

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Scott Hagemeyer. With Trustees Jason Fisher and Dale Settlemyre, Fiscal Officer Sharon Coffman, and Road Supervisor Allen Stanforth present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of July 8 were mailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review. Warrants 12343 through 12362 totaling \$11,047.72 were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Fisher to approve the minutes for the July 8, 2024 regular meeting, Mr. Settlemyre seconded. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Settlemyre to pay the bills as presented. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre aye. Motion passed.

Present for the meeting were: Tim Books and Trent Kotch, Judge Gary Loxley, Judge Robert Fischer and Benjamin Wilkie.

FROM THE FLOOR:

- Judge Gary Loxley from Warren County Courts was present give a presentation about what has been going on in the courts over the last couple years. Judge Loxley resides over Area I Docket, the Northern half of the County. Warren County Courts have jurisdiction over all of Warren County with the exception of Franklin and Franklin Township, Mason and Deerfield Township, and Lebanon and Turtlecreek Township.

He stated that current issues include Distracted Driving which is now a primary offence, and Strangulation which is now a felony offence.

Judge Loxley spoke about the Veterans Court Docket, which is a specialized docket concerning the mental health of our Veterans, giving Veterans a 2nd chance to get back on track. If a veteran commits a probational offence they have the opportunity to have their case supervised by this program. It is an intense rehabilitation program that lasts a year and a half or more. If the Veteran follows through for the entire program there is a big graduation ceremony.

- Judge Robert Fischer who resides over the Southern half of the County, Area II Docket, was also present reporting other current issues including Expungement and Sealing of Records, Public Perception of the Court System, and the new Warren County Clerk of Courts that is underway east of the current location. The new building will be 21,000+ square feet with 2 courtrooms and a hearing room. The new design anticipates growth and expansion. The building is expected to be completed in late summer early fall of 2025.

Judge Fischer spoke about the SUCCESS Docket. This is a program for non-veterans that experience mental health issues and end up on the courts docket. This program gets the offender treatment right away to give them the help they need to get back on track and make good decisions and improve relationships with their families. There are currently 18 participants and has had 4 graduates in 2024.

The Judges stated that they and their staff consider it a privilege to serve Warren County and Washington Township.

- Tim Books said that ODOT needs to put a bigger sign on SR 350 saying no trucks can go down the hill. The Trustees agreed it is an issue for ODOT.
- Benjamin Wilkie stated that he contacted ODNR concerning sink holes in his yard. They said to make sure surface waters are diverted away from the sink holes. Mr. Wilkie asked if there is any way to continue the ditch along the roadway on past his driveway at 6622 Olive Branch Road. Mr. Fisher stated he would contact the County Highway Department and see if they can regrade the ditch.

ROADS REPORT: Allen Stanforth

- Allen said the chip sealing of roads will probably start next week.
- The 2015 Freightliner has a broken spring. He got a quote for repair from Freightliner for \$5300.00 and from Dent Springs for \$3700.00. The Trustees told Allen to get it fixed right away.
- Mr. Hagemeyer stated that Mr. Faber at the residence at the dead end of Strout Road wants to know when we will chip seal up to his driveway. Mr. Hagemeyer explained that in the past for many decades a gentleman's agreement was made between the previous owner and the Township, that the Township would chip seal up to the driveway and the resident would allow the Township to turn their equipment like snow plows around in a portion of their driveway. Due to Mrs. Faber's insistence that the Township could not use their driveway for turning around anymore the Township maintenance will end at the Township line.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Mr. Hagemeyer stated he has not heard anything new from Adam Nice at the Warren County Prosecutor's Office concerning the problem with a truck driver using a jake brake on Middleboro Road. He did supply Deputy Riley with the name of the driver using the brake.

Mr. Hagemeyer asked the other Trustees if there is any interest in pursuing a Noise Resolution at this time for this particular problem. The Trustees do not feel like a noise resolution is the answer to this problem,

- Mr. Fisher stated that he had no update on the drafted maintenance agreement for Fisher Road that he sent to Harlan Township, or the speed study on Middleboro Road.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mr. Hagemeyer stated that Western Water had a water main break today.
- Mr. Hagemeyer reminded Trustees and staff to complete the Fraud Study received from Adam Nice at the Warren County Prosecutor's Office and send the certification to the Fiscal Officer for her records for the Auditor.
- There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Settlemyre to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM.

Scott Hagemeyer
Trustee President

Sharon Coffman
Fiscal Officer