

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in Regular Session at the township administration office on Monday, July 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance, Mr. Arnie Clebone, Mr. Gregory Cizmar and Mr. Devon Stanley, presiding.

GPD Group Chris Tolnar talked about the two sidewalk grant projects awarded to the township. He provided plans and discussed the fully funded WRTA grant and the TAP grant in detail. Chris relayed the findings from a recent public event where the public was invited to review the projects and offered comments and suggestion.

REPORTS:

Fiscal Officer Matthew Connelly offered his financial report to the Board. He reviewed the Cash Summary Report reminding the Board the township will begin to receive the 2nd half taxes. Mr. Connelly reported the Alternative Tax Budget has been submitted to the County and is working on bank reconciliations. Martha, Teena and he met with representatives from HD Davis to discuss various accounting options including IRS changes and to make sure deadlines are kept. In addition, they are interested in assisting the township with Churchill Park's improvements. The fire Chief and he are meeting with Cari Immerman as she pursues funds from various foundations, businesses, and private donors to acquire a Fire Truck and how the donors can contact Matt directly. Matt was finally able to collect from the FBI task force thanks to the collective help from Chief Meloro and Captain Buhala. The 2023 Cemetery Grant was recently finalized. Cemetery Sexton Mr. Tim Monroe has worked closely with Matt to acquire this grant which helps defer the cost of repairing and resetting monuments.

Administrator Martha Weirick recounted how well last month's Music in Churchill Park was attended. She thanked Jim Moran, Liberty Lesson Center, for an outstanding program. The next music event at Churchill Park will be July 12th at 7:00 p.m. with the band CinCity performing. The August 23rd band is The Dixie Dandies scheduled at 7:00 p.m. The Community and Historical Society will be meeting July 18th at the Administration Building at 5:30 p.m. Dr. Perni is bringing traditional Balinese dancers to perform. Martha mentioned National Night Out, a national police event held August 1st at the school stadium. A large part of the community businesses and residents attend. A parade preceding the event, traveling along Shady Road, ends at the stadium and a huge fireworks display closes out the event.

Fire Chief Doug Theobald also spoke about his working with Cari Immerman to secure funding for a fire truck. He is meeting with her on Wednesday and potential donors. He has been working on a power point presentation and gathering data for the meeting. The Chief reported the high volume of runs and is confident they will exceed last year's run count. Lt. Buday was notified we were awarded national recognition from the American Heart Association thanks to our dedicated paramedics. The Chief is working with Phantom Fire Works for the National Night out event.

Police Chief Toby Meloro presented his lengthy report. The Chief spoke more on the August 1st National Night Out event on how this event brings the community and his officers together to communicate in a positive way. The Chief is pleased with the amount of support received from all the local businesses and the local school. He expects this event to be very well attended.

Road Mr. Wayne Hickman was absent.

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

Motion to approve the minutes of the June 30, 2023 Regular meeting.

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

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

Motion to approve warrant/eft expenditures for the month of June 2023 in the amount of \$797,717.78 warrants #25204 through #25306 inclusive.

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

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

Motion to approve the Purchase Order Listing and the Then and Now Certificates for the month of June 2023.

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

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

23-102 Motion to accept the resignation of Firefighter Joseph Danks – last day 7/14/23. Good luck in the future.

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

Citizens may speak on any matter. A resident asked about unsightly signs and advertising on Ohio Edison poles. Police Chief responded by saying the Zoning Inspector and he are constantly removing the signs/advertisement. It's an ongoing problem. Trustee Cizmar said at a recent Ohio Township Association meeting, he learned we need permission from Ohio Edison to remove anything from their poles since they belong to Ohio Edison. Martha will contact Ohio Edison to see what can be done. Since that meeting Martha reached out to Ohio Edison and now has permission to remove the signs.

Trustees' remarks:

Trustee Greg Cizmar reported on the progress of Churchill Park's beautification. He is working with Liberty Baseball Association's Bret Fine to acquire dirt for the baseball fields during the month of August. Greg wanted to thank Trumbull County Engineer Randy Smith, and all involved, including Kirila Paving, for paving the section of road in front of the Fire Station and Logan Swim Club.

Trustee Arnie Clebone reminded the Board they need to finalize next year's roads and submit them to the County. He is also working with Cari Immerman to secure funding for the fire department's ambulance. Arnie met with Eastgate who plans to conduct a study at 304 and the I-80 overpass (east of Logan) for a possible interchange at that location. The Build a Better Belmont Bikeathon produced more positive than negative comments, such as greener space, sidewalks, bicycle friendliness, and emphasis on safety. Arnie is motivated on improving zoning maintenance and codes. He intends to come up with specific recommendations.

Trustee Devon Stanley complimented the Liberty Police Department for their outstanding work.

Motion to go into executive session to consideration the employment, dismissal, discipline, or demotion of a public employee at 7:11 p.m.

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

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

Motion to end executive session at 7:29 p.m. and resume the regular meeting.

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

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

23-103 Motion to accept the retirement of Police Sergeant Michael Janovick effective December 31, 2023. Best of luck in your retirement and in the future.

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

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

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

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

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

Next regular business meeting is Friday, July 21, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

MATTHEW CONNELLY, FISCAL OFFICER

DEVON STANLEY, CHAIRPERSON