

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in Regular Session at the township administration office on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance, Mr. Arnie Clebone, Mr. Devon Stanley, and Mr. Gregory Cizmar presiding.

Congratulation to the Liberty Little Leopards 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade teams for winning the EOYFL 2024 Super Bowl.

#### **24-120 Resolution Honoring The Liberty Little Leopards 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teams**

**WHEREAS**, the **Liberty Little Leopards** 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders participated in the Eastern Ohio Youth Football League (EOYFL) comprising of 29 teams; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Liberty Little Leopards** had an amazing and talented cheerleading squad who rooted for them throughout the season; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Liberty Little Leopards** team went undefeated in the regular season; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Liberty Little Leopards** went on to **WIN the 2024 Super Bowl Championship**, in their tier; and

**WHEREAS**, the fact that this victory occurred on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, enabling the team to honor the founder of the program Coach Batcho; and

**WHEREAS**, the win capped off an extraordinary season, led by the amazing Coach Steve Hoffman, along with Assistant Coaches Lilton Morris, Brian Williams, Craig Misier, Josh Hall, Dan Mohler, Blaise Schuller, and President Adam Earnhardt;; and

**WHEREAS**, we the **Board of Liberty Township Trustees** would like to express our sincere appreciation for such a triumph;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, this honorable body of the **Board of Liberty Township Trustees**, recognizes and commends rare athletic achievement of the **Liberty Little Leopards**, and gives special honor and commendation to those athletic teams, and their leadership, who pursues such excellence that they become examples for the youth of our beloved community.

Adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2024.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

#### **Reports:**

Fiscal Officer Matthew Connelly discussed bank reconciliations and how the trustees are required to sign each month's reconciliation. In addition, every month the trustees receive a copy of a variety of fund reports, including the bank statement, interest statement, as well as the expenditures and cash balances for each fund. Mr. Connelly said he met with the Fire Chief today to plan for the 2025 budget. He intends to meet with the Road Superintendent, Police Chief and Zoning Inspector in the coming weeks. Matthew is working with the County Auditor to review the lighting district fees. He said it is a large undertaking and will take some time to complete.

Administrator Mrs. Martha Weirick had a few announcements. Trustee Greg Cizmar and she attended the NOPEC General Assembly. The key takeaway is a significant increase in electricity for all of Ohio starting June 2025 for both residential and commercial. The 10/31/24 Halloween Open House was wonderfully attended. She announced the 2024 Holiday Tree Lighting and Santa's arrival is scheduled for Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Fire Chief Doug Theobald reported the Gary Sinise training session that took place a few weeks ago was a success. He is pursuing next year's grant for heavy extraction training. Chief feels this is a vital training exercise since we are so close to interstate 80. He will invite the surrounding departments to participate. Doug said they were not successful in receiving Air Pack grant this year but plans to re-apply for the grant this year.

Police Chief Toby Meloro presented his report. The Chief wanted to thank the Chaplains, along with Walmart for helping with this year's Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner. We served over 100 people and delivered additional dinners to those on our senior watch.

Road Superintendent Mr. Wayne Hickman was absent. Trustee Devon Stanley read his report:

- 1) 2024 Local Paving Project – Foust plans to start w/ drainage work on Goleta by the end of the month as material submittals are being reviewed currently at TCE.
- 2) Townsend Road Project – Drainage work is 99% complete as we did not have to move the 12” water main at the intersection of Logan Way and SR304. Restoration and paving by RT Vernal is up next.
- 3) Ordered 400 tons of salt to be delivered this week.
- 4) Bathrooms at CHP & Center Park are closed for the season. The water has been shut off and bathrooms have been winterized.
- 5) Went over all trucks for plowing and salting this winter. We are ready for the snow season.
- 6) Always making drainage repairs, pothole patching, and brush clearing. We are most likely done cutting grass for the year.

Zoning and Code Enforcement Director Mr. Jim Rodway was absent.

**New Business:**

Motion to approve the minutes of the Friday, November 1, 2024 Regular meeting.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve warrant/eft expenditures for the month of October 2024 in the amount of \$471,893.31 warrants #26469 through #26546 inclusive.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Purchase Order Listing and any Then and Now Certificates for the month of October 2024.

Motion: Mr. Clebone. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

24-121 Motion to pass the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATOR MARTHA WEIRICK TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND / OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED**

WHEREAS, the State Capital Improvement Program and the Local Transportation Improvement Program both provide financial assistance to political subdivisions for capital improvements to public infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, the LIBERTY TOWNSHIP is planning to make capital improvements to THE 2025 ROAD RESURFACING PROGRAM; and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure improvement herein above described is considered to be a priority need for the community and is a qualified project under the OPWC programs,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, TRUMBULL COUNTY,;

Section 1: The Liberty Township Administrator Martha Weirick is hereby authorized to apply to the OPWC for funds as described above.

