

Record of Proceedings – September 23, 2024
Washington Township Trustees, Warren County, Ohio

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of September 9 were mailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review. Warrants 12393 through 12408 totaling \$6,839.20 were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Settlemyre to approve the minutes for the September 9, 2024 regular meeting, Mr. Fisher 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, Attorney Tyrone Borger, Jim Mason, Christine Hadley, Andy Wilson, and Victoria Wilson and Susan Case.

FROM THE FLOOR:

- Mr. and Mrs. Wilson from Ward Koebel Road stated that last week during the township mowing Mrs. Wilson was driving by and gravel from the mower sprayed onto her car. Mr. Wilson stated that he wanted to make us aware. They did file a police report. And noted that nicks are on the truck from the gravel.

Mr. Hagemeyer said that he had already spoken with Adam Nice, from the Warren County Prosecutors Office, and he recommended that it be reported to the insurance company.

Ms. Coffman had already spoken with the insurance company and it is recommended that the residents file with their auto insurance company and then their insurance will contact our insurance.

The Wilsons will file with their insurance and let them contact us.

- Mr. Tyrone Borger, attorney for resident Christine Hadley, was present and asked why the Trustees had invited Ms. Hadley to attend this meeting.

Mr. Hagemeyer explained that the Township is required to maintain Right-of-Way and keep it clear and safe for our residents. The Right-of-Way in front of Ms. Hadley's residence has been determined by the Warren County Engineer's Office to be 20'. Multiple Township residents have complained about brush growing over the road in front of her residence.

Mr. Fisher stated that there may even possibly be more Right-of-Way there due to existing public utilities.

In 2021, due to complaints at the time a letter had been sent to Ms. Hadley concerning the overgrowth, asking her to attend a meeting at that time, and the Trustees received no response.

Mr. Mason stated that he had spoken with Mr. Paul Schaffer (Trustee at the time), at the Caesars Creek Carryout in 2021 and they do mow and did some clearing at that time.

After more complaints this year another letter was sent requesting she attend a meeting to discuss the problem. On September 4, 2024 Trustees Fisher and Settlemyre, along with Road Supervisor Stanforth met with Ms. Hadley at her residence to speak to her about what needs to be done.

Mr. Hagemeyer told Ms. Hadley that she does not have to do or have the work done, that the Township would take care of it. It would be done in the manner that all other Township work is done.

Jim Mason stated that they have already done some work there and they have hired a tree company to come out.

Mr. Borger asked the Trustees to let them know exactly what they want done.

Mr. Hagemeyer and Mr. Fisher stated that we are asking that anything within the 20' Right-of-Way be trimmed back far enough so that any vehicle, including farm equipment and commercial vehicles can drive the road safely. Mr. Stanforth stated that it would not be necessary to cut the tree entirely down, just to trim it back far enough for clear passage,

Mr. Borger asked that the Trustees meet with them at the property along with the tree trimming company. And stated that the work would be complete by October 31, 2024. Mr. Borger will also speak with Mr. Adam Nice.

- Ms. Susan Case was present to thank the Trustees and Allen for all the work that had been done at the Olive Branch Cemetery. She explained that her Grandfather had told the family that his father, Henry Fryer, had been buried at the Olive Branch Cemetery. After spending time searching for the cemetery with no luck finding it, she called Stella Hagemeyer the church historian at the time. Ms. Hagemeyer explained that access is through private property off Wilmington Road near I-75. So, in 2005 Ms. Case found the cemetery. It was very overgrown so a little bit later Ms. Case and family members started cleaning it up with permission from the Trustees. The Township has taken over the maintenance of the cemetery.

They were able to find their Great Grandfathers marker but was unable to find their Grandfathers Sisters marker. They had documentation that the sister, Ms. Hattie Fryer, had been buried there also. She was not listed on the Olive Branch Church list, due to a loss of the original paperwork by a fire.

Ms. Case presented the documentation to the Township Trustees and received permission to put a marker in the cemetery for Ms. Hattie Fryer. Ms. Case stated that after all these years they have finally gotten the marker and Mr. Stanforth has placed it in the cemetery. She will be donating the amount that it would have cost to have the marker placed to CWJFD Station 60 Memorial.

Ms. Case said the family is having a Prayer and Dedication at the cemetery on Sunday the 29th at 2:30 PM, and invited the Trustees to attend.

ROADS REPORT: Allen Stanforth had nothing new to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Trustees reviewed the new Salem/Morrow Fire and EMS Coverage Contract for 2025, 2026, and 2027. The Trustees agreed that Washington Township could not provide this service to their residents at this price and agreed that the terms of the contract are very reasonable. They are asking for \$60,000.00 for 2025, \$65,000.00 for 2026, and \$70,000.00 for 2027.
A motion was made by Mr. Settlemyre and seconded by Mr. Fisher to approve the Salem Township Contract as presented. Hagemeyer, aye; Fisher, aye; Settlemyre, aye. Motion passed.

The contract was signed and Ms. Coffman will mail it to Salem Township.

- Mr. Fisher spoke with Brianne Hetzel from ODOT concerning the amount of accidents at SR 22/3 and Clarksville Road. She will let us know what they will do about the problem.

Mr. Hagemeyer said that he had had the same conversation with Dominic Brigano from the Warren County Engineer's Office due to the significant increase in accidents at that intersection. Dominic will also be speaking with ODOT.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mr. Hagemeyer reminded everyone that there is an Ohio Township Association meeting to discuss the annual dinner meeting on September 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM. Mr. Hagemeyer will try to attend.
- Mr. Hagemeyer stated that the CWJFD is having an Open House/Rededication Ceremony in memory of Bob Wysong on October 19, 2024 from 4-6 PM. They will be taking questions from residents concerning the renewal ballot, and our Warren County Auditor will also be present to help answer questions.

In the last 30 days the department has had 82 Fire runs and 52 EMS runs.

- Mr. Fisher stated that a complaint had been made by the resident at 4361 Nicolson Road about branches being cut in front of her house. She understood after it was explained to her about the Right-of-Way and the responsibility of the Township to maintain it.
- There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Settlemyre to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 PM.

Scott Hagemeyer
Trustee President

Sharon Coffman
Fiscal Officer