

Liberty Township, Licking County, Ohio

Regular Trustee Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Opening

- Bill Bogantz called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. He stated that the meeting was being recorded and is a public record.
- Bill led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Melodie Bogantz took the roll call with the following answering present: Bill Bogantz, Ed Wasem & Doug Strait.
- Bill stated that the minutes from the September 9, 2024 meetings were available for inspection at the back of the room.
- **Doug Strait made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2024 meeting. Ed Wasem seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**

Resident/Public Input

- Don Shoemaker, who is building at 9747 Cooper Road, stated that he is concerned about the 5-6 campers across the road. He said that they self-installed a septic system. Don stated that he would like us to enforce our zoning which does not allow the campers. Woody addressed the issue saying that the county is moving forward with giving them a violation. Woody is working with Zach who is our new representative in the Licking County Prosecutor's Office. The township will issue a violation after the Health Department issues their violation. Woody wants to make sure we handle the situation properly.

Zoning

- Woody presented the September zoning report which totaled \$2395.00.
 - 2024-P-023 Brad Bruce \$420.00
3842 Corner Rd.
Barn
 - 2024-P-024 Zachery & Emily Collins \$75.00
117 Liberty Ridge Ct.
Pool
 - 2024-P-025 David Doyle & Theresa Duick \$225.00
8061 Denunes Rd.
Accessory Building
 - 2024-P-026 Craig Hickman \$75.00
4581 Hazelton Etna Rd.
Pool
 - 2024-CUP-002 Inalee Tan \$800.00
4863 Sportsman Club Rd.
Conditional Use for Events

Liberty Township, Licking County, Ohio

Regular Trustee Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2024 at 6:30 pm

- 2024-VAR-001 John P Pfister \$800.00
5753 Stone Quarry Rd.
Variance for front setback reduction
- Woody gave an update on Zoning issues:
 - Kenneth Belczak Had a meeting with the LCPC and Kenneth's consultant. They plan to submit a major development plan soon. It will be an 11 lot cul-de-sac with lots that meet our zoning acreage requirements. 2 of the 11 lots will not meet road frontage requirements and will need a variance.
6912 Nichols Lane Road.
 - 2023-V-002 Laurie A. Thompson 11/14/23 Looks to be complete. Still have concerns on the existing out buildings possibly being used for residence. Woody will speak to Laurie about this.
4328 Hardscrabble Rd.
 - 2024-V-001 Houcks AutoParts 2/12/2024 Some junk cars are still on the property. Looks like we must use the self help junk car removal for the vehicles on the North side of Sportsman club Rd.
3634 Sportsman Club Rd.
 - Heavenbound Aviation No current violations and no new permits at this time.
8878 Harmony Church
 - 9821 Cooper Rd. Working with Josh from the Licking county department of health and Zack from the Licking county prosecutor's office. Appears property owner is claiming Ag exemption and has filed with Troy Warnocks office. Zach wants me to first work with the department of health and their violation process. Five or more campers is considered a camp ground and is not permitted. Owner is claiming they are AG farm stays.
- There was discussion about the township's noise resolution and how it is enforced. It was stated that the Sheriff is responsible to enforce a township's noise resolution.
- Mark Harger, 9717 Crouse Willison Road, asked when noise complainants came in. He also stated that he is working with Soil and Water with some field drainage issues he is having as tiles are not draining as they used to. He is concerned that there might be the possibility of a damaged tile on Todd McKee's property across the street.