Section 2: The Liberty Township Administrator Martha Weirick is authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance.

Section 3: The Chief Financial Officer of Liberty Township is Matthew Connelly and the Project Manager for the OPWC Project is Dewayne Hickman Road Superintendent and each is authorized to execute any documents as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

**24-122 A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE NECESSARY AMOUNT TO BE USED TO PAY THE LOCAL SHARE NECESSARY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION**

STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

WHEREAS, the State Capital Improvement Program and the Local Transportation Improvement Program both provide financial assistance to political subdivisions for capital improvements to public infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, Liberty Township is planning to make capital improvements to the 2025 Motor Inn, Ellenwood, March, etc. Resurfacing Program, and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure improvement herein above described is considered to be a priority need for the community and is a qualified project under the OPWC programs,

NOW THEREFORE, BE ITRESOLVED by Liberty Township:

Section 1: Liberty Township has the amount of \$499,068.00 in Federal Highway Administration funds and this amount will be used to pay the local share for the herein above described project when it is required.

Section 2: Matthew Connelley, Fiscal Officer, is hereby directed to complete the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of Local Funds for the project.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Arnie Clebone remarked on this because we were awarded \$150,000 towards this project from the State.

24-123 Resolution to adopt an emergency action plan for the use of automated external defibrillators at the Liberty Township baseball fields.

WHEREAS Ohio Revised Code requires political subdivisions to place an automated external defibrillator (AED) in each sports and recreation location, which is defined as indoor recreation centers and facilities, gymnasiums, swimming pools, and playing fields that are designated, operated, and maintained for those uses as authorized by sections 755.12 to 755.18 of the Revised Code; and WHEREAS, the Township is required to adopt an emergency action plan for the use of automatic external defibrillators and may use the model plan developed by the department of health.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Liberty Township

Section 1: Liberty Township hereby adopts the Model Emergency Action Plan for the use of an automated External Defibrillator (AED), which is attached.

Section 2: Liberty Township has acquired an AED which will be placed at the baseball fields during baseball season.

Motion: Mr. Clebone. Second. Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Motion carried.

See addendum file for Model Emergency Action Plan in file cabinet filed as "Park AED Model Plan."

24-124 Motion to accept the resignation of part time firefighter John Corman effective 11-12-24..

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

24-125 Motion to accept the resignation of part time Cemetery Sexton Tim Monroe effective 11/23/24.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

Remark: Trustee Stanely stated Tim assured us he would help out on a voluntary basis whenever possible, until we can find a replacement.

A citizen asked the Fire Chief about the status of fire hydrants along Tibbetts-Wick Road. Specifically the hydrant that is facing the wrong way and the other one that has sank into the ground. The Chief assured him he reported it the City of Girard.

A citizen asked if anything can be done about the on-going problem with Belmont Pines runaways. His property is next to Belmont Pines and is concerned for his children's safety. The Trustees and Police Chief said they have had many, many discussions and meetings with the Belmont Pine's CEO's who promise changes, yet none of those changes stops the runaways. The Chief said he will set up another

meeting with Belmont Pine's.

Trustees' remarks: Trustee Arnie Clebone said the Liberty Community and Historical Society is meeting Thursday at 5:30 p.m. and has invited Youngstown Historian and published author Thomas Welsh to speak. Arnie reported the Build a Better Belmont met a few weeks ago with a good showing of business owners, as well as, Trustee Devon Stanley and Administrator Martha Weirick in attendance to discuss a variety of beautifications and improvements.

Trustee Devon Stanley also commented on the Build a Better Belmont meeting. There was a consensus with those in attendance that Belmont Avenue in Liberty Township needs to be well lighted and is vital to the City of Youngstown especially when shows come to town. They stay and eat in Liberty Township. Devon also welcomed Laura Fulner who has joined the zoning department as a zoning and code officer.

Trustee Greg Cizmar said he contacted the City of Girard's Safety Director last week. The safety director said he would send out the water department this coming week to see what can be done about the fire hydrants. Greg said the most recent auction finished at 6:00 p.m. today and he is in the process of having ground hogs removed from under the bereavement shelter.

Motion to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

Next business meeting is Friday, November 22, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. (No meeting Friday, November 29, 2024). Always check [www.libertytp.com](http://www.libertytp.com) for any meeting changes and cancellations.

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MATTHEW CONNELLY, FISCAL OFFICER

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GREG CIZMAR, CHAIRPERSON