

Record of Proceedings – January 22, 2024
Washington Township Trustees, Warren County, Ohio

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by President Scott Hagemeyer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of January 8, 2024 were mailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review. Warrants 12196 through 12213 totaling \$41,597.41 were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Fisher to approve the minutes for the January 8, 2024 regular meeting, Mr. Settlemyre seconded.

Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Settlemyre and seconded by Mr. Fisher to pay the bills as presented.

Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.

Present for the meeting were: Tim Books and Danica Henderson.

FROM THE FLOOR:

- Danica Henderson is a student at Clinton Massie Schools and is attending the meeting to observe the Trustees. Ms. Henderson is applying for the Township Association and the Warren County Township Association Scholarships.

ROADS REPORT:

- Mr. Stanforth stated that the Warren County Engineer's Office came back with a projected amount for Hopewell Meadows resurfacing, of \$524,000.00 using 3-inch asphalt. And \$324,000.00 using 1 ¾ inch asphalt. The Township had budgeted \$524,000.00 for this project, using money from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Program (SLFRF) in the amount of \$322,752.48 to help in this project.
- The Chip Seal projection came in at \$131,000.00. \$160,000.00 has been budgeted for this so if any problems happen in Hopewell Meadows and extra funds are needed we may be able to use this extra amount.
- The ODOT Highway Mileage Certification of 21.374 miles is still correct. A motion was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Settlemyre to accept the ODOT Certification of 21.374 miles. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.
- Mr. Stanforth stated that there are no issues with the equipment and the Trustees said the roads look good.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Mr. Fisher said a second notice had been sent from the Warren County Health Department to the residents at 1516 Middleboro Road concerning a sewer violation.

- Mr. Fisher stated that the speed study on Middleboro Road is still pending.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mr. Hagemeyer said that Ralph Blanton is asking for a volunteer to serve on the County 911 Review Committee. Mr. Fisher is interested in serving and will ask Mr. Blanton if he still needs someone.
- Mr. Hagemeyer reported that he had attended the CWJFD Board Meeting on January 11, 2024. With the passing of Chief Bob Wysong, the Department is facing the challenge of hiring a new Chief and Assistant Chief. Chief Wysong served the department for many years and will be missed very much. He also did the job earning only \$25,000.00 annually. Hiring a new Chief and Assistant Chief will cost significantly more. Andrew Wysong and Brad Burton are both full time employees of Salem Township Fire Department and part time employees of CWJFD. Andrew Wysong is on his way to being the new Chief of CWJFD and the board would like Brad Burton as the Assistant Chief. But funds for these positions along with benefits is the current problem. The board is working on how to financially make this happen.

Mr. Hagemeyer on behalf of the CWJFD board attended the Adams Township Trustee Meeting to ask them to review their contract with the CWJFD and consider revising the amount for coverage effective January 2024. They currently pay \$100,000.00 annually for coverage, and generate \$225,000.00 annually through taxes for Fire and EMS Services.

Mr. Settlemyre suggested that R&L Transfer be contacted and ask if they could help with funds as they are very community oriented and may be able to help.

Mr. Hagemeyer also reported that runs were down by 12% in 2023 from 2022.

CWJFD is good at generating money from grants and have applied for a SAFER GRANT that if received would fund the department in the amount of \$60,000.00 each for 3 officers per year for a term of 3 years.

Mr. Settlemyre suggested that if Danica Henderson would like to research possible grants for local Fire Departments it could help the department and also help her as extra credit for her scholarship projects.

- Mr. Hagemeyer presented a letter from the Warren County Board of Elections asking for the Use of Facility and contact information for the March 19, 2024 Primary Election. Mr. Stanforth said he would remain as the contact. A motion was made by Mr. Settlemyre and seconded by Mr. Fisher to accept the Use of Facility Form and report Mr. Stanforth as the contact. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.
- Several emails and texts have occurred from a representative from Vesper Energy based in Texas. They would like to meet with a Trustee to discuss a major development. Mr. Hagemeyer will meet with them tomorrow to gather information but will defer any zoning questions to Michelle Tegtmeier or Ray Dratt from Warren County Rural Zoning.
- Mr. Settlemyre received a call from a UC Appraiser trying to appraise the UC property for their portfolio. They were asking about any large farms that may have sold or what kind of development might occur in the next few years.

- A motion was made by Mr. Settlemyre and seconded by Mr. Fisher to enter into Executive Session at 7:58 PM to discuss employee related issues. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Mr. Settlemyre and seconded by Mr. Fisher to return to Regular Session at 8:20 PM. No decisions were made in Executive Session. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Mr. Settlemyre and seconded by Mr. Fisher to raise the hourly salary of Allen Stanforth to \$38.15. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Settlemyre to raise the hourly contract for Ray Kienle to \$27.00 per hour and raise his call-in bonus to \$750.00 annually. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Mr. Settlemyre and seconded by Mr. Fisher to raise the hourly salary of Todd Bailey to \$32.00. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Settlemyre to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM.

Scott Hagemeyer
Trustee President

Sharon Coffman
Fiscal Officer