

UNION TOWNSHIP – WARREN COUNTY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – Regular Meeting – November 2, 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, 11/2/20 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. Prayer was led by Chief Napier. Mr. Allen led everyone in The Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS IN ATTENDANCE (IF KNOWN): Barbara Aberlin was in attendance. Mike Grimmer was in attendance. He was representing the Home Owners' Association from Timberlake Estates. He & Chief Napier discussed the possible dry hydrant that was proposed in previous meetings, but it looks like the lake is too far from the road to access. Mr. Grimmer stated there was a street light out and Chief Napier asked him to get the pole number and he would take care of getting it repaired. Mr. Grimmer asked what the residents of Timberlake Estates could expect by April 2021 concerning their request for road improvements in that subdivision. Mr. Sandlin stated he was going to seal around the patches that were recently done on Manistique, but that was all he had planned. Mr. Vonderhaar & Mr. Ledford concluded to see how it holds up this winter and check it next spring.

Karie Novesl from Hylant Administrative Services was in attendance to present Union Township the Ohio Plan Insurance renewal packet. The Trustees have until mid-December to decide the coverage option they wish to attain for 2021.

POLICE SUMMARY: Sergeant Boylan & Deputy Pangallo had nothing to report.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Napier noted the items in the conference room that Lowe's had greatly donated to the Township, which included masks, wipes, gloves, hand sanitizer, buckets, and tools. He also said the concrete work was continuing nicely, and it should be ready to be driven on in the next few days. Chief Napier reported the activities went well at the Firehouse on Halloween. Ms. Aberlin wanted to thank them too for coming out to her subdivision. Chief Napier said they try to cover outlying areas in the Township to hand out candy/etc. to as many children as possible. Chief Napier stated he turned the property clean up concerns at 3314 Trovillo Road over to the Warren County Zoning Department.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Josh Sandlin stated there was a tree at Deerfield Cemetery that needs to be looked at by a service for possible removal.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: The Fiscal Officer presented the bills to pay, fund status, cemetery deeds, etc. thru November 2, 2020. All were signed and approved by the Board of Trustees.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Allen asked about the purchase of new tools for the Road Department. Mr. Ledford mentioned having Attorney Bruce McGary check into paying for the tools out of the CARES ACT fund that has been obtained by Union Township. Mr. Allen made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mr. Vonderhaar. The motion was carried by all "yeas".

Mr. Ledford asked Mr. Sandlin about a tree that a resident complained about behind the Lowe's store. Mr. Sandlin stated the tree is not in the Township's right of way and he explained this to the resident. Mr. Ledford asked if anyone else had heard about the possibility of a "drug rehab" facility opening in the Township. He had been asked about it by some concerned residents. No one had heard any official information about it. Mr. Ledford made a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on 10/19/20, seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion was carried by all "yeas".

Mr. Vonderhaar said he had received an email from Lynn Scott. This email said her parents had purchased cemetery plots in the past and were told at that time there would be a road constructed to access these plots. They are upset that this road has not yet been constructed. This area of Deerfield Cemetery is still being worked on and there will be a road eventually, but there is no time-line for its completion. Mr. Vonderhaar just wanted to let the other Trustees know of this situation. Mr. Vonderhaar was contacted by Jason Fisher concerning the Highlands at Heritage Hill punch list completion. There is to be another walk-thru on Friday, 11/6/20 and he asked Mr. Sandlin if he could attend. Mr. Sandlin said he would be there. The Highlands at Heritage Hill Home Owners Association sent a letter stating that any rocks homeowners have installed in the roadside ditches will be the individual homeowner's responsibility. Mr. Vonderhaar stated the homeowner(s) will then be billed if any drainage issues

arise that Union Township has to deal with because of these rocks. He asked Mr. Sandlin to verify this with Jason Fisher at Friday's meeting.

Attorney Bruce McGary emailed the real estate tax reduction letter for the residents at Shawhan Trails Lighting District. Fiscal Officer Shelley Lamb will send copies of this letter to all affected Shawhan Trails homeowners. Please see attached letter.

Ms. Aberlin asked if any further information was available concerning a "fire district" that was brought up a few years ago. Mr. Vonderhaar and Chief Napier were in agreement that this was not a feasible idea after Attorney Bruce McGary sent them his comments on it.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Vonderhaar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Allen to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m. The motion was carried by all "yeas".

The next meeting will be Monday, November 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

UNION TOWNSHIP

285 E. Pike Street
South Lebanon, OH 45065
513.494.1966

November 8, 2020

To:

Re: Shawhan Trails Lighting District Fund

The purpose of this letter is to explain why the lighting district assessment on your semi-annual real property tax bills will be reduced in 2021, and for a period of time thereafter.

Our Board continuously strives to provide necessary services to the residents of Union Township and fulfill our obligation to be good stewards of your tax dollars. With this obligation in mind, we have been working with the County Auditor and County Prosecutor Offices to resolve a dilemma with the Shawhan Trails Lighting District having accrued excess funds.

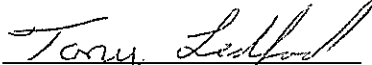
Ohio law does not expressly provide a remedy to correct this situation. We have been advised that refunding the accrued excess funds is not a viable option. Instead, we have elected to resolve the dilemma by choosing the option that has the least impact on the residents in Shawhan Trails. The Fiscal Officer has certified to the County Auditor a sum that will result in the annual assessment to each lot owner totaling \$1.50 to be collected in 2021 (for the 2020 calendar year lighting district expenses). The Fiscal Officer will continue to certify this nominal sum to the County Auditor each year thereafter until such time as the accrued excess funds are reduced to a reasonable balance for this type of assessment fund.


Should you have any questions, we welcome you to attend a Trustees meeting, or call any of us to discuss.

Respectfully,

UNION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES


Fred Vonderhaar


Tony Ledford


Jamie Allen