

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Weathersfield Township Trustees Regular Meeting

Held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Call to order: Steve Gerberry

Pledge: Completed

Prayer: Steve Gerberry

Roll Call: Steven Gerberry - Present Richard Harkins - Present
Edward Whittaker - Present Fred Bobovnyk - Present

Correspondence/Announcements:

- The ***Trustees would like to remind our residents that the 2022 Residential Tree Limb Chipping Program is continuing.*** The 2022 Residential Tree Limb Chipping Program will begin on Friday May 6, 2022 and will continue each Friday through Friday October 28, 2022. For tree limb pick-up, you must call the Township by Thursday of each week to be placed on the list for a Friday pick-up. Please keep the following rules and procedures in mind:
 - This program is intended for residential tree limbs up to 3 inches in diameter.
 - The tree limbs must be placed at the curbside with all the cut ends aligned with each other toward the street.
 - No shrubs, stumps, roots, lumber, or railroad ties will be accepted. All tree limbs must be free from vines.
 - We are not a tree removal service; if you are having a tree professionally removed let them do the entire job, you must have them take the tree limbs as well.
- The ***Trustees would like to mention that the Dunlap-Moss House located at 1499 Burnett Street in Mineral Ridge is being considered by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places,*** the Federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation.
- The ***Trustees would like to report that the meeting with the Trumbull County Commissioners and the Trumbull County Sanitary Engineer's Office*** that was held on September 1, 2022 regarding the Heaton Chute sanitary sewer project was well attended and received unanimous support from the residents.
- The ***Trustees would like to remind our residents that the Township Gas Aggregation Program with Constellation Energy will be ending with your meter reading in May.*** The Trustees would like to remind our residents that they have an opportunity to join the Trumbull County Gas Aggregation Program. The Trumbull County Gas Aggregation Program began in March of this year and continues through February 2026. A fixed rate of \$3.99 per Mcf has been established and there is a senior discount (over 65) at \$3.89/Mcf. For enrollment information please contact Constellation Energy at (844) 809-6834.

Reports:

- Financial Report – Presented by Fred Bobovnyk
- Administrator's Report – Presented by David Rouan
- Zoning Report – Presented by Kelly Clarke
- Police Report – Presented by Police Chief Michael Naples
- Fire Report – Presented by Steven Gerberry
- Lane LifeTrans Report – Presented by Name
- Law Director's Report – Presented by Cherry Poteet

Note: All reports are on file in the Fiscal Officer's office.

Comments from the public will be heard on agenda items at this time; there will still be an opportunity for individuals to address the Board during our public comments part of the meeting.

Old Business:

None

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New Business:

- 22-128 Motion to ***approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting that was held on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM.***

Motion by: Rich Harkins Seconded by: Edward Whittaker
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-129 Motion to ***approve the drawing warrants upon our treasury and paying township bills.***

Motion by: Edward Whittaker Seconded by: Rich Harkins
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-130 Motion to ***approve the Then and Now's pursuant to the list provided by the Fiscal Officer.***

Motion by: Rich Harkins Seconded by: Edward Whittaker
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-131 Motion to ***hire Todd Zickefoose as a full-time police officer within the Weathersfield Township Police Department effective August 29, 2022.*** The full-time police officer position shall receive the rate of pay at 100%, benefits, and other considerations as set forth in the collective bargaining agreement by and between the board of Trustees and the OPBA as adopted by Resolution #20-102. The board of Trustees would like to welcome Todd back to our organization.

Motion by: Edward Whittaker Seconded by: Rich Harkins
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-132 Motion to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding effective the **17th day of August 2022**, by and between the Weathersfield Local Schools Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as "Board") and the Trustees of Weathersfield Township (hereinafter referred to as "Township")

WHEREAS, the Township operates the Weathersfield Township Police Department (hereinafter referred to as "Police Department"); and

WHEREAS, the Board operates an Ohio public school system of Weathersfield Local School District within the official boundaries of Weathersfield Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board and the Township seek to create and promote school safety and community safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board and the Township agree to the following:

1. The length of this contract shall be from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2025.
2. Both parties agree to rescind any of the previous agreements, promises, and mutual covenants between the parties related to School Resource Officers ("SROs").
3. The Board shall pay the Township \$72,064.00 per SRO per year, which is calculated as 80% of the SRO's salary, benefits, and fringe benefits as per the Police Department's Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Township will bill the Board one-twelfth of this annual amount on the 1st of each month, beginning September 1, 2022. This payment by the Board shall include the attendance of an SRO at school events that the SRO attends, i.e., Football games, basketball games, etc. The Township will determine which school events the SRO shall attend.
4. The Township shall have one (1) uniformed Weathersfield Township Police Officer serve as a School Resource Officer (hereinafter referred to as "SRO") and in the

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future the Township may provide a second SRO if available. The SRO will be present in the school buildings, Seaborn Elementary and/or Mineral Ridge High School, on the days that school is in session. If the Township is unable to provide an SRO on a particular school day, the Police Chief shall notify the school district and the Township shall credit the Board in their next invoice at the rate of \$430.00 per SRO per day of absence.

