

# Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

## July 24, 2023

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees met on Monday, July 24, 2023 to transact business. Mr. Henning called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Bari Henning, Guy Bainum and Gary Jordan answered the roll call. Also present were Fiscal Officer, Doug Lefferson, Maintenance Supervisor/Zoning Administrator Brian Tatman, Emergency Services Chief Jason McCarthy, Ted and Isabel Drake, Bobby Feimster, Dylan Arnett, and Ed Boll.

Mr. Lefferson indicated that the minutes for the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting were not yet complete.

Mr. Lefferson presented a financial report, including a comprehensive account of expenditures and receipts and the Trustees accepted it.

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

Mr. Drake stated that three Sheriff Deputies were at their house during a recent weekend regarding noise from the Clear Mountain Food Park and they took a written statement. Mr. Jordan indicated he has updated with Assistant Prosecutor Brian Shrive and that it is his understanding that four citations have been issued. Mr. Jordan said he was surprised at the number of residents outside their homes concerned about the noise levels, but that it was not about the number of people if someone calls with concerns. A question was asked about neighbors outside the Township if they had issues to report. Mr. Henning stated the noise resolution was specific to Williamsburg Township. Mr. Drake asked if the Township losing their case regarding their objection to the Food Park's liquor license affected these issues. Mr. Henning said the liquor license was a separate issue. Mr. Henning stated a civil court date with Clear Mountain Food Park is still upcoming.

Mr. Boll raised some concerns on the condition of Half Acre Road. There was discussion about the entrance to Wendys, but the Trustees and Mr. Tatman reiterated that the entrance road is a private drive. Mr. Boll brought up concerns about a sign at the intersection of James E. Sauls Sr Drive and Half Acre Road. He also expressed concern about road conditions at SR 276 and Half Acre Road. Mr. Tatman stated that these issues would involve the County, but that he would check on the sign.

### Zoning Report

Mr. Tatman provided a report. Assistant Prosecutor Julia Carney is working on the airsoft gun problem on Clover Road. She will be going to Common Pleas Court to file a motion to cease and desist. Mr. Hoover who has been requesting updates from the Township on this matter has been informed. Mr. Tatman reported that the tall grass on Old SR 32 which is owned by a Mr. David has someone coming in to mow it. Another property we are monitoring should be mowed soon. Mr. Tatman indicated it must be mowed by the end of next week. Mr. Jordan instructed Mr. Tatman to set a date and then move forward with contracted mowing if not handled by the owner.

### Cemetery and Maintenance Report

Mr. Tatman provided a report. The island has been removed from West Fork Ridge Road in preparation for road repair and paving. The County contractor should start working on the rest of the Commons of East Fork Road project in the next week or two. Mr. Jordan asked about the condition of the area where the island was removed. Mr. Tatman indicated they were working with the County to make sure it was properly prepared for pavement. He also indicated that currently the hole is plated and barrels, caution tape, and signs are set up. Mr. Jordan said he would help draft a letter to residents of the subdivision updating them on the road project. Mr. Wright of the Maintenance Department said that while they were removing the island several residents stopped to express their excitement about the improvements. Mr. Bainum volunteered to walk the letter to residents' homes if necessary. Mr. Tatman indicated they should be done trimming the cemetery this week, then they will start on foundations. The Maintenance Department has been out boom mowing the roads over the last couple of weeks. Work had to stop temporarily to have a diesel leak on the mower repaired. Mr. Tatman stated it will be fixed tomorrow. Mr. Bainum indicated he would like to see the speed monitoring sign placed on Bass Road. Mr. Bainum also brought up a road culvert issue on Hageman Crossing Road. Mr. Henning agreed there was a hole that needed attention. Mr. Tatman said he would take a look at it. Mr. Bainum also mentioned the abandon Clover church near Bass Road. It is in very poor condition. There was some discussion on ownership of the property, further research is needed.

