

Minutes of the Board of Licking Township Trustees, Regular Meeting held at Licking Township Fire Station #600 at 7:30p.m., on 06/17/2024.

Mr. Holman called the meeting to order with the following members present: John Cormican, John Holman, Dave Miller, Andrea Lynch.

Others Present: Sharon Mason; Mike Payne; Marilyn Davis; Dave Wilson; Veronica Wilson; Debbie Parmer; Doug Oxier; Lisa Oxier; Rod Montgomery; Jacob Sweats; Dave Moraine; Nicole Arnold; Jole Bear; Richey Bear; Deanna Reedy; Kelly Severance; Amber Fannin; Ben Fannin; Shane Rockey; Sophia Rockey; Deb Fetty; Nate Miller; Kristen Miller; Rob Gray (?); Valerie Mockus; Brittany Misner; Greg Gall; Erin Flynn; Todd Willis; Chris Severance; Robby Poling; Kasey Poling; Paul Matthews; Doug Howell (*).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
A moment of silence was observed for Ron Walsh's mother.

Guests: Village of Hebron Mayor Valerie Mockus and Economic & Community Development Director Brittany Misner said they are visiting neighboring townships to work on improved communication for future collaboration on core values. Shared some brief notes about recent happenings in the Village of Hebron.

Minutes were read, 4 corrections noted, approved, and signed by the Trustees.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve expenditures totaling \$49,485.43

Mr. Cormican seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Cormican, yes; Holman, yes; Miller, yes.

There are funds on hand or in the process of collection to pay the attached listed bills. _____, Fiscal Officer.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) KLA Risk Consulting Letter re-shared regarding risk control measure recommendations.
- 2) LCC letter re: Aggregation for November ballot
- 3) LCPO letter re: Social media use by public officials
- 4) As per Mr. Miller: Licking County Township Association meeting to be held on 6/29/24 at Van Buren Acres. Need to RSVP.

The Fiscal Officer presented 2 sealed bids for the Avondale Roads OPW Project as follows:

The Shelly Company	Bid Total	\$219,670.30
Dreams Excavating and Paving	Bid Total	\$213,130.00

A discussion took place regarding both bids. Mr. Cormican stated that as this is an OPW grant project, LTWP would be responsible for 26% of the bid amount. Mr. Miller said that The Shelly Company has done a nice job paving for the township for over 19 years. Mr. Holman agreed and stated that it was nice to see another vendor submit an estimate. Mr. Cormican said that Dreams Excavating is the cheaper bid and that he has seen their work and it is good.

Mr. Cormican made a motion to contract with Dreams Excavating & Paving for \$213,130 with a start date of 7/1/24 and completion by 10/30/24.

Mr. Miller seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Cormican, yes; Holman, yes; Miller, yes.

The Fiscal Officer presented the levy information on behalf of Fire Chief Mike Wilson. A discussion took place regarding replacement vs renewal.

Mr. Miller moved the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE COUNTY AUDITOR CERTIFY VALUATION AND REVENUE INFORMATION PURSUANT TO R.C. 5705.03(B)

A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO LEVY A TAX OUTSIDE THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND REQUESTING THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY THE AMOUNTS DESCRIBED IN OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5705.03(B)(2). WHEREAS, this Board finds that the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten mill limitation will be insufficient to provide for the necessary requirements of Licking Township and it is necessary to levy a tax outside the ten-mill limitation; and, WHEREAS, pursuant to Division (B) of Section 5705.03 of the Revised Code, this Board must request certified information from the Licking County Auditor before submitting the question of a tax to the electors. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Licking Township: Section 1. This Board declares that it is necessary to levy a fire and emergency services property tax outside of the ten-mill limitation for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire

department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs, as authorized by Section 5705.19(I) of the Ohio Revised Code, and that it intends to submit the question of the addition of that levy to the electors at the General Election on November 5, 2024. Section 2. This Board requests that the Licking County Auditor certify to it all of those amounts described in Division (B)(2) of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.03.