5. The mission of the SROs is to promote school safety by helping to build a positive school climate in which all students and community members feel safe and are supported to succeed. The SROs act as a bridge between the community and the Weathersfield Police Department and the Weathersfield Local School District. The goal of the SROs is to ultimately reduce crime committed by and against youth in the greater Weathersfield community. The SRO accomplishes this mission by supporting a safe, secure, and orderly learning environment in the school for students, teachers, and staff through relationships with students, teachers, and the community, helping to build a school culture of open communication and trust, getting to know students and staff at the school, and serving as a role model.
6. The SROs will remain in the Police Department's chain of command and subject to Police Department's rules, regulations, and operating procedures.
7. The SROs shall receive SRO training, ALICE training and other training deemed appropriate by the Police Chief.
8. The schedule and specific duties of the SRO and the educational programs to be offered by the SRO will be determined by the Police Chief after consultation with the School District.
9. It is understood and agreed that the SRO is responsible for law enforcement at the school but not general student discipline. Complaints from parents, students and school personnel regarding student discipline, behavior and truancy will be addressed by the school administrators, not the SRO. The SRO is not a school disciplinarian and violations of the student code of conduct or school rules that are not criminal matters will be handled by school faculty and staff, not the SRO. The SRO will not intervene in student discipline unless the situation creates an imminent threat to the health, safety, and security of students or others and will employ de-escalation techniques as appropriate.
10. School staff are to notify the SRO of all violent or other criminal activity that creates a safety risk. The SRO, as a law enforcement officer, is responsible for all criminal investigations. The SRO may use discretion and issue warnings or other alternatives to arrest for misdemeanor activity. Felony offenses, sex offenses, weapon offenses, and offenses of violence will normally result in the filing of criminal charges. The decision to file criminal charges is always the decision of the SRO and the Police Department.
11. The SROs shall work with the School District to coordinate crisis planning and update school crisis plans.
12. The School Board agrees to cooperate in any grant or other applications for funding for the SRO upon request by the Township.
13. This Agreement may be modified only in writing signed by both parties.

Motion by: Rich Harkins Seconded by: Edward Whittaker
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-133 Motion to **accept and acknowledge the retirement of William Hewitt effective September 9, 2022**. The board Trustees would like to thank Bill for his 38 years of service with the Township and to the residents of our community.

Motion by: Edward Whittaker Seconded by: Rich Harkins
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-134 Motion to **hire Daniel Dean as a Truck Driver Class #2 within the Weathersfield Township Road Department effective September 19, 2022**. Daniel shall receive the rate of pay, benefits, and other considerations as set forth in the collective bargaining agreement by and between the board of Trustees and the OCSEA as adopted by Resolution #20-114. Daniel will be on a six (6) month probationary period. The board of Trustees would like to welcome Daniel to our organization.

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Motion by: Rich Harkins Seconded by: Edward Whittaker
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-135 Motion to **accept and acknowledge the resignation of Fire Fighter Ivan Martin** effective August 24, 2022. The board Trustees would like to thank Ivan for his years of service with our Fire Department and to the residents of our community. Ivan began as a Junior Fire Fighter in 2020. Ivan has moved and is taking a position as a Fire Fighter in his new hometown.

Motion by: Edward Whittaker Seconded by: Rich Harkins
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-136 Motion to **authorize the closure of TH1374 (Wildwood Drive)** beginning at intersection of CR58E (Ohltown McDonald Road) and continuing south to TH60B (Watson Marshall Road). The road closure will be on Saturday, October 8, 2022 from 4:00 PM until 9:00 PM. The purpose of the road closure is for the 28th annual block party. This area may be used for any purpose associated with the event; however, alcoholic beverages may not be consumed within the public right-of-way, fireworks may not be ignited within the public right-of-way, and no tents, tables, or chairs may be placed on the paved roadway surface.

Motion by: Rich Harkins Seconded by: Edward Whittaker
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-137 Motion to **set the 2022 Trick or Treat event for Monday, October 31, 2022 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.** The board of Trustees has determined this to be the best date and time for this event.

Motion by: Edward Whittaker Seconded by: Rich Harkins
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-138 Motion to **go into Executive Session** at 7:20 PM to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

Motion by: Rich Harkins Seconded by: Edward Whittaker
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

- 22-139 Motion to **come out of Executive Session** at 8:19 PM.

Motion by: Rich Harkins Seconded by: Edward Whittaker
 Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
 Motion Carried

Public Comments:

Open Comments

Next Meetings:

Next Meetings: Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 3:30 PM; Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 3:30 PM; and Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment:

- 22-140 Motion to **adjourn the meeting.**

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Vote: Steven Gerberry - Yes Richard Harkins - Yes Edward Whittaker - Yes
Motion Status

Fred Bobovnyk, Fiscal Officer

Steven J. Gerberry, Trustee

Richard T. Harkins, Trustee

Edward K. Whittaker, Trustee