

Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

August 8, 2022

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees met on Monday, August 8, 2022 to transact business. Chairperson Bainum called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Guy Bainum, Bari Henning and Gary Jordan answered the roll call. Also present were Fiscal Officer, Doug Lefferson, Maintenance Supervisor/Zoning Administrator Brian Tatman, EMS Chief Kevin Wiedemann, Bobby Feimster, Dylan Arnett, Ted and Isabel Drake, and Ed Boll.

Mr. Jordan motioned to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2022 Special Meeting. Mr. Henning second. All yeas. Mr. Henning motioned to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2022 Special Meeting. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas. Mr. Jordan motioned to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2022 Regular Meeting. Mr. Henning second. All yeas. Mr. Lefferson presented a financial report, including a comprehensive account of expenditures and receipts and the trustees accepted it.

Mr. Henning motioned to pay the attached bills. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas.

In regard to Clear Mountain Food Park, Mr. Drake indicated they met with the Prosecutor's Office and were advised about a personal civil suit. Mr. Jordan stated that he also met with the Prosecutor's Office for an update. On July 29th Mr. Tatman, Mr. Shrive and Ms. Carney from the Prosecutor's Office, and the Food Park's attorney met at the park to observe the live band. Mr. Jordan said that zoning and the alcohol permit were still open issues. Mr. Drake stated that a week ago Saturday they could still hear music at 12:07 a.m. Mr. Jordan responded that there was not going to be a quick solution.

Zoning Report

Mr. Tatman presented a Zoning Report. The Zoning Board of Appeals has a hearing on August 25, 2022 at the Township Hall in regard to a porch on the storage buildings next to the YMCA. Michael Daly who purchased the old Schumacher Model homes site contacted the Zoning office regarding possible uses he was considering for the property. He was advised that we would need to look into all these possibilities. Mr. Bainum inquired about grass mowing. The Township will mow next to Maple Avenue. In regard to a previous high grass complaint, the homeowner did receive the letter, did call with some reasons, Mt. Tatman needs to call back and mow if necessary. This is a repeat offender. Mr. Jordan discussed a plan for next year, potentially hiring a contractor and bill on taxes. Mr. Arnett suggested addressing immediately in the spring.

Cemetery and Maintenance Report

Mr. Tatman presented a report. The boom mower is fixed and we have been back out on the roads. Working on foundations this week for headstones. Roads will be mowed again this month after we are finished with foundations. Cemetery trimming is finished.

Emergency Services Report

Chief Wiedemann recommended Charles Graham be added as a Volunteer Firefighter and part-time EMS. He is a Firefighter - Basic and starting Medic school in 2023. Mr. Bainum motioned for Charles Graham to be added as a Volunteer Firefighter and part-time EMS. Mr. Henning second. All yeas. Mr. Jordan complimented the Chief on the positive public relations of the blood pressure checks at the YMCA and the good work on the recent fire at Main Street and 133 and asked that the Trustees appreciation be passed on to the staff.

Mr. Boll asked about the Township's position on solar farms. He requested the Trustees consider having no solar farms in the Township. Mr. Henning indicated there are positives and negatives to all projects. Mr. Lefferson stated we should continue to research. Mr. Henning and Mr. Lefferson attended the open house held by the Clermont County Solar Project (project developers) on August 3, 2022 for purposes of gathering more information. On another topic, Mr. Boll discussed the upcoming variance request regarding a porch at the new storage units. Mr. Henning stated the Board of Zoning Appeals will decide.

In regard to needed road repairs at the Commons of East Fork subdivision, Mr. Jordan discussed the Township's efforts. Mr. Jordan, Mr. Lefferson, and Mr. Tatman had a highly productive meeting with Clermont County Engineer Jeremy Evans and Doug Royer of that office regarding a potential Ohio Public Works Commission Grant to help cover the cost of these road repairs. Mr. Jordan, Mr. Lefferson, and Mr. Tatman are meeting August 9th to work on the application. Mr. Jordan read a resolution authorizing Fiscal Officer Doug Lefferson and/or Trustee Gary Jordan to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program(s) and to execute contracts as required. Mr. Jordan motioned to adopt Resolution 2022-10 authorizing Mr. Lefferson and Mr. Jordan to submit an application for funds to the Ohio Public Works Commission. Mr. Henning second.

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All yeas. Mr. Bainum asked if the total cost of the repairs was approximately \$450,000. Mr. Lefferson indicated that with rising costs probably closer to \$500,000 to \$550,000.

Mr. Lefferson gave a report on some follow up items. The closing on the Twin Bridges property (church and cemetery) occurred August 5, 2022. The November Tax Levy information was filed with the Board of Elections on July 27, 2022. The Local Government Fund alternative plan for sharing tax revenue as approved by the Township was approved by the Clermont County Commissioners. A Bureau of Workers Compensation audit (the Townships first in 10 years) was conducted and completed on July 29, 2022. Audit results were good, with a reduced premium of \$5,116. Mr. Lefferson commented on recent significant revenue items. The Township received a 2nd quarter JEDD payment of \$69,364 and has received over \$325,000 since payment began in 2021. The Township also received \$178,840 under the American Rescue Plan Act. Mr. Wiedemann asked how the Township plans to use these funds. Mr. Lefferson stated the funds will likely be used in a combination of ways including potentially a new maintenance building, to help offset a current approximate \$100,000 per year operating deficit in the Fire Department budget, and potentially as part of our local share to cover repairs to East Fork Commons Roads.

Mr. Jordan indicated that on August 9th, three companies were viewing the recently acquired Twin Bridges property in order to submit demolition bids. He also indicated the Township would request grant money to cover demolition costs.

Mr. Henning stated that the Amended JEDD Agreements were still in process.

Mr. Henning motioned to adjourn at approximately 7:52 p.m. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas.

Fiscal Officer

Chairperson