

UNION TOWNSHIP – WARREN COUNTY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – Regular Meeting – February 5, 2024

CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Union Township Board of Trustees was called to order by President of the Board, Chris Koch on Monday, 2/5/24 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Township Building. Trustees in attendance: Fred Vonderhaar, Chris Koch, & Rhonda Cockerham. The prayer was led by Mrs. Cockerham. Mr. Vonderhaar led everyone in The Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC SPEAKER(S): Warren County Sheriff Larry Sims was in attendance and touched on a few points from his annual “Year in Review” publication.

POLICE SUMMARY: Sergeant Adams had nothing to report.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Mr. Sandlin asked the Trustees to think about road repairs & new equipment purchases for 2024. These items will be discussed at a future meeting. Mr. Sandlin mentioned a payment issue with Mueller Funeral Home. He will send a letter to try and rectify the situation. He also stated someone had inquired about a possible disinterment they are considering for the near future. Mr. Sandlin stated he needed to acquire a pesticide spray license. All the employees in his department can operate under this one license.

CHIEF’S REPORT: Chief Napier presented a quote for a new Xerox copier lease for \$96.80 (.001 blk/white & .08 color print) per month in the Day Room. Mr. Koch made a motion to accept this quote, seconded by Mr. Vonderhaar. The motion was carried by all “yeas”.

FISCAL OFFICER’S REPORT: The Fiscal Officer presented the bills to pay, fund status, cemetery deeds, etc. thru February 5, 2024. All were signed and approved by Mr. Vonderhaar, Mr. Koch, & Mrs. Cockerham.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Koch said he had received an email from part time Firefighter Ryan Hurley (see attached). Mr. Hurley had also resigned from this position the same day. Mr. Koch made a motion to go into executive session at 6:49 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Cockerham. The motion was carried as Mr. Koch & Mrs. Cockerham voted “yea”, Mr. Vonderhaar voted “no”. This is to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee or official.

Mr. Koch, Mr. Vonderhaar, & Mrs. Cockerham returned to the regular meeting at 7:16 p.m. Mr. Koch reported that no action was taken in the executive session. Mr. Koch made a motion to put Chief Napier on “paid administrative leave” effective immediately, seconded by Mrs. Cockerham. The motion was carried as Mr. Koch & Mrs. Cockerham voted “yea”, Mr. Vonderhaar voted “no”. Mr. Koch made a motion to terminate Chief Napier as Union Township Administrator, but no one seconded the motion. Mr. Koch made a motion to put Township Administrator Napier on “paid administrative leave” effective immediately, seconded by Mrs. Cockerham. The motion was carried as Mr. Koch & Mrs. Cockerham voted “yea”, Mr. Vonderhaar voted “no”. Mr. Koch will contact the Warren County Prosecutor’s Office for the appropriate investigative steps that need to be taken. Mr. Koch reiterated that this is the process that must be followed and isn’t in any way a “negative or punishment” on Chief Napier.

Mr. Vonderhaar made motions to accept the minutes from the meetings held on 1/2/24 (regular) & 1/19/24 (special), both seconded by Mrs. Cockerham. The motions were carried by all “yeas”. Mr. Vonderhaar stated he would like to work with OPWC on obtaining a grant and/or interest free loan for road repairs in the Riverwalk Subdivision.

Mrs. Cockerham made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mr. Koch. The motion was carried by all “yeas”.

Mr. Koch reported a parking situation on Shawhan Road had been taken care of by Deputy Morgan.

