

Record of Proceedings – May 22, 2017

Washington Township Trustees, Warren County, Ohio

The regular meeting was held with Schaefer, Hagemeyer and Williams present. President Schaefer opened the meeting and we recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved. Receipts of \$7,387.72 since our last meeting were reported and were filed for audit. Warrants 10251 – 10259 and Vouchers 25, 26 and 27-2017 totaling \$8,103.67 were presented for approval. Williams made motion, seconded by Hagemeyer to pay bills as presented. Motion carried.

FROM THE FLOOR:

- Topic of noise disturbance at Little River Café was revisited. We received a reply to the noise disturbance resolution submitted by a resident. The prosecutor's office stated that the draft provided to the township in January (one with measurable decibel levels) would be "fully in compliance with our statutory authority, and it provides a method to reach more concrete violations." However, he further advised, as the sheriff does not have decibel measuring equipment, that the matter be enforced through Disorderly Conduct violations.
- Susan Case reported that Memorial Day observance will take place Monday, May 29 at the Clarksville Cemetery on State Route 132 at 10am. Scout Troop 155 will be involved in the observance.
- On the topic of Hopewell Meadows subdivision and chickens – Hagemeyer spoke with Mike Yetter of Warren County Zoning. There are two points here. There is a zoning issue and a civil issue. The zoning issue is Article 3, Chapter 1 of the Rural Zoning Code that prohibits farm animals on lots less than three acres.

The Trustees can recommend that this section of the Rural Zoning Code be modified. The request would then go through the legal process, including public hearings. Then the Rural Zoning Commission would have to vote to make that amendment. It then would go to the Commissioners for their review and approval. This change would affect all five townships that fall under county zoning.

The civil issue is the covenants and restrictions that are recorded on the deeds of these properties that restrict farm animals in the Hopewell Meadows Subdivision.

Ohio House Bill 175, currently under review, would allow homeowners to have some small barnyard animals on their property not originally intended for agriculture. Our Representative Scott Lipps is co-sponsor of the bill.

Williams made the motion, seconded by Hagemeyer, to request an amendment to Article 3, Chapter 1 of the Rural Zoning Code. The letter will request for lots 1+ acres to be permitted to have 20 chickens, confined, no roosters. As many of the lots in Hopewell Meadows are narrow (as small as 125'), the setback distance would have to be changed as well.

- Todd Holmes of Little River Café has purchased a decibel meter and is working with all the bands to keep the volume levels down. Conversation at 3 feet distance can be 60 decibels.
- On June 5, Harveysburg Road bridge at Sherrod Road over Interstate 71 will be closed for repairs.

ROADS REPORT:

From our Roads Supervisor, Allen Stanforth:
Busy mowing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Union Church at Gum Grove will hold an open house on Sunday, May 28 from 12-5pm, with a ceremony at 1pm. Local resident Bob Hackman has taken on the upkeep of the old church and cemetery.
- Schaefer made motion, seconded by Hagemeyer to go in to Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Regular meeting closed at 8:40pm. After discussion, we exited Executive Session at 8:50 and opened our regular meeting once more. Due to changes in the Affordable Care Act that were effective January 1, Hagemeyer made motion, seconded by Williams, to reinstate reimbursement of individual health care premiums up to \$4950 per year, effective June 1. This will be recorded in Resolution 2017-0522, and signed at our next meeting, after review by the Prosecutor's Office.

As there was no further business, Williams made motion, seconded by Schaefer to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Paul Schaefer
Trustee President

Karen Doney
Fiscal Officer

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