

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS JULY 29, 2022

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in Regular Session on Friday, July 29, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. with the following members in attendance, Mr. Gregory Cizmar, Mr. Arnold Clebone and Mr. Devon Stanley, presiding.

Resident J.V. Ferrara and his legal counsel, Leonard Schiavone made a presentation to the Board requesting that the township Zoning Resolution be revised to permit him to continue to rent mansions in the township as overnight rentals for golfers. Mr. Ferrara had received the Cease-and-Desist notices that were sent, but he would like to see if anything can be done to permit him to continue to operate. He stated that his operations do not bother the neighbors and are good for the township and keep the homes from falling into disrepair. He understands that he will be required to bring the mansions into compliance with the Fire Code and safety regulations. He also stated that he would pay the bed tax.

The Fire Inspector, Cathy Macchione, provided Mr. Ferrara with a copy of the inspection report of violations of the fire code that had just been completed. She explained that if there are rooms for more than five overnight guests, the property owner is required by law to apply to the State Fire Marshal for a hotel permit and comply with the safety requirements for a hotel. There is insufficient egress, lack of smoke detectors, no carbon monoxide detectors, no sprinkler system, inability for fire trucks to reach the properties, the doors and walls are not fire resistant, insufficient fire extinguishers, and other violations.

Attorney Schiavone stated that Mr. Ferrara would review the report and recognized that he would be required to bring the homes into compliance with the Fire code, but that he would need to know that the use would be permitted under the Zoning Resolution.

The Board indicated that they would be willing to consider a change to the zoning Resolution, but the homes could not continue to operate while the changes were being discussed, as they were in violation of the zoning resolution and fire code.

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2022 Regular Meeting and the July 19, 2022 Special meeting.

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

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

22-122 Motion to pass the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Ohio and Liberty Township, Trumbull County, Ohio have been harmed the opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio and its local governments have entered into a settlement with certain Pharmaceutical companies, and under this settlement certain payments will be distributed to Liberty Township over eighteen years pursuant to a OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding relating to the allocation and the use of the proceeds of the settlements.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Liberty Township, Trumbull County, Ohio:

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees of Liberty Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, hereby establishes a fund, the Liberty OneOhio Fund, to accept and hold the local government share of the OneOhio Funds received by Liberty Township, to be used only for approved purposes as required by the OneOhio MOU.

Section 2. Each expenditure from the Liberty OneOhio Fund must be authorized by the Board of Trustees, and shall be used for evidence-based forward-looking strategies, programming and services to: (i) expand the availability of treatment for individuals affected by substance use disorders, (ii) develop, promote and provide evidence-based substance use prevention strategies, (iii) provide substance use avoidance and awareness education, (iv) decrease the oversupply of licit and illicit opioids, or (v) support recovery from addiction services performed by qualified and appropriately licensed providers.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Board of Trustees relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

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

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

22-123 Motion to hire part time firefighter paramedic Kaitlyn Mason, at \$16.00 per hour, no benefits, pending preemployment drug test. 1st day worked is hire date.

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

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

22-124 Motion to hire part time firefighter EMT Nicholas Foard at \$14.00 per hour, no benefits, pending preemployment drug testing. 1st day worked is hire date.

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

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

22-125 Motion to hire Officer Christian Thoma as a probationary police officer at \$22.97 per hour, effective August 15, 2022 pending preemployment drug testing with benefits per the terms of the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association Bargaining Agreement.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, NO. Motion carried.

Comment: Mr. Cizmar stated nothing against Officer Toma, but adding a patrolman was not in the budget for this year.

22-126 Motion to accept the Western Reserve Transit Authority Grant for Sidewalk improvements along State Route 193 and Churchill Road in the amount of \$446,424, (there is

no local match required), and to authorize Arnold Clebone on behalf of the Liberty Township Board of Trustees to execute the grant agreement and any other required documents.

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

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

22-127 Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Teamsters Local 377 and the Liberty Township Board of Trustees to adjust the wages of the following road department employees: Bill Haas will be moved to the 3-year rate on the wage schedule (\$19.18 per hour) & Raymond K. Manna will be moved to the 2-year rate on the wage schedule (\$18.06 per hour) effective (pay period 16) 7/24/22 to 8/6/22 paid on 8/12/22. See MOU for full details.

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

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

Comment: Mr. Cizmar stated this may come back to bite us.

22-128 Motion to pass the following resolution for grass abatements:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby determines that the owner's maintenance of vegetation, garbage, refuse and other debris upon the following properties constitutes a nuisance:

Address: Parcel No.:

1172 Academy Drive 12-051300

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of this Board's intent to provide for the abatement, control, or removal of said vegetation, garbage, refuse or other debris constituting said nuisance be given to all owners of the land and holders of liens of record upon said land in accordance with **Section 505.87 (B) O.R.C.**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon proper notice, and failure of the property owner to abate said nuisance within seven days, the Board of Trustees provide for the abatement, control, or removal of said vegetation, garbage, refuse or other debris constituting said nuisance in accordance with **Section 505.87 (B) O.R.C.**

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

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

Chief Theobald requested that the Board authorize him to bid on a ladder truck that was being sold in New York. It is a 1994 truck, that he thinks would be an asset to the department as there are multiple tall buildings in the township, including hotels, and the township does not have a ladder truck.

22-129 After some discussion, motion made by Mr. Stanley to authorize the Fire Chief to bid up to \$12,000 from a municipal bid for a 1994 ladder truck pending visual inspection and passes certifications.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, No. Motion carried.

Discussion: Road Superintendent discussed the completed paving and upcoming paving projects. The Parking lot should be completed in August after drainage is addressed. Naylor Lloyd grant of \$209,000 won't be enough to pay for the asphalt. Drainage also needs addressed, he reported. Churchill Park Squaw Creek Project is nearly complete. The Flag at I-80 rope needs replaced in case anyone gets complaints. Wayne is working on fixing the rope.

Police Chief Toby Meloro reminded everyone of National Night Out this coming Tuesday. He's had and will continue to have Block Parties, to connect with the residents.

A resident inquired about public records request he had sent to the Administrator. She stated that she had forwarded it to the Zoning Inspector and Fiscal Officer for responses.

Motion to adjourn into executive session at 10:23 a.m. to discuss the employment and compensation of a public employee, to consider the purchase of property for public purposes, and imminent litigation with the law director.

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

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

Motion to adjourn from executive session at 11:31 a.m. and resume regular session.

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

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

22-130 Motion to enter into an MOU with the OPBA to clarify the pay rate and seniority of officer Nick Ryan.

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

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

22-131 Motion to authorize the law director to file a lawsuit to enforce the zoning regulation on the properties owned by JV Ferrara.

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

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

Motion to adjourn at 11:34 a.m.

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

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

Next meeting Friday, September 2, 2022 @ 8:30 a.m.

MATT CONNELLY
FISCAL OFFICER

DEVON STANLEY, CHAIRPERSON