

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees opened the Caucus Session on November 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. caucus at the township Administration Building with the following members present, Mrs. Jodi K. Stoyak, Mr. Gregory Cizmar, and Mr. Arnold Clebone, presiding.

The caucus session, where attendees have the opportunity to speak about any issues of concern commenced at 6:30 p.m. and ended at about 7 PM. During the half hour caucus session a number of people in the audience discussed the following:

*Residents showed their appreciation regarding the successful passage of the 12 year Road Levy. They commended Trustee Clebone and Trustee Cizmar on their hard work and vision. They are happy the direction the township is heading. A special thank you to Gloria Walters, Secretary and Sarra Mohn, owner of Jet Creative for their hard work and support. The Board would also like to thank all those who contributed to achieve the successful passage.

*Marcia Levy spoke about historic homes of Liberty Twp. All but one of the mansions are currently occupied. She had concerns about the property owned by the Catholic Diocese, now empty for 10 years. The property has 2 mansions on 27 acres. She suggested perhaps a winery or bed and breakfast may be interested. She also suggested a planned unit development, converts the rooms to condos. She would like to see more discussion on the matter.

Caucus ended at 6:59 p.m.

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in a Regular Session on November 19, 2018 at 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.

Current Fiscal Officer Steve Shelton presented John Fusco with a commemorative plaque to be displayed at the township building for recognition of John's public service. It was with great honor to present a plaque for his many years of service as the Township Fiscal Officer to John Fusco, now retired. Mr. Fusco was one of the longest tenured fiscal officers in Trumbull County – elected January 1, 1984 and re-elected by the residents of Liberty Township for 8 consecutive terms until his retirement on November 30, 2013.

Fiscal Officer Steve T. Shelton's financial report. Copy of Cash Summary was available. Provided Board with financial update: Discussed monthly finances; provided a fund comparative analysis from last year to this year; showed lodging tax analysis from last year to current year; proposed the transfer of funds (per resolution 18-75) for the revenue from the Optotraffic 50/50 split transferred from the General Fund to the Police fund in the amount of \$ \$71,813.50; expressed concerns regarding tow yard cash transactions; need to approve temporary appropriations at the December meeting before 12/31/18; spoke with FNB who is expecting a call from the Board to borrow a tax anticipation note of \$300,000 for the Police until taxes are received in March 2019.

Administrator's Report – Mr. Ungaro congratulated the Board on the successfully passing the road levy.

Fire Department – Chief Gus Birch. Presented report for review. Chief congratulated his firefighters for their successful fund raising efforts for Coins for Kids/Akron Children's Hospital; reported on the special rescue training thanking Mark Haddle, One Health Ohio for the use of his facility; and the oldest ambulance is in need of extensive repairs (oil leak).

Police Department – Interim Chief Toby Meloro presented report for review. Chief announced Christmas in Liberty with Santa arriving at 2 p.m. December 9th at the Administration Building; & reported on the successful Block Watch meeting.

Road Department – Tim Monroe, Interim Road Senior Foreman update of road repairs & progress. Tim thanked the residents, the road committee members and the trustees for passing the road levy; the crew has quickly transferred to winter mode; & agreed we need to contract with the county to maintain township roads.

Zoning Department – Mr. Jim Rodway presented report for review and addressed residents concerns about Drug Rehab Houses vs. Group Homes.

New Business:

For Discussion: To convert interior township lighting at all township owned buildings to LED with two companies offering quotes. The Board decided to use Winkle which costs savings of about

\$6,000 (see resolution below). By converting the buildings to LED, we will realize significant savings.

Outside sign was discussed and settled (see resolution below).

Motion to approve warrant/eft expenditures for the month of October 2018 in the amount of \$589,058.04 warrants #17738 through #17886 inclusive.

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

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

18-132 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LIBERTY TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/ OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED

WHEREAS, the State Capital Improvement Program and the Local Transportation Improvement Program both provide financial assistance to political subdivisions for capital improvements to public infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, the Township of Liberty, Trumbull County, Ohio is planning to make capital improvements to 2019 Township Road Improvements, and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure improvement herein above described is considered to be priority need for the community and is a qualified project under the OPWC programs,

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

Section 1: The Township Administrator, Patrick Ungaro is hereby authorized to apply to the OPWC for funds as described above.

Section 2: The Township Administrator, Patrick Ungaro is authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance. Passed: the 19th day of November, 2018.

Trustee Clebone remarks: “0” interest loan to get a jump on repaving multiple roads in the township Thanks to the County Engineers Office for assistance. Steve Pappalas – commended the township on the levy and looked forward to the officials meeting in February. Also, a thank you to Youngstown State University for their efforts in evaluating our roads.

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

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

18-133 Motion to Appropriate Funds to the Road and Bridge Fund and the Public Works Commission Project Fund and authorize certification of Funds:

Motion to appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to the Road and Bridge Fund to be used to pay the local share for the 2019 Township Road Improvements Project when it is required and to authorize the Fiscal Officer to certify the appropriation of these funds and the collection of the amount of One Million Six Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-One Dollars (\$1,624,951.00) over the twelve year term of the Road Improvement Levy approved by the voters on November 6, 2018, in the Public Works Commission Project Fund for repayment of the Ohio Public Works Commission SCIP or RLP loan requested for the 2019 Township Road Improvements.

