said that it is in process and will hopefully be completed by the time the township starts work on the Comprehensive Plan.
- Outdoor lights – Doug will purchase lights for the township hall.

New Business

- Comprehensive Plan
 - Bill Bogantz proposed two kick-off meeting with Planning Next that would be special meetings
 - Steering committee on January 25, 2024
 - Trustees on January 9, 2024
 - Bill Siegel mentioned that we should pay the people helping with the comprehensive plan \$50 per meeting.
 - Bill Bogantz has 10 people, so far, willing to be on the steering committee for the Comprehensive Plan: John Tomich, Vicki McKinney, Annie Slabaugh, Jackie Siegel, Beth Warner, Aaron Jennings, Wendi Zigo, Eddie Madison and Kate Creager. He has a couple other people that he is waiting to hear back from.
 - **Doug Strait made a motion to nominate the above listed people to the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Bill Bogantz seconded the motion. The vote was: Bill Siegel, Abstained; Bill Bogantz, YES; Doug Strait, YES. The motion passed.**
- Bill Bogantz presented the Cannabis Resolution that we received from legal counsel. The trustees decided not to move forward with the resolution at this time.
- Temporary Appropriations – Melodie presented her recommendation for temporary appropriations and a spreadsheet showing how she came up with the numbers.
- **Bill Bogantz made a motion to approve the 2024 Temporary Appropriations as presented. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**

Correspondence & Financials

- November credit card charges were read totaling \$557.02
- November Correspondences were read.
- November Payments were read totaling \$21,652.06
- November Receipts were read. The receipts totaled \$28,586.48
- Bill Bogantz thanked Bill Siegel for his 8 years of service as a township trustee.

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Closing

- The next regular trustee meeting is January 8, 2024
- Doug Strait made a motion to adjourn the December 11, 2023 meeting. Bill Bogantz seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.

Approval

Approval of the minutes for meeting December 11, 2023:

Trustee: William Hays Date: 1/8/2024

Trustee: Edward Date: 1-8-2024

Trustee: W.H.S. Date: 1-8-24

Fiscal Officer: Melodie Bogantz Date: 1/8/24