### Emergency Services Report

Chief McCarthy provided a report. The Department participated in the Clermont County Fair Parade. The Chief gave a vehicle update. The 2020 ambulance returned from Beechmont Ford, the turbo had failed and was replaced under warranty. Upon return, the check engine light came on and the vehicle was sent back to Beechmont Ford. Parts are on order and it should be back by the end of the week, still covered under warranty. Update on the ladder truck, preliminary estimates to repair are now \$60,000. The Chief stated there is also the potential for more seals to blow once the lift pressure is restored. The Chief and Fiscal Officer Lefferson both questioned whether this is cost effective given the age of the ladder truck (approximately 40 years). Mr. Lefferson stated the Township spent around \$40,000 for repairs on the truck only two years ago. The Chief stated it is his understanding that the Detroit Diesel engine in that truck is also obsolete and that \$7,000 in tires are needed. He estimated a 20-year-old ladder truck may be purchased for \$190,000 and a 2012 model may be around \$350,000. A new ladder truck would cost at least \$1.5 million. The issue is not an immediate crisis as we can rely on neighboring departments, but new larger buildings could be impacted. The Trustees, Chief, and Fiscal Officer will develop a plan regarding ladder truck issues. Regarding other vehicles, Rescue 273 blew a rear tire and the tire has been replaced. Brush 273 had a bad battery and the battery was replaced. In personnel matters, Adam Reid Daniel submitted his resignation. He has moved to Miami Township and stated he would not be able to continue to run with the Department from there. The Chief recommended the resignation be accepted. Mr. Henning motioned to accept Adam Reid Daniel's resignation. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. The Chief also requested an executive session to discuss personnel matters. The Chief continued his update stating a garage door tension bar broke at the station. The Maintenance Department helped repair the door and it is back operational. Mr. Bainum thanked the Maintenance Department for their assistance. The Chief reiterated his appreciation for the help. The Chief said given the occurrence of vehicle issues he is looking into a preventative maintenance program which may cost \$8 to \$9,000 per year. There is a narrow field of those qualified for this. Mr. Henning commented on the Emergency Services Department having the vehicles weighed and how he believed this was a good thing to do. The Chief stated they utilized the gravel pit scale as part of working cooperatively with the Stonelick Township department. Mr. Jordan stated he was working with the Clermont Sun on a possible article with Chief McCarthy on how the emergency services levy has been utilized in an effort to communicate with the public.

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Fiscal Officer Lefferson said we needed to amend our 2023 appropriations to reallocate some expenses between accounts within the Fire & EMS 2022 Levy Fund. This reallocation was to account for other expenses directly associated with new full-time emergency services hires such as equipment and clothing. Mr. Henning motioned to approve Resolution 2023-09 to realign the permanent appropriation resolution by modifying the following appropriation from one account to another within the fund: Fund 2112 Fire & EMS 2022 Levy \$15,000 from the Other Salaries to Other Expenses. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas.

Mr. Boll asked about the next Zoning Commission Meeting. Mr. Tatman stated it was August 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m. at the Emergency Services Building. Mr. Boll asked if the Williamsburg Joint Economic Development District Meeting this Friday was open to the public. Mr. Lefferson indicated it was and that it has been posted. Mr. Boll stated that he thought the original purchase of the Township's current ladder truck put the Township financials in the "red" at that time. The Trustees responded that was not the case. Mr. Jordan said the original investment on the used ladder truck was appropriate. Mr. Boll inquired as to how long a ladder truck should last. Chief McCarthy responded that it depends on usage, mileage etc., but that around 25 years. Mr. Boll asked about the value of our current truck. The Chief said indications were maybe \$50,000 as is.

Mr. Henning motioned to go into Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G)(1) for the purpose of discussing employment and compensation of public employees at approximately 8:05 p.m. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas. The Trustees came out of Executive Session at approximately 8:28 p.m. having discussed employment and compensation of public employees with no action taken and no decisions made.

Mr. Jordan indicated Casey Hansen of Purina had called regarding a meeting August 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will need to be re-scheduled.

The Trustees decided to hold a Special Meeting, Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m. to discuss options for the new maintenance storage building and all other matters that may come before the Board.

Mr. Bainum motioned to adjourn at approximately 9:03 p.m. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas.

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Fiscal Officer

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Chairperson