Mr. Koch made motions to adopt Resolutions (see attached) 02052024-01 – Purchase of Road Salt (second by Mr. Vonderhaar), 02052024-02 – Employee Travel Reimbursements (second by Mrs. Cockerham), & 02052024-03 – Reimbursement for Waive of Insurance (second by Mr. Vonderhaar). The motions were carried by all “yeas”.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Koch made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Cockerham to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion was carried by all “yeas”. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Union Township Fire Resignation

1 message

Ryan Hurley <rhurley8219@gmail.com>
To: "chris.koch untwp.com" <chris.koch@untwp.com>

Sat, Feb 3, 2024 at 3:25 PM

Good Afternoon Mr. Koch,

I wanted to personally reach out to thank you for your service to the community as an elected representative for Union Township. I personally have worked for Union Township Fire Rescue for close to 16 years. I started with the department as a 16 year old cadet, and worked my way up the ranks to Captain with the fire department. I recently resigned from the department as a part time fill-in Firefighter/Paramedic as of today. I wanted to inform you as the President of the Board of Trustees that this decision was not taken lightly. I have never felt so much disrespect, unprofessionalism, and demeaning from a Fire Chief that I have worked for as with Chief Napier. As I have given my all to the residents, and co-workers of Union Township. Unfortunately the fire department is in shambles and only getting worst week to week with morale and performance. If the board of trustees would talk to the crews working 24/7 365 days a year a lot would come out on how Chief Napier treats his employees. I am not a disgruntled employee. I obviously resigned from my Full Time position as a Captain last July to take a Firefighter/Paramedic position with Deerfield Township and I can personally tell you money was not the reason I left Union Township. Morale and the character of Chief Napier played a crucial role in this. If you or the Board of Trustees have any additional questions I would be more than happy to answer any and all.

Respectfully,
Ryan Hurley
513-760-2138

RESOLUTION #02-05-2024-01

Authorizing Contract with Warren County Engineer's Office for Purchase of Road Salt

WHEREAS, UNION Township desires an agreement to purchase road salt through the Warren County Engineer's Office; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Engineer's Office meets all applicable State and local requirements through the bid process for salt; and

WHEREAS, in order to save money and expedite the bidding process, it benefits UNION Township to enter into an agreement with the Board of Warren County Commissioners to participate with the Warren County Engineer's Office for road salt for the 2024-2025 winter season; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of UNION Township to enter into an agreement with the Board of Warren County Commissioners to participate with the Warren County Engineer's Office for the bidding and purchase of 300 tons of road salt for the 2024-2025 winter season; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the UNION Township has allocated its own storage space to receive and store salt bid and awarded in this contract; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Administrator and/or the Road Superintendent of UNION Township are hereby authorized to file and sign all documents associated herewith including the forwarding of the estimated salt needed for purchase as prepared by the Road Superintendent.

Chris Koch moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution, being seconded by Fred Vonderhaar. Upon call of the roll, the following vote resulted:

Mrs. Cockerham	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Koch	<u>yes</u>
Mr. Vonderhaar	<u>yes</u>

Resolution adopted this 5th day of February 2024.

UNION TOWNSHIP

Shelley Fambro
Chief Fiscal Officer

Resolution No. 02052024-02 (CHANGE TO RESOLUTION 01022024-01 – JAN 2 2024)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of UNION Township to reimburse township officials & employees \$.67 per mile as per the IRS - 2024 when traveling on official business outside of the Township in their personal vehicle. Township Trustees, clerk, & employees shall be reimbursed up to \$40.00 per day for meal allowance when attending full day or overnight conferences during the year.

Chris Koch moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution, being seconded by
Rhonda Cockerham The motion was carried by all “yeas” and the resolution passed.

Resolution No. 02052024-03

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of UNION Township to pay any township full-time employee \$139.20 per pay period ILO participating in the Union Township Health Insurance Plan for 2024.

Chris Koch moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution, being seconded by
Fred Vonderhaar The motion was carried by all “yeas” and the resolution passed.

CERTIFICATION

I, Shelley Lamb, Fiscal Officer of Union Township Warren County, do hereby certify that foregoing Resolution Nos. 02052024-02 & 02052024-03 were presented and duly adopted by the Union Township Trustees at the regular meeting held on February 5, 2024.

UNION TOWNSHIP

Shelley Lamb
Shelley Lamb
Chief Fiscal Officer