Trustee Clebone remarks: Also received (thanks to Julie Green, Trumbull County Grants Manager, Community Development Block Grant Program) \$300,000.00 for Greenacres and Northgate. Also a thank you to the Kohut family for their generous donations.

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

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

18-134 Motion to Repeal Resolution #14-84:

Resolution #14-84 is hereby repealed in its entirety. Liberty Township EMS is authorized to provide ambulance services between Ohio and hospitals in Pennsylvania as needed. Liberty Township employees are covered by Ohio Worker’s Compensation coverage for such temporary and incidental activity outside the state.

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

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

18-135 Motion to accept the resignation of part time firefighter/medic Jason Reinke effective 11/16/18.

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

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

18-136 Motion to transfer \$71,813.50 from the General Fund to the Police Fund pursuant to Resolution 17-75.

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

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

18-137 Motion to enter into contract for LED lights:

Motion to authorize the Township Administrator to enter into a contract with Winkle Electric to replace the township lights with LED lighting accordance with the submitted proposal. The funds from the 2018 NOPEC Grant will be used for this contract.

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

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

18-138 Motion to approve contract for exterior sign at the Township Building:

Motion to authorize the Township Administrator to enter into a contract with the Youngstown Sign Company for a full color replacement exterior digital sign at the Township Building in accordance with the 10/22/18 proposal.

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

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

Trustees remarks.

Trustee Clebone: Trustee Cizmar and he visited the historic homes. They were all in immaculate condition. Trustee Clebone wants to find a way to see if this can work out, revise code to accommodate. Chief Birch cautioned them to make sure they comply with fire codes. Trustee Stoyak asked if neighbors complained, if so, what they want. Asked Law Director Cherry Poteet to look into the matter. Trustee Stoyak asked what appended with the meeting with Ferrara when they viewed the property.

Trustee Stoyak expressed the need for a feasibility study for water. Perhaps invite John Albers, Columbus. She would like Sam Lamancusa for information about how to collect back taxes.

Trustee Remarks for November 19, 2018

Blott Holiday Project is moving along with gifts being brought to the JCC and Temple El Emeth. A volunteer group from our community and Churchill United Methodist will wrap these and then distribute them for the holidays. I attended the Liberty Historical Society Meeting on December 1 with Mr. Ungaro and Mr. Clebone. Mr. Clebone spoke about the road levy. He and his group of supporters were successful in securing funds for 12 years from taxpayers for the roads. I congratulate him and his volunteers on their hard work and success in getting this important levy passed. Liberty voters have spoken and their message is clear.

I spoke to the attendees about Girard and the Trumbull County Engineers working to have a feasibility study done and then paying Girard for the water system. This has to be done before the deadline of 2020 when the contract is up with Girard and the county. Liberty residents in the northern part would pay half of what they are paying now for water. Liberty businesses would also benefit from this deal once it is struck. I wrote a letter to Representative Holmes regarding the water situation. My husband went to the Commissioners meeting to discuss the urgency as well to them. We hope to see things moving in the best direction for everyone involved. We are coming close to 2020. This board and Mr. Ungaro need to urge the commissioners to go forward with the feasibility study and provide the mayor and Girard with a check if Girard drags their feet like they did with the fire station feasibility study. If we can't get anywhere with these two entities I would advise to bring consultant, John Albers, from Columbus Ohio to explain other options to us.

Working with the schools on the Veterans Day Program was a huge success! This was started in 2007 with Mr. Young and Trisha O'Brien. It is wonderful to see a program like this institutionalized for years to come. John Ely from Veterans Outreach helped to connect me with Derick Young who is a retired marine. He was our speaker on November 12th and did a very fine job. Letters have been sent out thanking both of them for making our program a reality. The coverage that Samantha of the Vindicator provided on the front page was great and the Tribune also contributed with that coverage as well as WFMJ. Thanks to everyone!

I attended the Geauga Trumbull Waste Management Open House on Thursday the 15th. The Liberty Township Litter Clean Up organized 24 years ago has received assistance from them with litter bags, gloves and water bottles.

There is an Ohio Senate Bill 250 that was to be passed last week depriving citizens of their right to protest. I sent emails to all State Reps and Senators asking them to vote this down as this is a disgrace to our

democracy. I haven't heard yet how the Judiciary Committee voted on this at the State House but do know there were several people who testified against this bill.

In the Tribune on Thursday, November 8, they published all businesses and residents who haven't paid their property taxes. Certainly some of the names that I viewed should be contacted and sent letters for collection of these back taxes. The Board should send a letter to the Treasurer of Trumbull County to pursue these back taxes as soon as possible. I would suggest to the Board to invite Treasurer Sam Lamancusa to the next board meeting to address how to move forward in collecting these back taxes. Lastly, last Thursday, Mr. Clebone and Mr. Cizmar met privately with the defendant in a lawsuit recently won by Liberty Township. I would like to know why the meeting was held, what the discussion was about and any other information they can provide. To date, they have provided no response to my request. Could you please respond to my questions now or in writing. Thank you.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:20 PM for a conference with the Township Law Director to discuss pending litigation.

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:54 PM.

Motion to adjourn at 8:55 PM.

NOTE: Thursday 11/22/18 is Thanksgiving (no morning meeting). The following Thursday, November 28th is cancelled due to scheduling conflict.

Next business meeting: December 6th at 7:30 a.m. Next evening meeting December 17th at 6:30 p.m.

STEVE SHELTON, FISCAL OFFICER

ARNOLD CLEBONE, CHAIRPERSON