

UNION TOWNSHIP – WARREN COUNTY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – Regular Meeting – June 1, 2020

CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Union Township Board of Trustees was called to order by President, Fred Vonderhaar on Monday 6/1/20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Township Municipal Building. The meeting was opened with the Fiscal Officer, Shelley Lamb, taking roll call of the trustees: Fred Vonderhaar, Tony Ledford, and Jamie Allen. All were in attendance. Prayer was led by Mr. Ledford. Mr. Vonderhaar led everyone in The Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS IN ATTENDANCE (IF KNOWN): No citizens were in attendance.

Salem Township Trustee Ralph Blanton was in attendance to discuss the Phillips Road needed tile repairs to be split between Salem & Union Townships. Mr. Allen stated he thought we could take care of the repairs in-house as to save money on the \$31,000 bid. He thought the bottom could be cut out and pour new concrete into it, approximately 6 yards, but stated it would need to be approved by the State of Ohio's Department of Transportation and he was not sure that would gain the needed approval. He was hoping to save some money by doing it ourselves instead of the \$31,000 estimate. Mr. Blanton agreed to this, but also said the repair had to have ODOT approval. Mr. Blanton stated his Township's employees could help minimally with the needed road shut down to do the repair, as they only have 2 employees, but the costs would be shared. Mr. Ledford stated the Townships doing the repair themselves would most likely have difficulty getting the needed repair approval from ODOT. Mr. Blanton agreed and would not want the Townships to suffer any liability. Mr. Vonderhaar also stated the appropriate Gunitite professionals have the proper equipment & engineering to take care of the repair instead of doing it in-house. The split cost to each Township will be \$15,225 per Mr. Vonderhaar. Mr. Vonderhaar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Allen, to split the cost of the Phillips Road Gunitite tile repair with Salem Township totaling \$15,225 each (\$30,450 total), as long as approved by Salem Township at their next meeting. The motion was carried by all "yeas". The repair will not be done in-house. Mr. Vonderhaar and Mr. Sandlin also stated an official maintenance agreement for shared roads between Union & Salem Townships needs to come to fruition for future endeavors.

POLICE SUMMARY: Sergeant Boylan and Deputy Pangallo had nothing to report. Sergeant Boylan did mention the traffic congestion due to the bridge construction on State Route 48.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Napier stated there had been a fatal crash in the Township on I-71 on Friday night (5/29/20). It involved an elderly lady going the wrong way on the interstate and she crashed into another vehicle. She was the only one killed, but there were other injuries. They also responded to another bad crash last week on I-71 that involved an entrapment. There have been no new cases of COVID-19 reported in the Township as of the meeting date. Chief Napier said the new hose he has been researching and would like to purchase is \$10,646. This includes additional hose for the new firetruck. This new hose will replace the current hose that dates from 1971 through 1996. This new hose is supposed to last for 10 years. He stated he would be going to Hamburg, NY by the end of the month to check the status of the new firetruck that is supposed to be done in July. He also brought up the fact that he needs to replace 10 nozzles. All this new equipment should help with the wear and tear on the engines, pumps, and firemen. Chief Napier would like \$5,990 for the new nozzles. Mr. Vonderhaar made a motion for the new hose expenditure of \$10,646, seconded by Mr. Ledford. Mr. Vonderhaar made a motion for the total of \$5,990 to purchase the new nozzles, seconded by Mr. Allen. The motions were carried by all "yeas". Chief Napier is going to put a sign on the Township meeting room for a maximum occupancy during the pandemic restrictions. It was measured and the maximum is 7 – 8 people. Chief Napier stated he was contacted by the Board of Pharmacies and has their approval to move any dangerous drugs from the vaults to another facility during the rioting. He did not think it was necessary at this time, as the riots have not yet made it to Union Township. He just wanted everyone to be aware. He is also hoping our squads do not have to make any ambulance runs to the Cincinnati area hospitals due to these riots, but they have other routes available to take and can get an escort if necessary. Chief Napier and Sergeant Boylan also agreed the 4th of July parade & festival should not take place due to the pandemic, but the fireworks display could still go off as scheduled at this time. Chief Napier also forwarded a copy of the new Rules & Regulations for Deerfield & Fellowship Cemeteries, taking effect July 1st 2020, to Mr. Blanton.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Josh Sandlin verified with Sergeant Boylan that the Township parks are still to be taped off at this time due to COVID-19, which was correct. Mr. Sandlin stated he had a complaint about a grave at Deerfield Cemetery that he has taken care of. The grave is close to the new construction area and

they thought it was affecting their gravesite. Mr. Sandlin reassured them it was not a construction issue, but a mole was damaging the ground close to this grave. They now understand the situation. He stated he had taken care of most of the blacktop & repair on Kings Way. He should be able to finish up the next morning. Kings Way will then be ready for re-surfacing. The two catch basins on St. John Place in Riverwalk have also been repaired. His next project is to focus on bush hogging. There also was a large tree that fell and knocked down some power lines after the bad rainstorm which had to be cleaned up. Mr. Vonderhaar asked if he had looked for the pothole at 3400 Trovillo Road due to a prior complaint. Mr. Sandlin stated he did go look, but did not see anything like that in the area. Mr. Allen noted the Township Cemeteries looked good for Memorial Day. Mr. Vonderhaar verified the Township will install tiles/catch basins for homeowners, but the homeowners must pay for the materials, as this is being done in the future for a homeowner in Shawhan Trails.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: The Fiscal Officer presented the bills to pay, fund status, cemetery deeds, etc. thru June 1, 2020. All were signed and approved by the Board of Trustees. She also stated the Township received a real estate tax deposit (\$66,000) from the State of Ohio in May. There was also a check received for \$79,000 from the City of Mason for the annexation of a subdivision. We receive a payment each year for 12 years, and this is probably the third payment so far. Mr. Vonderhaar noted we do get into these type of agreements with other entities as Union Township does not have water and sewer service to offer new subdivisions.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Allen made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mr. Vonderhaar. The motion was carried by all "yeas".

Mr. Ledford made mention of a "water rescue" that the fire department had to take care of when that bad storm rolled through last week. Chief Napier stated Hamilton Township used their boat due to the location of an electric company's vehicle that had been driven down Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Road and the water rapidly rose around it. There were no injuries reported. Mr. Ledford made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on May 18, 2020, seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion was carried by all "yeas".

Mr. Vonderhaar mentioned there had been a complaint about a lawn on Turtlecreek Road that had not been mowed. Mr. Vonderhaar tried calling the owner to no avail. This past weekend the lawn had been mowed.

Chief Napier stated there had been a zoning complaint about a house on Riley Street that had been involved in a fire in June 2019 and needs to be torn down. There are some cars sitting around the yard also. He is having Warren County take care of the situation.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Vonderhaar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Allen to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. The motion was carried by all "yeas".

The next meeting will be Monday, June 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.