Section 3. The proposed tax is a replacement of an existing levy of 1 mill for each one dollar of taxable value and shall be for a term of five years, first levied in tax year 2025 and first collected in calendar year 2026. Section 4. The 1 mill replacement levy shall be levied upon the unincorporated territory of Licking Township and a portion of the incorporated territory of the City of Heath lying within Licking Township and a portion of the incorporated territory of the Village of Buckeye Lake lying within Licking Township, said territory being designated as taxing districts 41, 42, 43, 98 and 405; and, the corresponding ballot measure shall be submitted to the unincorporated territory of Licking Township and a portion of the incorporated territory of the City of Heath lying within Licking Township and a portion of the incorporated territory of the Village of Buckeye Lake lying within Licking Township, said territory being designated as taxing districts 41, 42, 43, 98 and 405. Section 5. Licking Township has territory only in Licking County. Section 6. The Township Fiscal Officer is authorized and directed to deliver promptly to the Licking County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution. Section 7. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board and of any of its committees concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were held, in meetings open to the public, in compliance with the law. Section 8. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately upon its adoption.

Mr. Holman seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Cormican, yes; Miller, yes; Holman, yes.

Doug Howell gave the Zoning Report. There were 2 permits issued since the last meeting as follows:

ABD Properties - Jacksontown Road - Billboard - \$3400.00
Randy Shaw - Licking Trails Road - Home - \$304.00

Mr. Howell also turned in a variance application from Hailey Taylor requesting a variance for a setback on Columbus Avenue.

Mr. Howell shared information regarding a recent email from Jay Fisher, LC Planning & Development, pertaining to lot splits for Joe Fitch. A discussion took place as the lot split would result in the parcels not meeting the zoning requirements for a buildable lot. Mr. Holman suggested that Mr. Howell contact Jay Fisher for follow-up.

Mr. Cormican presented information regarding reducing the speed limit from 55mph to 45 mph on LTWP's portion of Fairmount Road. permit. Mr. Cormican stated that Franklin Twp plans to do the same for their portion of Fairmount. A discussion took place.

Mr. Cormican moved the adoption of the following:

Resolution 06-17-2024

Reduce Fairmount Road Speed to 45 MPH

The Trustees would like to start the process to see if Licking Township portion of Fairmount Road can be reduced from 55 MPH to 45 MPH due to increased traffic and housing to help make traveling Fairmount Road safer. A request for a traffic study is being sent to the Licking County Engineer.

Mr. Miller seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Holman, yes; Miller, yes; Cormican, yes

The Board signed the LC Engineer's Request form for assistance.

Mr. Cormican reported an upcoming expense of \$1800.00 for a new bulk diesel fuel tank to be split 50/50 with Road Dept and LTFC.

Mr. Holman led a discussion regarding the recent attendance of a Zoning Commission Member who has missed the last 3 meetings without contacting the Zoning Commission Chairman and/or Zoning Clerk. Mr. Matthews joined the conversation. Mr. Holman shared his sentiments concerning zoning and the expectations of regular attendance and communication. Mr. Matthews stated that no RSVP from members makes it challenging to have a quorum or plan for meetings and said that the township needs to take action.

Mr. Holman made a motion to dismiss Mr. Zierk from the Licking Township Zoning Commission Board effective 6-17-24 and requested a letter be drafted by the Fiscal Officer to Mr. Zierk on behalf of the Board. And effective 6-17-24 the Board appoints Mr. Dave Moraine as a permanent member to fulfill the unexpired term of Mr. Zierk.

Mr. Cormican seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Miller, yes; Holman, yes; Cormican, yes.

Mr. Matthews thanked the Board for their support. Mr. Holman thanked Mr. Matthews for his efforts as the new chairman of the Zoning Commission. Mrs. Lynch thanked Mr. Moraine for his willingness to fulfill the unexpired term of Mr. Zierk.

Nicole Arnold from Dawes Arboretum addressed the Board. Ms. Arnold indicated that Dawes Arboretum is circulating a petition for the November ballot permitting them to obtain a D6 liquor permit which would allow them to serve and sell liquor. Ms. Arnold indicated that if they obtain 50 signatures, it will go to a vote of which the permit would allow consumption of beer, liquor, and wine. They intend to do wine tasting events. No

cash and carry. Erin Flynn thanked the Board for allowing them on the agenda and reminded the audience that they have over 2000 acres that will remain undeveloped.

