

**Minutes of the Urbana Board of Trustees Meeting
held Monday, December 04, 2023**

The Board of Urbana Township Trustees met on this date with Trustee Paul Wright, Trustee Roger Koerner, and Trustee Blair Stinson present. The minutes of the November 20, 2023 meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented. The Financial Status Reports were reviewed and accepted as presented.

Guests

Nick Bundren
Matt Harrigan
Dan Evilsizor

Mr. Wright – All right. Nick?

Mr. Bundren - with Ohio Land and Liberty Coalition. I was here a couple of months ago and I realized I didn't ask if there were any policies on wind or battery storage.

Mr. Stinson – Battery storage I don't believe we do, but I think we do on wind. (Mr. Stinson proceeded to review the Zoning book) Did Sean give you one of these?

Mr. Koerner – when you left you were going to go and talk to the commissioners. Did you do so?

Mr. Bundren – yes. There really wasn't anything new. They are not budging on anything solar. They don't see solar as a viable option. Especially commissioner Vitale. They are nice guys, but it was hard to convince them. These kinds of projects really do change communities for the better. If you get through the Ohio Power Siting Board, nine out of ten times they are going to be good projects.

In Mahoning County we had a meeting and there were 500 people there and 496 were against the projects.

It's a shame because people are actively eroding their property rights. People have fought and died to protect that right. People who I know have the best of intentions, but they are eroding their rights.

Mr. Stinson – we do have an ordinance against wind, but I can't find it.

Mr. Bundren – a lot of the opposition to solar is because of the land it takes up. Wind takes a lot less land.

Mr. Stinson – you realize that there was a wind project that was okayed by the Ohio Power Siting Board but was fought by a neighbor township and was defeated. It affected this township when that was defeated.

That was Everpower, maybe 6 to 8 years ago.

Mr. Wright – it was a little longer than that.

Mr. Stinson – I think it was stopped, but when they gave up it was only about 6 or 8 years ago. I can't find it.

Ms. Perry – We can have Sean email that to you from the zoning.

Mr. Stinson – there is something in here with wind.

Mr. Bundren - that is pretty much all of the questions I have.

Mr. Stinson - battery has not been addressed. We took on the wind and solar in the zoning commission. Since Ever Power lost the application rights it has kind of went dead. We are all land owners and I have not gotten anything from a wind company.

Mr. Bundren – you could have a situation where you go through the approval process and 25 citizens come out and... it makes sense.

Mr. Koerner - I did get something out of Texas and I didn't respond to them.

Mr. Stinson – I will get back to you on wind power. Battery I can tell you we absolutely don't have.

Mr. Wright – Richard do you want to talk about roads?

Richard McCain, Road Supervisor

There isn't too awful much right now. We had a couple of dead deer. I got all of the winter stuff fixed up and checked out. Moved the cold mix in from the bin to the shop. I patched a hole on Briarwood a month ago and she called the other day and said the cold mix just came right out. I called Danny Boggs at the county and asked if he would be out with dura-patcher. He said yes but it would be a week or two.

Mr. Wright – is county going to check it?

Mr. McCain – he said he would fix it and hopefully get a good seal on it.

Mr. Koerner – the bin on the left?

Mr. McCain – on the right if you go in and around, its right there.

Mr. Stinson – Dixon's driveway.

Mr. McCain – I think so.

Mr. Wright – ok sounds good. Is that all that you have then? Well Sean is not here.

Mr. Stinson – he said he wasn't going to make but he emailed his notes.

Ms. Perry - I will go and print them off. See attached.

Mr. Wright – does anybody have any questions or comments on Sean's notes? I did go in through the cemetery and I saw the Trostel military marker.

Mr. Stinson – we got that one done and the one for Taylor too. We just need to borrow Richard for a couple of hours for a few days and hunt down pin markers. If not you spend hours in there trying to find plots.

Mr. McCain – we need to get a better metal detector. Maybe I can stop in the city.

Mr. Stinson – ask them if we can borrow it to test it and see before we get one.

Mr. McCain – yeah. That thing we have you can walk up and find one right now and know where one is and not be able to find it.

Mr. Stinson – now is the time because you can see them. We have probably uncovered 40 or 50. If we could get that done where we could quickly establish where a plot is. Not easy, but more efficient.

We did get a computer for this. So he has a laptop to load the software. That doesn't do anything there though cause we still have to match what is on the screen to what's there.

