

Record of Proceedings – August 24, 2015

Washington Township Trustees, Warren County, Ohio

The regular meeting was held with Schaefer, Williams and Hagemeyer present. President Hagemeyer opened the meeting. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved. Receipts of \$9,633.40 since our last meeting were reported and were filed for audit. Warrants 9782-9795 and Vouchers 33-2015 and 34-2015 totaling \$13,556.93 were presented for approval.

FROM THE FLOOR:

- Lt. Miller attended from the Sheriff's office. There have been many calls the last few weeks. He will transfer soon to the Drug Task Force, and will be replaced. He was asked to check periodically on Shawhan-Ayres to make it sure the roadway is clear and is not being used as a work area.
- Resident on Gum Grove Road states that many people park in the right-of-way in order to gain access to Todd's Fork. They leave behind trash, and block driveways, etc. Motion made by Schaefer and seconded by Williams to post "No Parking" signs on each side of the bridge. Sheriff's office can then ticket or tow.
- Judge Mike Gilb, appointed July 1 to fill Judge Flannery's slot, attended to introduce himself. He was a state representative 2001-2007, and has served on the Mason City council and worked with the municipal court. The Common Pleas Court handles major criminal and civil actions \$15,000 and over.
- George Kane of the Ohio History Connection was in attendance to give an update on the Fort Ancient project. Erin Bartlett - Regional Coordinator, Jack Blosser – Site Manager with the Dayton Society of Natural History and Gary Meissner – landscape architect with Meissner and Associates also attended. They are working on a site management plan, and looking to hear comments from residents of the three affected townships. Questions regarding funding, traffic and growth were raised. They are currently fund-raising to make the application. The application will include Ft. Ancient, Newark Earthworks and five other earthwork sites in Ross County that are excellent examples of the Hopewell culture. If eventually accepted as a World Heritage Site, it is expected that attendance will level off at 250,000 visitors each year. They expect to add educational programs, new structures, conferences, tours, exhibit loans, etc. The Ohio History Connection is supported 40% by state taxes, and the remainder by private donations. Most of Ft. Ancient is owned by the State of Ohio, with parts owned by the Ohio History Connection. Ownership would not change. It is anticipated that official access will be at Exit 36 (Wilmington Road), then south on Middleboro Road to State Route 350. They are looking at the many issues that may crop up, attempting to keep a balance between conservation and public access. It was suggested that they send mailed notice to neighbors of Ft. Ancient before the next open meeting in October. Current info can be viewed at <https://www.ohiohistory.org/fortancient>.

ROADS REPORT:

From our Roads Supervisor, Allen Stanforth:

- Chip sealing of Flint Trail, Indian Lakes and Arrowhead Lane will begin the second week of September, weather permitting.
- There will be more intermittent closures on State Route 350 in the township. We have not been notified of the previous closings. This is a huge issue in the event of a fire or EMS call in an area where the road is closed. The state should notify us and the fire department of upcoming closures, and post signs stating that the road is "open to xxx."

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Regarding the disputed \$500 charge by Wayne Township Fire Department on June 16: Wayne Township was dispatched, and received notice 15 minutes later that our road supervisor was underway. They will not waive the fee. The crucial issue is better handling of communications from Warren County

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Communications. This specific call was for a tree down Wilmington Road, a county responsibility. Neither we nor Wayne Township Fire Department should have been called out in the first place. Motion made by Schaefer, seconded by Williams to pay the bill anyway, keeping in mind possible revisions to our upcoming contract. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A resident on Strout Road complained of a damaged phone box. Frontier was called and is handling.
- Fire District report from Denny Williams: there were 60 squad runs and 36 fire runs in July. Fall Dinner will be October 3. Hours will be announced.
- Olive Branch United Methodist Church will hold a Community Day on Saturday, September 19 from 12-4pm. All are welcome to enjoy games, bounce house, dunking booth, free food, antique show, etc. Part of the emphasis of the event will be to honor the Clinton-Warren Joint Fire District and the Warren County Sheriff's Office. The CareFlight helicopter from Miami Valley Hospital will arrive at 2pm. The public is also invited to the annual Pig Roast on Sunday, September 20 from 4-7pm.

As there was no further business, Schaefer made motion, seconded by Williams to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:27pm.

Scott Hagemeyer
Trustee President

Karen Doney
Fiscal Officer

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