Public Comment: There were over 30+ residents in attendance at this meeting concerning the closure of Route 13 at Cristland Hill by ODOT which has resulted in traffic being re-routed through the Edgewater Beach community. For purposes of the meeting minutes, a brief synopsis of each member of the public who spoke is listed. The Board listened to all public comments and responded to each including offering to contact the LCSO regarding hiring a special duty officer to help deter speeding, water truck to reduce dust, suggested residents contact LC Commissioners and express their frustrations, suggested to contact the LCSO for speeding and violators, explained why they cannot employ the use of speed bumps; will look into LED speed zone signage and concrete barriers. Throughout the public comments Mr. Cormican, Mr. Holman, and Mr. Miller offered details concerning what the township can and cannot do to assist the residents.

Kristen Miller - Concerned with high rates of speed, damage being done to property, safety of neighborhood including children, does not feel the traffic should be permitted through the neighborhood

Jacob Sweatt - LCSO is inconsistent in ticketing violators and speeders; not enough deputy presence; can we use concrete barriers

Nate Miller - Road barriers; Lakeshore is 90% the access point

Ben Fannin - inquired about access points that locals only can use

Marilyn Davis - reported large dump trucks driving at high rates of speed

Richie Bear - ridiculous to close both lanes of route 13

Greg Gall - suggests divert traffic to Licking Trails rather than Cristland to Edgewater Beach

Rob Gray - resident of Heron Bay and suggests contacting the state legislators; can we employ load limit signs; make roads one-way only temporarily?

Dave Wilson - agree with use of concrete barriers

Ben Fannin - who will pay to repair the township roads that are damaged

Amber Fannin - can GPS be updated to show the ODOT approved detour not the one that people are using

Sharon Mason - Access to neighborhood by the residents. She is concerned about her daughter having access to their home in case of emergency. Was late to Bible School because she is taking the approved detour.

An unidentified member of the public stated that they heard that local businesses including Papa Boo's is telling customers to use Cristland Hill to Edgewater Beach rather than follow the ODOT detour. Inquired about the tunnel under route 13 at Legend Valley. Damage to roads, safety issue for children including granddaughter, 25 mph is too fast on these roads let alone what the detour traffic is traveling at. Signs/mailboxes/yards are damaged.

Sophia Rockey (minor) - asked for one entrance in and one way out because her Mom needs to get her to and from daycare on time

Shane Rockey - can we do a speed study

Mike Payne - Children at Play signs are needed; asked for solar/electric signs for both Avondale & Edgewater

Jacob Sweatt - shutting down the roads with barricades in an inconvenience to everyone. Need 24/7 police presence. Said that an extra officer during peak times would be helpful.

Robby Poling - inquired as to whether the LCSO was invited (yes as per Mr. Miller); OSHP (no); who is going to fix the roads; dust control measures needed; out of control - the detour traffic needs shut down

Todd Willis - aggressive drivers; semis and dump trucks - too heavy for the roads. Board stressed to not approach the drivers - contact the LCSO.

Paul Matthews - can not tell trash haulers that they can not pick up trash however other trash companies are traveling the roads as a detour rather than using the ODOT approve detour

Chris Severance - need more LCSO presence, can we issue

neighborhood traffic passes to eliminate detour violators

Kasey Poling - concurred with all comments thus far. When traffic sees LCSO they are slowing down but not enough presence

Shane Rockey - this is a quiet neighborhood and why is ODOT not responsible

Andrea Lynch - can the Township look into a special duty officer to increase LCSO presence

Deena Reedy - concurs with others, need an increase in LCSO presence, would like to relay information to the Moon River HOA

Kelly Severance - if can't use speed bumps and can't close roads, then increase police presence or get a LED flashing speed sign. Dust is a problem and road cracking is occurring.

Debra Fetty - concurs with others. Can ODOT power wash houses from the traffic dust; motorists are targeting signs; damaging lawns; concerned with people coming back and targeting specific houses

Mr. Holman thanked all in attendance for their feedback and cooperation in listening to all the concerns. Mr. Holman said that unfortunately there is no silver bullet to fix this problem and that ODOT maintains the project will be completed by 7/1/24. Mr. Cormican said they are hopeful it is prior to that but can not make any promises. Mr. Cormican will follow-up on several of the suggestions that were made. The Board concurred that there is very little that the township can do to resolve the issue but are thankful it is temporary. Mr. Holman said that the traffic pattern was a poor plan and that LTWP was not consulted on the matter.

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 10:06 p.m.

Mr. Cormican seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Cormican, yes; Holman, yes; Miller, yes.

Attest

June 17, 2024