

Record of Proceedings – May 24, 2021
Washington Township Trustees, Warren County, Ohio

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by Scott Hagemeyer, with Schaefer, and Fisher present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of April 26, 2021 were mailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review. Warrants 11358 through 11391 totaling \$20,230.81 were presented for approval.

Mr. Schaefer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fisher to approve the minutes for the April 26, 2021 regular meeting. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Schaefer, aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Fisher made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schaefer to approve the bills. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Schaefer, aye. Motion passed.

FROM THE FLOOR:

- Major Steve Arrasmith from Warren County Drug Task Force was present and distributed the 2020 annual report. The Task Force remains a multi-jurisdictional unit specializing in the investigation of drug trafficking, prescription drug diversion, money laundering, and other drug related crimes. The Force is an initiative of the Ohio High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), based in Cleveland Ohio. During 2020 investigations resulted in 258 felony arrests and 122 misdemeanor arrests. Methamphetamine remains the most prevalent problem.
- Several Residents were in attendance to voice their concerns about noise and traffic around the Little River Bar & Grill.

Susan Rutherford of 1411 Corwin Road stated that she has been a resident for over 20 years and has always loved the area, but now the noise is extreme. The traffic is dangerous and the type of clients is not good. The bar now has moved their music outside, which makes it difficult for people and children that have to get up and go to work or school. Customers park on the bike path and do burn outs when leaving. Every night is bad but Thursday and weekends are the worst. She has called the non-emergency number several times and asked that they help with the problem. The Sheriffs Department said that she needs to approach the Township Trustees to pass a noise ordinance so they can do something. She does not wish them to close but to be considerate of the neighbors. She asks how she can fight back respectfully and legally. She is afraid she will be losing their renters due to the noise.

Michael Rutherford of 1411 Corwin Road stated that they don't mind the bar but the noise is too loud. The police cannot do anything because there is no noise ordinance. He stated that he blew his car horn in the parking area of the bike path for several minutes which resulted in the owner threatening him.

Dean Worley 1503 Corwin Road, says that the noise is louder than it has ever been, and the owner is arrogant. Dean asked if there should be a speed limit sign on Corwin Road.

Lori Worley 1503 Corwin Road, states has been a resident of Oregonia for 30 years, and the noise has gone to a level that is horrible, and the owner is violent, and she does not feel safe. The noise starts at noon and continues on through late hours. There is a big difference in the noise level now than in past years. She loves this place and would like to learn to live with them but they are not

approachable.

Lynn Stump of 1368 Corwin Road says that she has lived in Oregonia since 1986 and it has never been like this before. When customers leave the bar it is like a racetrack. The noise is bad but the traffic is her main concern. They put speakers outside starting at noon even when a band is not present. The family is living upstairs from the bar. The bar is not as it was represented to them when the owners came around for support to open.

Ashley Jones of 1491 Corwin Road (2 doors from the bar) stated that the noise that shakes their windows is horrible. Customers drive/walk up and down the bike path making noise and swearing all hours of the night. Customers are drunk driving and swerving around as they leave. Before the opening of the bar it was represented as a family friendly place to eat, but is nothing like that.

Mr. Hagemeyer said that back in 2016 and 2017 we had similar complaints when the bar had different owners, but not at this magnitude. After many discussions with the Prosecutors Office we did not move forward with a Resolution due to the fact that the former owners were more community minded and at the time a Resolution did not seem the way to go. The Trustees are willing to look into all possible remedy's and will request that Mr. McGary from the Prosecutors Office and also the Sheriff's Office attend the June 28, 2021 meeting to work together to see what options we have. He asked the residents if they were satisfied with the way it was handled back in 2016/2017. Residents responded yes but it is much worse now than ever before.

Deputy Vaughn stated it is very difficult to enforce charges unless there is an intent to be disorderly. The department asks the owners to turn down the music and they comply until the officer leaves the premises. They document each visit.

- Charles Lang of 6624 Ross Road stated that he would like to request that parents keep their kids off the road. He was heading home to Ross Road and there were two very small children riding bikes on the road near Little River Bar and Grill with no parental supervision. He also would like to request a speed study on Ross Road, because some cars reach a speed of 60 mph by the time they reach his house. Also the drain pipes on Ross Road are in bad shape and requests that they be looked at by the road crew. Mr. Lang also stated that when he voted last the signature pad did not work properly. He was instructed to call the Board of Elections to report the problem. Mr. Fisher will request a speed study for Ross Road.
- A resident asked about the website. Ms. Coffman reported that she has been working with GoDaddy for a new updated website. It should go live in the next 3-4 weeks. The address is WTWCOH.org.

ROADS REPORT: by Mr. Stanforth:

- Allen stated that the paving for Settlemyre Road is done. Indian Lakes is done and will be chip sealed in 2022.
- He will have all the roads mowed before Memorial Day.
- Next week he will be berming Settlemyre Road.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Mr. Hagemeyer asked Ms. Coffman to communicate with Keith Anderson at the Warren County Prosecutor's Office that Washington Township is not interested in purchasing the property on Corwin

Road.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The board asked Ms. Coffman to request Bruce McGary from the Prosecutor's Office and someone from the Sherriff's Office to please attend our next meeting.
- Mr. Fisher reported that the WCJFD anticipates a June delivery for the new squad. They have received the ballistic vests. The Department reported 67 EMS runs and 44 Fire runs since April 18, 2021. It is possible that the department will schedule a Late Christmas Party/Open House in July to show off the new equipment.

A motion was made by Mr. Schaefer and seconded by Mr. Fisher to adjourn at 9:27 PM.

Scott Hagemeyer
Trustee President

Sharon Coffman
Fiscal Officer