Mr. Stinson – we did talk about the “we buy houses” sign. Sean stopped there and knocked on the door but no one answered. He will have to have a variance because it is out of compliance if he wants to keep it there.

Mr. McCain – the Watson's sign too.

Mr. Stinson - nice thing about the Watson sign is that they mow it.

Mr. McCain – I don't know how big the state right of way is but it's either in their right of way or our right of way.

Mr. Stinson – just have to stop in there measure it and see what the square footage is.

Mr. Wright – ok move on to old business?

Mr. Koerner - I don't have anything.

Mr. Stinson - Briarwood. I talked to Steve McCall Friday and asked him about the width of the road and if there would be on street parking allowed. I called again today and he said he didn't have time to look at it, but he talked to another gentlemen in there and the road is not wide enough for on street parking. He said we would be responsible for the signage. You can go down there. I was there Saturday and the car is there again tonight.

Mr. Wright – that will be a problem come snow plowing time.

Mr. Stinson - Steve said it is a safety thing. It can't be there at the entrance. We would just like to be able to treat sub divisions the same. I don't think any other sub division parks on the street. Again, if we are going to do that, I talked to Jane too and she said to make it congruent.

Mr. Wright - can we write a resolution saying all of this ? And then put a sign out?

Mr. Koerner – are you counting Oakview and Adell as subdivisions?

Mr. Stinson – Good question. Steve said it is the width of the street. He said it is a safety thing more than anything else. Ward and Pullins, you know how narrow that is. Two cars can't even pass.

Mr. Koerner – I have never seen that abused.

Mr. McCain – now they have three down there doing it.

Mr. Stinson - yeah in Briarwood. That is by far the majority of my calls. Steve said he wanted to wait and check. He says the width of the street will take care of it.

Ms. Perry – did anyone go and talk to Lew about it to see if they voted on it or if he just went and talked to the people? We don't have anything since I have been here.

Mr. McCain – I know that Lew and the Sheriff went and told them they couldn't park there.

Mr. Stinson - but to have something from the Engineer, I want to have something from the Engineer before we do something.

Mr. Wright - ok anything else?

Mr. Stinson - something that Danny brought up last meeting, about prayer before opening the meetings. I talked to Jane and to Heidi Fought at Ohio Township Association. They said not a good idea. If anything you can ask for a moment of silence. There is a lot of things written about it, a lot about church and state. It is something that we can't ask someone to participate in, even going back to the pledge.

Heidi came back and said your pledge of allegiance is to the country, not religion. You might not agree with it. There are some people who won't participate.

Mr. Evilsizor – seems a little unusual coming under Jane. She is present at those meetings along with her boss Kevin and it seems like it is a double standard.

Mr. Stinson – it's a good point. I will say my personal feelings on this, I say more prayer, not less.

Mr. Evilsizor – why don't they say it in those situations, where they are present?

Mr. Stinson – well if we have someone come in and we ask them to stand for the pledge, they can sit there.

They said that it is better to do a moment of silence.

Mr. Evilsizor – would a moment of silence though be appropriate.

Mr. Stinson – I have no problem with that. That is something that we can talk about.

Ms. Perry – I think you could do it before, and then start the meeting after.

Mr. Wright – Last meeting you talked about a bigger spreader box. Richard checked into it and it's expensive.

Mr. McCain - \$8500. He said if the spreader we have isn't tore up he would allow us a trade in.

Mr. Stinson – yeah the price that they quoted Richard, we aren't going to do that. Richard and I talked about it and there could be days that we don't even use the pickup. The whole idea is making the best decisions and being a good steward of the money.

Mr. McCain – you just got to throw grit in that ton truck.

Mr. Stinson – I didn't think it was going to be that expensive.

Mr. McCain – that one that is on there was almost \$4000.

Mr. Stinson – so I withdraw that request.

Mr. Wright – for your information Matt, we use salt in the sub divisions so the grit doesn't clog up the drainage.

Mr. Koerner - the grit. We use salt so it dissipates.

Mr. Wright – any more old business?

Ms. Perry - Oral Blosser. I checked with the health department and Oral Blosser died in 1988. The taxes are current though so someone is paying them. I checked with Probate and nothing was filed there either.

Mr. Stinson – do you know anything about that family Dan?. Is that Mrs. Hess's family?

Mr. Evilsizor – they are related somehow.

Mr. Stinson – so if we want to try to do something. The house is in pretty bad repair. It would just be eligible for the next cycle to demolish it. For both of those houses. We just need to find out who owns it now. It would be nice to let them know that there is money available.

