

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
HELD Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 7:30 pm

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Jack Butler. All members were present. Also present were Fiscal Officer, Annette Depue, Zoning Inspector Mr. Tim Boggs, Road Superintendent, Andy Romoser, and Chief Dave Compton. Mr. Dave Yoder made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and to pay the bills, approve Purchase Orders, & approve reallocations as presented. Mr. Steve Swank seconded the motion and the motion carried with a roll call vote of all ayes.

Resident Donald Zehner, candidate for Richland County Sheriff, attended the meeting to introduce himself to the Trustees and others present. He explained his 30 years of history and experience with law enforcement, as well as, his plans if he were to be elected. His platform will focus on jail, utilizing a behavioral response team, and a bomb dog which is part of the canine unit trained to track arms, gun powder, etc. He is hoping to employ a full-time officer to utilize this service within the schools. Robert Kreiling from Warren Rupp Observatory, also a resident, attended the meeting to provide information about the eclipse and to answer any questions or concerns. He absolutely recommends glasses made in the USA and don't use welding helmets which don't offer enough protection.

Mr Boggs reported that Major Metals at 844 Koheiser Road wants to add a 32,000 SF building and may need to apply to re-zone for industrial. He also presented Resolution #8-24 finding 2160 Washington N. Road Constitutes a Nuisance and needs to remove the trailer. Steve Swank moved to adopt, Jack Butler seconded, and the motion passed with a roll call vote of all ayes. Mr. Boggs also presented Resolution #9-24 finding that Triple JJJ LLC located at 560 E. Hanley Road Constitutes a Nuisance. Dave Yoder moved to adopt, Steve Swank seconded, and the motion passed with a roll call vote of all ayes. Mr. Boggs also updated the Trustees in regards to Spruce Hill at 3230 Possum Run Road. The owner has not completed the project, therefore we cannot release the insurance funds for damage reimbursement.

Chief Compton reported that Engine 133 is being repaired, EMS 131 is in repair due to electrical, and he distributed the year end report. Calls are greater than last years and a report will be filed with the minutes. Chief presented a solution to the issue on the HVAC at the new building due to the location of the thermostat and rooms being located on exterior walls. Baseboard heaters were proposed which would be an additional cost. Trustees discussed the pros and cons. It is better to install while the project is still under construction. It will cost \$9,500-\$11,000. Phones will also need to be added as well as moved. Spectrum Service will be installed 2/6/24. Trustees agreed it is necessary to move forward with the changes.

Mr. Romoser presented that the paving project will cost approximately \$340,581.97. It will be open for bid 3/1/24. He also reported that the new truck is coming along and hopefully will be running in a week. Mr. Butler pointed out that the staff of the road department is a tremendous asset with the ability to rebuild and it will end up only costing the township \$80,000-90,000 rather than \$250,000 for a new truck.

Fiscal Officer, Annette Depue presented Resolution #7-24 to pass the 2024 Permanent Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures. Mr. Butler moved to accept, Mr. Dave Yoder seconded, and the resolution passed with roll call vote of all ayes. Annette Depue distributed a 2024 copy of the Richland County directory and a cash summary by fund report.

Mr. Swank reported that he helped resident Kim Gregg in regards to the aggregate. He shared information from the Richland County Zoning meeting. He also opened a discussion about passing a Resolution to not allow a marijuana dispensary in our township and the Trustees agreed.

Mr. Yoder reported that the lawsuit from Bellville is still where it stands and there has been no further update.

Mr. Jack Butler presented Change Order #19 for electrical conduit for VASU and Spring Electric that will cost an additional \$15,543.10. Mr. Swank moved to accept, Mr. Butler seconded, and the motion passed with a roll call vote of all ayes.

After no further business, Mr. Dave Yoder made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jack Butler seconded the motion and the motion carried with the meeting ending at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

ANNETTE DEPUE, FISCAL OFFICER

JACK BUTLER, CHAIR

DAVE YODER, V-CHAIR

STEVE SWANK, TRUSTEE