

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in a Caucus/Regular Session on June 18, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. caucus 7:00 p.m. regular meeting at the township Administration Building with the following members present, Mrs. Jodi K. Stoyak, Mr. Gregory Cizmar, and Mr. Arnold Clebone, presiding.

Swear in Firefighter Ronnie Simone. Congratulations!

Reports:

Fiscal Officer Steve T. Shelton's financial report. Copy of Cash Summary available. Provided Board with financial update to review. Discussed Budget concerns.

Administrator's Report – Mr. Ungaro informed the Board of growth possibilities.

Fire Department – Chief Gus Birch. Presented report for review.

Police Department – Chief Richard Tisone presented report for review. Reported statistics Optotraffic Camera results from I-80.

Road Department – Tim Monroe, Interim Road Senior Foreman update of road repairs & progress.

Zoning Department – Mr. Jim Rodway presented report for review and addressed residents concerns.

New Business:

Motion made by Mr. Cizmar to approve the minutes of the following meetings: May 21, 2018*, May 24, 2018, May 31, 2018, June 7, 2018, June 14, 2018 Regular Meetings and the June 4, 2018 * Special Meeting.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mrs. Stoyak, Yes*. Motion carried.

Mrs. Stoyak approved only those meetings she attended noted by an “”.

Motion made by Mrs. Stoyak to approve warrant/eft expenditures for the month of May 2018 in the amount of \$498,461.71 warrants #16965 through #17140 inclusive.

Motion: Mrs. Stoyak. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mrs. Stoyak, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

18-92 Motion made by Mr. Cizmar to hire Luke Adkins, 4542 Treeview Dr., N. Canton, Oh 44720, as a part time firefighter/medic at a rate of \$14.00 per hour, pending pre-employment drug test.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mrs. Stoyak.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mrs. Stoyak, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

18-93 Motion made by Mr. Cizmar to appoint Carol Sopkovich, Esq., to serve as Administrative Hearing Officer pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 4511.092(B) to hear appeals of citations issued for violations of traffic laws recorded with a traffic law photo-monitoring device, and to conduct due process hearings for impounded vehicles. Attorney Sopkovich will be paid \$150.00 per hour. Chief requested new language for outgoing notices.

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

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

18-94 Motion made by Mrs. Stoyak to Support the JCC Dash and Splash 5k and Family Run/Walk:

The Board of Trustees expresses its support for the JCC Dash and Splash 5K Family Fun Run/Walk being held on Sunday June 24 beginning at 9:00 A.M., from the JCC on Gypsy Lane to the Logan Way Swim Campus. The event is being held to bring awareness to the Logan Way Swim Campus which recently became part of the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown. Temporary lane road closures along the route during the event are hereby authorized, and ingress and egress will be maintained by Liberty Township Police officers, City of Youngstown Police officers and volunteers stationed at each intersection.

Motion: Mrs. Stoyak. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mrs. Stoyak, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

18-95 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION AND REMISSION OF PUBLIC PROPERTY.

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of Liberty Township acquired two parcels of real property, for public purposes located adjacent to the Liberty Township Park, and

WHEREAS, Real Property owned by a public entity and used exclusively for a public purpose is exempt from taxation.

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

SECTION 1. The Board of Trustees of Liberty Township has acquired the following properties: Parcel No. 12-063860 and Parcel No. 12-063870 from the Trumbull County Land Reutilization Corporation.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to Ohio R.C. 5709.08 and 505.26, the property was acquired for and is being used for public purposes, to protect and preserve the natural, scenic, open, or wooded condition of the property against modification or encroachment resulting from occupation or development. The property adjoins the Liberty Township Park and provides a buffer to the park from development.

SECTION 3. The Board of Trustees of Liberty Township authorizes and directs its fiscal officer Steve Shelton to execute any documents necessary to apply for Real Property Tax Exemption and Remission of the property as provided by law.

SECTION 4. If any paragraph, provision, or section of this Resolution is held to be invalid by the final decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, then that decision will not affect the validity of the remaining paragraphs, provisions, or sections of this Resolution.

SECTION 5. The Board of Trustees of Liberty Township finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken 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, including R.C. §121.22.

SECTION 6. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 504.10, the Board of Trustees of Liberty Township hereby dispenses with the requirement that this Resolution be read on two separate days and authorizes the adoption upon its first reading. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 504.11 this Resolution shall become effective thirty days after it is filed with the township fiscal officer.