Mr. Stinson - Jane is going to have to get an ok from medicare to demolish it. She said that she will get it done for the next cycle. If we could get that one and the other one, that would be something.

Mr. Stinson – is Mrs. Hess alive?

Mr. Evilsizor – I don't believe she died, but I don't know the answer to that.

Mr. Wright – move on to new business. Does anyone have any new business?

Mr. Stinson - I am working on some, but not enough to bring it up yet.

Mr. Wright – I don't have anything.

Mr. Wright – Matt do you have anything?

Mr. Harrigan – I had a question for the Ohio Land and Liberty Coalition, I wanted to ask him why did he think they feel this way? And then on the prayer thing, maybe we could look at the strength of the room. I agree we can possibly come up with something. I am with Blair. I am a deep catholic and I go to mass every week. I understand it is different and a different scenario. Just like Blair said.

Mr. Wright – Dan do you have anything?

Mr. Evilsizor – a couple things. Following up again about the grant application to be submitted by the city on behalf of the township. Did anyone see that?

Mr. Stinson – no.

Mr. Wright – well I will just throw this in for general information being as I have worked for government my whole career, the wheels of government move pretty slow. I don't think anything about it. It's only been a couple of weeks, so that is not enough time for anybody in the government to do anything.

Mr. Evilsizor – I would think it is a common courtesy that he would come forward and share it with you.

Ms. Perry - did you email or call?

Mr. Evilsizor – I stopped in and he was at a conference and called me and said that he would try to get that information.

Mr. Stinson - I took it since we didn't get anything from him, maybe it wasn't submitted.

Mr. Evilsizor – I think you would be interested in seeing what was available.

Mr. Stinson – Jane talked to him about it and let him know that we couldn't get in to that cycle.

Mr. Evilsizor – what I am getting at is if you didn't like the application, could you withdraw it.

Mr. Stinson – anything else?

Mr. Evilsizor – I would like to re-emphasize as I mentioned at the last meeting, that I think the township building should be opened up for public use.

Mr. Wright – I think I have been overruled on that.

Mr. Stinson – Richard and I have for the past few days been talking about it. We talked about the corridor, which was a good suggestion. But we need all of that space back there. We think there might be a way of doing it with a video camera, and then putting it in that if there is video evidence that they were in the shop, they will lose their deposit. We want to talk to Matt to at the first of the year. I want this to be up to the trustees. But it absolutely is time to use this as a public facility.

Mr. Evilsizor – they will be responsible for wear and tear. The corridor was just an off the cuff. Possibly another exit. And then that brings up another question. What is the township key policy.

Mr. Wright – I have a set of keys that I don't use.

Mr. Evilsizor – what previous office holders?

Mr. McCain – there has only been two.

Ms. Perry – I have Ruth's keys.

Mr. Evilsizor – there was an issue that somebody came and the door was unlocked.

Mr. McCain – and I am not blaming Sean, but if you push this in and don't turn it, it will unlock. (Richard demonstrated the door situation).

Mr. Evilsizor – maybe it would be worth looking into electronic key access.

Mr. McCain – well I wouldn't want to give the public that kind of access.

Mr. Evilsizor – there are those that can be changed. Do all of the zoning people have a key?

Mr. Stinson – no, they don't.

Mr. Evilsizor - I just think for security purposes. There are such locks that they can issue a one time code to that person.

Mr. Harrigan – how did you handle it in the past when they did hand it out?

Mr. McCain – they would come in and get a key and we would tell them to leave the key on the counter.

Mr. Stinson – that is going to be part of that if we are going to rent it out.

Another thing that is an option is different kind of doorbells. Once we get this all figured out. We have to get out of the stone age with these keys. It doesn't cost much to put an electric lock on there.

Mr. Evilsizor – at the last meeting there was discussion about the Ray Hensley Christmas party. How is that not a conflict of interest?

Mr. Wright – conflict of interest on which side Ray Hensley? Well it was a customer appreciation meal. We haven't done business with them for two years.

Mr. Evilsizor – so I guess you would consider this a gift?

Mr. McCain – I have gone to that for 50 years.

Mr. Wright – I understand what you are saying and when I worked for the county we weren't even allowed to take a hat from anyone. But I think that things have changed.

Mr. Stinson – I see where you are coming from Dan, but regardless of who we deal with we are going to have to take bids.

Mr. Evilsizor – it isn't that I was under the impression that Michael McGuire came and did a job and there was no bid.

