

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in Regular Meeting at the township administration building on September 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. with the following members in attendance, Mr. Devon Stanley, Mr. Arnie Clebone and Mr. Gregory Cizmar, presiding.

Reports:

Fiscal Officers Report – Mr. Matt Connelly stated the 2018-19 State Audit was completed. Mr. Connelly will be attending 8 continuing education classes in the next few weeks. The classes are requirements for the fiscal officer. He has been working with the bank to waive some fees and will now be able to scan and deposit checks rather than physically bringing them to the bank for deposit.

Administrator’s Report –Mrs. Martha Weirick thanked the Firefighters, Police Officers and the Administration staff who all came together, either on the scene at the Green Acres house fire, or afterwards at the administration building by making the facility available to the families. In the coming weeks, we will honor our personnel properly, but wanted to mention how proud she is of the staff of Liberty Township.

Fire Department – Chief Gus Birch was absent but sent his report.

Police Department – Chief Toby Meloro presented his report. Chief spoke on the upcoming Fall Festival scheduled for Sunday, October 17th at Churchill Park. Due to Covid, the Halloween event originally planned at the administration building will now be held at Churchill Park. Residents can join in the Trunk or Treat, food will be available for purchase, games, face painting and a bounce house will be on hand. The safety forces will be attendance.

The Chief mentioned an event taking place Sunday September 19th from noon – 9 p.m. at the Icehouse on Rt. 45 to benefit a township child who is battling cancer. Mrs. Rachel Hill will talk more about the event later this evening.

Road Department – Mr. Timothy Monroe was not in attendance.

Zoning Department – Mr. Jim Rodway presented his report.

New Business:

Motion to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2021 Special meeting and the September 3, 2021 Regular meeting.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley Abstained because he was absent for those meetings. Motion carried.

Motion to approve warrant/eft expenditures for the month of July 2021 in the amount of \$816,718.57 warrants #22602 through #22751 and for the month of August 2021 in the amount of \$486,637.45 warrants #22752 through #22884 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 July and August 2021.

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

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

21-133 Motion to acknowledge and accept the resignation of Deborah Grinstein from the Liberty Township Civil Service Commission effective August 9, 2021. The Board would like to thank her for her many years of dedicated service to the residents of Liberty Township as a Liberty Township Civil Service Commissioner.

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

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

21-134 Motion to acknowledge and accept the resignation of Olga Kragel from the Liberty Township Civil Service Commission effective August 19, 2021. The Board would like to thank her for her many years of dedicated service to the residents of Liberty Township as a Liberty Township Civil Service Commissioner.

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

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

21-135 Motion to take off the table and approve motion 21-131 to authorize Davey Resource Group to proceed with work on the Little Squaw Creek Phase 2 Restoration.

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

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

Citizens may speak on any matter: Mrs. Rachel Hill mentioned an event taking place Sunday September 19th from noon – 9 p.m. at the Icehouse on Rt. 45 in Austintown. The benefit is for her grandson Joey and another child, Nora, both battling forms of cancer.

A resident addressed the Board requesting yield sign be installed at Redfern and Wildfern intersection.

A resident would like to encourage Liberty residents to attend the meetings.

A group of residents spoke about the petitions they had presented seeking sidewalks on Colonial Drive. If the Township is successful in obtaining a grant for a portion of the costs the residents on Colonial Drive would pay around \$71 dollars per half on the homeowner's property tax for sidewalks along one side from Fifth Ave to Logan.

A resident advised the Board she spoke to Gilmore's about beautifying the main entrance of Liberty at I-80. Like other landscapers, they can't find workers to do the maintenance but is willing to create a design.

The president of the Kiwanis Club, a charitable/non-profit organization that works with the schools and community spoke. He is building the club and has established a face book page. They are planning a wine tasting event at Woodland Winery at the end of October and a car show in the spring. He spoke of signage promoting the Kiwanis Club at the entrances to the township and asked the Board to consider funding for the signs. The Kiwanis Club meets ever Monday at noon at different locations inside Liberty Township.

Trustees' remarks.

Trustee Arnie Clebone is working with an engineering company for a TAP Grant. He would like to see the Colonial sidewalk request be included in the grant application.

Trustee Clebone and Administrator Weirick are still waiting on an answer on the WRTA Transportation Enhancement Grant they submitted for more sidewalks. The hope is to connect the existing sidewalk along Belmont Ave. to ST. RT. 304 to Giant Eagle and install a sidewalk on the east side of Belmont from I-80 to Rt. 304. The grant is 100% - no township dollars.

Trustee Greg Cizmar asked the Police Chief to notify the Fire Department, the Liberty Schools, 911 and Weathersfield Township there will be times Pleasant Valley will be closed for several hours each day next week while drain work is being done. We are waiting for our 32 roads to be paved. Paving companies are having some difficulty getting the supplies to make the hot mix.

Trustee Devon Stanley and Administrator Weirick will be attending a class to gain more information on the restricted uses of the ARP Funds. Also, Trustee Stanley addressed the sign on Tibbetts Wick Road which displays profanity. Since the township cannot infringe on the homeowners first amendment rights, he asked anyone who may know the household talk to them about removing the sign. Children are out eating ice cream at the business nearby and should not be subject to that type of language.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:45 p.m.

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

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

Neighborhood Trick or Treat – October 31st from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Next business meeting Friday September 24, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Remembering those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001

MATT CONNELLY, FISCAL OFFICER

GREG CIZMAR, CHAIRPERSON