Motion: Mrs. Stoyak. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mrs. Stoyak, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

18-96 Motion made by Mrs. Stoyak to pass the following resolution:

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:	Address:	Parcel:
338 Mansell	12-429261	4718 March	12-436554
3219 Belmont Ave	12-020672	4630 March	12-099553
236 Laurel	12-277920	2711 Belmont Ave	12-702300
242 Mansell	12-595300	14 Wildfern	12-491000
1205 Shannon	12-602400		

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: Mrs. Stoyak. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mrs. Stoyak, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

Trustees remarks. JODI K. STOYAK

There was a grievance filed by a member of the Fire Department Union and an Executive Session was held on May 24 to discuss the grievance. No decision was made in that meeting regarding resolution of the grievance. I was informed in an email by Attorney Poteet on June 8 that the Board had capitulated and agreed to settle the grievance. I then asked Attorney Poteet and Chairman Clebone via email when the decision was made by the Trustees to settle the grievance. I never received a response. Chairman Clebone,

would you please let me know when the Trustees met and made this decision? I cannot attend the Thursday morning meetings and do not recall this decision made at any Executive Session.

I was surprised to find that there was no Agenda item today regarding a discussion on the Police Department budget shortfall. In a televised interview on May 22 with Matt Stone on WFMJ, Mr. Shelton correctly stated that a bank loan, taken earlier to fund operations, is due at the end of June. The loan is for \$420,000, the police had only \$538,000 in their budget and that “they should start running at a deficit at the end of June.” It was reported that from July 1st until we can start collecting tax advances in August that the trustees are going to have to figure out how to fund the police department. And Trustee Cizmar was quoted as saying “there might be layoffs.” Mr. Clebone can you please advise why this critical discussion was omitted from the agenda? And Mr. Shelton, can you please advise what, if any, changes have been made to the budget to preclude the need for this discussion? Are we going to have to lay off police officers?

A week or so ago, I forwarded an outline of a proposal to market our revitalized Belmont Business District to Mr. Clebone and Mr. Cizmar. Copies of the proposal are on the display cases. It includes the solicitation and use of a professional marketing firm to organize the local merchants, develop a Branding strategy, form a Cooperative Advertising Council and aggressively promote our District to the benefit of our businesses and residents. I have received feedback from Mr. Clebone but none, yet, from Mr. Cizmar. I ask that Mr. Cizmar please share his thoughts with me regarding this proposition and for residents, after reviewing the outline, to please share their thoughts. I would like to convene a meeting in the near future to open discussions with all interested parties concerning this promotion. And Attorney Poteet, before we can move on this issue, we (the Trustees) will need your opinion on the legality of the proposition.

Trustee Arnie Clebone:

CDBG Critical Infrastructure Grant submitted by County Grant Administrator Julie Green to repair roads and flood issues on Green Acres, North Gate and section of Trumbull Avenue; the total project \$316,585, for which the grant will provide \$263,463 and the Twp will match with \$31,658 and Trumbull Engineers will provide in-kind engineering and oversight valued \$21,463.

Road Department is operating with three full time persons and three part time, expect in the near future to take on fourth full time person who is presently one of the part time. Grant is available to cover up to \$4,000 of first six months salary. There may also be possibility to hire fifth full time person and obtain another \$4,000 grant to cover portion of first six month salary.

By August 1, we will be proposing a road levy that will include renewal of present 1.25 expiring after 2019 and proposing additional levy need to comprehensively address repaving, chip sealing and maintenance. I believe we should consider using a significant part of additional levy to be used to pay debt service on borrow funds at no and low interest rates.

Asking for volunteers to be part of formulating plan for determining treatment, prioritizing, and maintenance program and determine levy and being a part of campaign to pass levy.

Tim Monroe has recently survey all roads in detail with YSU noting conditions, including pavement, drainage issues. Map of their findings will be available for viewing that hopefully will be useful in formulating plan. It will also be useful in attempting to address most critical areas prior to the onset of this winter.

Motion made by Mr. Clebone to adjourn into executive session to consider the appointment and compensation of a public employee at 7:41 p.m.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mrs. Stoyak, Yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Cizmar to adjourn from executive session at 8:50 p.m.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mrs. Stoyak, Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Next business meeting Thursday, June 28, 2018 7:30 a.m. Next evening business meeting: **July 30, 2018**