

Record of Proceedings – August 11, 2014
Washington Township Trustees, Warren County, Ohio

The regular meeting was held with Williams, Hagemeyer and Schaefer present. President Schaefer opened the meeting. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved. Receipts of \$5,677.66 since our last meeting were reported and were filed for audit. Warrants 9506 through 9516 totaling \$49,884.41 were presented for approval.

FROM THE FLOOR:

- A resident of the township posted signs about the composting facility on Gum Grove Road and encouraged people to attend our meetings to voice their opinions. Several in attendance spoke up about the odor that is sometimes prevalent and voiced their concerns about the facility. Two residents asked the board to to come up with a position letter to present to the county commissioners.
- Mr. Brausch spoke up to clarify questions about his business, the composting facility. It began by taking in horse manure from the Warren County Fairgrounds, then became licensed as a composting facility. As long as he was putting the compost on his own fields, the county deemed this to be agricultural use. When he began selling the compost (which was properly broken down according to EPA standards), the county declared this to be a commercial use of his land, hence the need for the Planned Unit Development (PUD) for his property. A PUD allows for a variance within the current zoning, which is regulated when the PUD is granted. Problems arose earlier this year when he accepted food waste from Clinton-Massie. He is no longer accepting food waste, but must continue to process what is on site until it is broken down. Mr. Brausch estimated that about half of this food waste will be composted and spread this year. He further informed the public regarding the strict standards governing his output, as regulated by the EPA.
- Hagemeyer informed the residents of the PUD hearing process. First, Mr. Brausch met with the Regional Planning Commission in a public hearing session. They voted for the recommendation with a few stipulations. Secondly, Mr. Brausch met with the Rural Zoning Commission and they voted against the recommendation. The third hearing will be with the county commissioners, and has not yet been scheduled. When the date is known, it will be on the home page of our website.
- Williams made the point that local zoning was turned down by residents years ago, and that the township is governed only by the Warren County Rural Zoning Code. Residents should express their opinions at those meetings as well.
- Another resident spoke up to say that he feels composting is necessary, that Mr. Brausch is responsibly addressing the problems with his composting facility, and spoke against the anonymous letter being circulated that is vilifying Mr. Brausch's character.

ROADS REPORT:

From our Roads Supervisor, Allen Stanforth:

- Damage was recorded on Ross Road – possibly due to trucks working on a barn construction. Allen will dig out and put in hot mix.
- County engineer said that everything was fine with the base of Lisle Lane.
- Opinion from prosecutor's office regarding damage caused by trucks on several of our area roads is that we probably can't recover repair costs unless we witness a contractor being negligent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Meeting with Mr. Bunner of Emergency Services July 30: the township may get tornado siren at the township house and he is looking in to getting a county radio for our Roads Supervisor. Discussion will continue regarding charges from the Wayne Township Fire Department.
- Property at 8921 Arrowcreek was bush-hogged, but could not be trimmed due to bees. Contractor anticipates returning tomorrow to finish the job. We were just contacted by a ReMax agent who said they will be handling the property for the bank from this point forward. She said that the township can send them the mowing bill for reimbursement. Williams made motion, seconded by Hagemeyer, to do so. Motion carried.
- Congressman Steve Chabot will be at the Township Hall on Monday, September 29 from 8:30-9:30am to receive questions and concerns from individual residents.
- Resident wondered about the reason that Gum Grove is gated off. Reason is that there is no bridge, and it is private property.
- Received document from prosecutor's office for easement for hammerhead turn-around on Strout Road at Bonnybrook Farm. Motion made by Hagemeyer, seconded by Williams to proceed with this document as discussed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

As there was no further business, Schaefer made motion, seconded by Hagemeyer, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

Paul Schaefer
Trustee President

Karen Doney
Fiscal Officer

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