Old Business

- Miles Estate: Bill stated that he went to Oral Arguments for the Appeal on October 3rd. The Judge has not yet made a decision.
- Doug stated that there have been no issues with 7111 Northridge Road, the township's rental property.
- Doug gave an update on the New Administration building. He said that the cabinet has been installed and painted – waiting for countertop and sink, the insulation should go in later this week, and the current gas regulator has to be upgraded and is not part of the

Liberty Township, Licking County, Ohio

Regular Trustee Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2024 at 6:30 pm

- building scope so we need to address that with The Energy Cooperative. The contractor apologized for taking so long. They hope to have a final walkthrough later this month.
- There was discussion on furniture for the building including a table, chairs for the board and chairs for the public. Furniture for one office was also discussed.
 - **Bill Bogantz made a motion to approve spending up to \$10,000.00 on new furniture for the building. Doug Strait seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.**
 - Doug Strait will research prices and options for furniture.
 - Bill mentioned that Spectrum is installed in the new building and is connected to the router.
 - Bill Bogantz addressed the topic of township employees having separate cell phones, laptops and emails to only be used for township purposes. Legal counsel advised Bill that a trustee or fiscal officer would have to have done something illegal in order for their laptop or phone to be seized. It is determined to be a low risk. It was mentioned that the trustees cannot block calls/texts from a resident, but the notifications can be turned off or muted on their cell phone. It was determined that township laptops and phones are not necessary, but is an option if an official wants one.
 - Trustee, Fiscal Officer, and Zoning Inspector emails/passwords need to remain with the township when an employee is no longer with the township. The Trustees and Fiscal Officer agreed to put their passwords in the township safe so they could be accessed if necessary.
 - Roads
 - Ed said that the township roads are in good shape.
 - Bill Bogantz mentioned the OPWC grants and told Doug and Ed that we do not have time to apply this year, but they should put it on their calendar for next year, and every year.
 - Woody mentioned that we should also assign someone to be a member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). They have monthly meetings. They also have a grant finder that is available only to members.
 - Jeff said that mowing is done but he is still doing tree trimming.
 - Truck: Doug Strait said that the truck is ordered and there is a possibility that we could have it by the end of the year. Financing is available to us for 5%.
 - Cemeteries:
 - Ed stated that Jim Pound's trucks are still down. Jim has agreed to remove some trees from our cemeteries.
 - Jim told Ed that it would cost \$2500 to clean up the trees at the Liberty Church Cemetery.
 - Ed was told that he needs to get formal written estimates for both the Liberty Church and Channel Cemeteries even though the trustees already approved his price of \$400 to remove trees at the Channel Cemetery.

Liberty Township, Licking County, Ohio

Regular Trustee Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2024 at 6:30 pm

New Business

- Speed Study on Mounts Road: The speed study showed that the speed limit could only be reduced from 55 mph to 50 mph. The speed reduction request came from a St Albans resident. Mounts Road borders Liberty and St. Albans Townships. The trustees agreed to wait until St Albans hears from their resident to decide if we should move forward with the speed reduction request.
- Bill mentioned that the Licking County Commissioners have provided information about the gas and electric aggregation. It was available on the table.

Correspondence & Financials

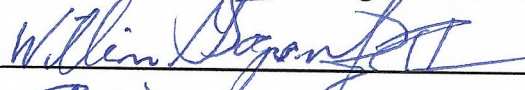
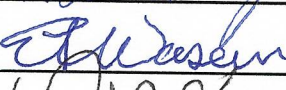
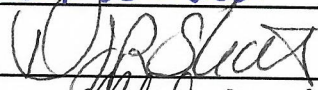
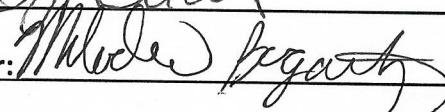
- Melodie read the Credit Card Charges totaling \$731.41
- Melodie read Correspondence
- Melodie read the payments totaling \$420,042.99
- Melodie read the receipts totaling \$77,689.66
- The recording was paused at 7:31 pm while the trustees signed the credit card summary, bank reconciliation, minutes, warrants, and resolutions.
- The recording was resumed at 7:40 pm.

Closing

- Doug Strait made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill Bogantz seconded the motion. The motion passed with all YES votes.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Approval

Approval of the minutes for meeting on October 14, 2024:

Trustee:		Date:	11/11/2024
Trustee:		Date:	11-11-24
Trustee:		Date:	11-11-24
Fiscal Officer:		Date:	11/11/24