Mr. Stinson – but no one would give us a bid.

Mr. Evilsizor – but wouldn't we need to get a bid from someone?

Mr. Stinson – we have looked for 2 years and we haven't been able to find anyone to do that for us. We can't afford to do that. In the meantime we have went to everyone, Vernons, Walters, and not one has a vendor.

Mr. Evilsizor – I only said that because you said we always take bids.

Mr. Stinson – I am not going to do anything without getting two bids.

Richard – there is a difference between getting a bid and a price quote.

Mr. Evilsizor – talking about Ray Hensley...I just seem to think that is a conflict to accept a gift from someone you may be doing business with. You said a hat, but a meal would be \$25, \$50.

Mr. Wright – I don't have an answer for you. You are talking about shutting down the state of Ohio.

Mr. Evilsizor – I am talking about shutting down impropriety.

Mr. Stinson – I am going to rest on what I said that I am going to get quotes.

We are all trying to do better. Again, I never looked at someone offering me a meal as going to change what I do.

Mr. Evilsizor – similar topic. The township association dinner, who pays for it.?

Mr. Wright – we did. It's \$20 per person.

Mr. Evilsizor – the township doesn't pay for it?

Mr. Wright – No. Matt did you get an invite to that because you need to be there?

Mr. Harrigan – yes.

Mr. Wright – ok. Does anybody else have anything else to add?

Mr. Stinson – Mr. Stinson moved, seconded by Mr. Koerner that the bills were approved.

Roll call was as follows: Mr. Wright, yes; Mr. Koerner, yes; Mr. Stinson, yes.

Fiscal Officer

The following bills were presented for payment:

Check No.	Date	Payee	Total Amount
	12/04/2023	Auditor of State	\$876.00
20243	12/04/2023	Sandi Perry – reimburse office supplies	\$93.11
20244	12/04/2023	Deere & Co	\$67,556.12
20245	12/04/2023	ADT	\$67.61
20246	12/04/2023	County Engineer	\$20,082.03
20247	12/04/2023	Peoples Savings Bank	\$820.32
20248	12/04/2023	Williams Hardware	\$67.26
20249	12/04/2023	AutoZone	\$64.97
20250	12/04/2023	Lantz Sales	\$56.73
20251	12/04/2023	Cintas	\$70.36
20252	12/04/2023	Roberts Refuse	\$68.50
20253	12/04/2023	Megacity Fire Protection	\$285.00
Total			\$90,108.01

Being no further business, Mr. Stinson moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mr. Koerner.

Paul Wright Trustee Paul Wright, President

Sandi Perry Sandi Perry, Fiscal Officer

12-4-23

Zoning

1. Wrote a zoning permit (#23-044) for Anthony Quinn (937-206-0410) for rooftop solar panels at 1428 Shortcut Rd.
2. I checked on the "We Buy Houses" 937-631-5562 at 4273 S US Rt 68. The property is zoned R-1 The sign is 13.3 ft square feet. I have put a call into them to discuss the sign with them.
3. I received multiple complaints about the Hickory Grove MHP. The new owner/ manager, Steve Sheppard 937-553-1998, is moving in 3-5 used mobile homes into the park. One of the residents is not happy and claims they are condemned. I took pictures of the one that is there now and it does not appear to be in bad shape. The home is temporarily setting on a trailer. I sent Steve a copy of the TWP Zoning Resolution section dealing with mobile homes. He said all of the mobile homes will be installed by professional installers, will be repaired, painted, and will comply with the TWP Resolution and any ORC requirements.
4. My suggestions for these shipping containers.
 - Maximum length of 20'
 - Placed without wheels on a concrete pad
 - Must be painted and well maintained
 - I spoke with Dana at the county building department. He suggested that we require footers for the 20' shipping container storage sheds with the following characteristics. The footers should be around the whole perimeter, 12" wide, 32" deep with a 4" thick slab poured all in one pour. Also 2 tiedowns.

12-4-23

Cemetery

1. I purchased an HP computer for the cemetery software. It cost \$407.54 and Marilyn Stinson sped it out for me. It will only be used to run the cemetery software.
2. Blair and I installed 2 military markers. One for Douglas Talor at P178 G3 and the other one for at David Trostell P285 G2
3. We also found the burial plot pins for Robert Kunkle he is buried at P155 G6 and his wife will be buried at P156 G4. I have let his brother in-law (Ron Lantz 937-653-6152) know and when he decides the monument size, we will have to install a footer in the spring.