

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in Regular Session at the township administration office on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance, Mr. Arnie Clebone, Mr. Devon Stanley, and Mr. Gregory Cizmar presiding.

Observed a Moment of Silence for those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

Fiscal Officer Matthew Connelly presented his report by reviewing the Cash Summary Repots and reported on the revenue received. Matt explained the by-annual audit is nearly complete. He completed his public records training requirements for his new term. He is pursuing a dot.gov grant as well as other grants. Matt announced the change in employee health insurance with a savings of over \$210,000.00. Matt explained he went to Cleveland with the Fire Chief to learn about the new Medicaid State Program which will allow the fire department to keep not only the 30% collected transport fees but the remainder 2/3rds fees for Medicaid transports.

Administrator Mrs. Martha Weirick reported on past and upcoming events. Neighborhood Trick or Treat will be October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. with a police department open house on the same day from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fire Chief Doug Theobald also spoke of the opportunity to pursue the state grant for Medicaid transports. He applied for the Ohio One Jobs Network Grant. He currently has two new hire who are enrolled in paramedic classes with the understanding the program will reimburse them fully. The eligibility is 2 times a year for this program. Gary Sinise grant is underway. The supplies are been delivered to the station and the class will be Saturday Sept 27<sup>th</sup> withal surrounding departments invited to attend including the air base. Construction continues with the hospital and hotel allowing him to review the installation of fire prevention before they are walled in. The department reached out to ODOT requesting access to I-80 from Tanglewood for emergency vehicles which would drastically reduce the response times to the highways from station 35. ODOT was very interested and will be sending paperwork to the station. One of the power cots was recalled and they replaced it with a completely new cot. Fire Prevention Week starts October 6th.

Police Chief Toby Meloro gave his report and asked if there were any questions. He announced Coffee with a Cop will be Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 a.m. – noon at Duncan Donuts.

Road Superintendent Mr. Wayne Hickman was absent.

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

Motion to approve the minutes of the Friday, July 26, 2024 Regular meeting and the August 23, 2024 Special 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 July 2024 in the amount of \$1,234,329.70 warrants #26259 through #26349 and for the month of August 2024 in the amount of \$654,862.59 warrants #26330 through #26416 inclusive.

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

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

Motion to approve the Purchase Order Listing and any Then and Now Certificates for the months of July and August 2024.

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

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

24-102 Motion to accept the amount and rates as determined by the Trumbull County Budget Commission and authorize the necessary tax levies and certify them to the County Auditor. See addendum file for a copy of the acceptance certificate.

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

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

24-103 Motion to purchase a 2024 Chevy Tahoe Police Cruiser in the amount of \$52,160.00.

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

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

24-104 Motion to recommend Darlene St. George as Liberty Township's Appointee for the Trumbull County Planning Commission and to forward the recommendation to the Trumbull County Board of Commissioners who shall select the persons recommended. Liberty Township is a Limited Home Rule Government Township.

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

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

24-105 Motion to increase appropriations in the Police Dept 's Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance line item # 2018-210-323-0054 by \$39,889.00 that we requested from Trumbull County to increase the Resources on the recent Amended Certificate # 24-3 that the Police had brought in this much in added revenue so far this year.

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

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

A citizen made the Fire Chief and Trustees aware of a fire hydrant on Tibbetts Wick Road facing the wrong way and another that is sinking into a hill. Fire Chief Theobald will notify the communities who maintain them tomorrow. He also inquired about the home that burned at 2325 Fifth Ave and why it has not been torn down yet. Fiscal Officer Matt Connelly received a check from the insurance company and will discuss the matter with our law director.

A resident asked to address the Board.

I would like to speak in support of our Liberty Police Department and all of the men and women who serve our community through LPD. I believe our police department loves our community, serves them well, and has the best interest of Liberty at the center of all they do. Officer Griffin and Officer Ryan, Capt. Buhala and Chief Meloro, all put the community in a safer and better place because of their service. Just today, as a citizen doing business around our community, I observed Officer David Rankin doing his job today with dignity and respect for the parties involved. On two other occasions today I saw other Liberty officers serving around our community and putting Liberty first. Not only do all of our officers and leaders in our police department do an amazing job, but all of our first responders from Liberty Police Department to the Liberty Fire Department make our community a safe place to live, work, worship, and do business, and I am grateful for all them and all that they do.

Thank you. Pastor Patrick Mitchell, Lead Pastor, Liberty Assembly of God, [www.libertyag.church](http://www.libertyag.church)

Trustee Greg Cizmar reported on the progress of the cemetery shelter and will look into having some minor landscaping done. He said there will be an on-line auction coming up soon.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:25 p.m..

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

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

Next business meeting Friday, September 20, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

The next **evening business meeting in October will be TUESDAY, October 15<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 p.m. (October 14<sup>th</sup> the office will be closed in observance of Columbus Day).

Fall Festival and Craft Show is Saturday, September 14, 2024 11:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Scrap Tire Collection September 21 and 22<sup>nd</sup> 9 a.m. 2 p.m. both days at Administration Building

Neighborhood Trick or Treat October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Admin/ Police Open House from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

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MATTHEW CONNELLY, FISCAL OFFICER

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GREG CIZMAR, CHAIRPERSON