

the regular session of the Washington Township Trustees

at the Township Hall, Lewistown, Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:30 PM

The Washington Township Trustees met in regular session on April 12, 2021 at 6:30 PM at the Township Hall. Present at the meeting were: Jason Cummins, Terry Miller, Carlotta and on Teleconference call: Sharron Klahr

The meeting was opened by Trustee Lewis with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Fiscal Officer, Lisa Miller read the roll call – Trustee Lewis, Trustee Faulder, Trustee Berg, Chief Core, and Gary Bias present. John Newland absent. Trustee Faulder made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2021 regular meeting and accept them as written. Trustee Berg seconded the motion. All answered “Aye” – motion passed 3-0.

Financial Obligations - The Fiscal Officer presented financial obligations to the trustees. Trustee Faulder made a motion to pay all financial obligations. Trustee Berg seconded the motion and all answered “Aye” – motion passed 3-0.

Financial Reports - The Fiscal Officer also presented the Trustees for the period of 3/1/2021-3/31/2021 a Fund Status Report, Receipt Register, Appropriation Status, Revenue Status, Payment Register, and Bank Reconciliation for their review and signature. Trustee Faulder made a motion to approve the financial reports. Trustee Berg seconded the motion and all answered “Aye” - motion passed 3-0.

Fiscal Officer Business – Lisa Miller

- **Financial Report** – Starting fund balance on 3/1/2021 was \$1,483,273.01 and ending balance on 3/30/2021 was \$1,315,855.97.
- **Overview of property taxes** – Let’s do an overview of property tax settlement received in March, 2021. I put a copy of the three reports I receive from County Auditor, Jack Reser twice a year. These funds are directly deposited into our bank account via ACH and an electronic version of the payment is sent from the Auditor’s Office to Fiscal Officers for our records. Each of you have a copy of our property tax settlements in your book under the green tab so lets walk through it together (we did that during the meeting). Fiscal Officer Miller explained how each fund is received and into what accounts. We did receive some tax monies for mowing grass/weeds (nuisance properties), structure removals and delinquent taxes. I appreciate Logan County Treasurer, Rhonda Stafford and our Legal Counsel, Eric Stewart in leading those collection efforts.
- **Annual Mtg with the County Engineer** – June 9th at 2:00 PM at the Engineer’s Office; Trustee Berg said he could attend.
- **Landbank Information** – giving information to you as an FYI
- **ARP Funds explanation** – Out of Ohio’s 1,308 townships 1,305 of them are still not considered eligible for direct relief under the funds passed through ARP (3 townships were eligible as their population was more than 50,000). This was due to language inconsistencies between bill versions, a change in the definition of “non-entitlement units of local government” currently excludes Ohio’s townships from this crucial funding. So, ARP funds for COVID relief are currently not available to Townships. The Sheriff’s Dept. are receiving 20 new cruisers through ARP funding and we’re happy for them! Villages in Logan County also received a lot of ARP funding for their Villages. However, nothing for Ohio’s Townships. I’m disappointed in the lack of support from the Federal and State of Ohio Governments and have contacted Nino Vitale and Matt Huffman every two weeks asking them to advocate for Ohio Townships and to advise the OBM that this is a high priority and needs corrected as soon as possible. All of Ohio’s forms of local governments are in need of this funding – Ohio townships are no exception.

Police Department – Chief Rick Core

- Trustee Faulder – as Trustee and Liaison to the Police Department, I had a meeting with Chief Core going over budget revenue vs expense and the needs of the Police Department. He’s getting quotes together for in-car / body cameras. Other discussion was:
 - Need for two (2) new laptops for the cruiser as we have two that are old and incompatible with the dash printers to print out tickets; looking for donations
 - Speaking with Jack Reser regarding next levy coming due and be ready to move on that
 - Talked about sponsorship
- Chief Core – Trustee Faulder is the Trustee Liaison for the Police Dept and we appreciate him. I know we talk a lot about the equipment we need. But, crime doesn’t wait for you to get equipment. It’s an absolute must. With the anti-police sentiment people have nowadays mostly from Toledo, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, and Springfield...not our own local residents, we need the body cameras more than ever! Every single case at the Municipal Court we have the footage in the Motion for Discovery. One camera is so outdated it’s just hanging from the windshield. I get it that we have a budget we have to stick to but we still need the equipment to do our job.
- Cruisers – when you talk about cruisers that’s the biggest need we have. We have a 2012, 2016, 2020, etc. and I understand why. We were never meant to have a full time Police Officer but the need today is far greater than it was 30+ years ago. I get frustrated when equipment isn’t working and people are chewing on me from top and bottom so these cameras that we are talking about are extremely important. We will reach out for donations.
- Equipment – The suppliers of equipment don’t build anything that last 10-12 years like they used to. Everything is always changing so they have figured out let’s lease it. FO Milel: And it automatically uploads the video instead of our Officers waiting and waiting for that back at the PD Office, right? And, you have unlimited space? Chief: Correct on both.
- Vest – FO Miller: I applied for the BWC Armor Grant monies and so you will get \$6238.12 back from that. Chief Core: That will be great and we are also getting donations toward the cameras. Terry: How long do those vests last? Chief: 5 years – they don’t guarantee them after that. They don’t make them like they used to-it’s a financial gain if they reduce life on equipment so we are forced to purchase more often. And, they are all like that.
- CFS – you can tell when weather starts getting warmer, calls start going up. We had 302 calls for service, 7 domestic violence, 4 menacing, 2 assaults, threats of suicide are up, 3 hit and skip accidents. I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again, I like winter!

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Zoning – Gary Bias

- Handled approximately 80 calls last month
- 4 zoning & 1 road cut permits were issued for:
 - Demo existing house & replacing it with a modular at 7527 TR 269 (Waterbury Rd)
 - Road cut permit by Reichart for the sewer dept. line on Kooteney Rd (Moundwood). John will have to stop by to make sure they are doing it right. They will be doing the backfill & Quality will be doing the paving for them & not by the township.
 - New single-story home construction at 7317 CR 91 in Lewistown
 - Rear deck permit at 7795 Maple St in Waterbury
 - Fence permit at 7417 West St back behind Woody's
- Violation letter status update:
 - Andrew Creamer has starting tearing down mobile home at 9012 Court St. on Orchard Island.
 - Owner of 8263 SR 366 rental visited them & they have starting cleaning up around the house
 - They're working on cleaning up the debris at 2983 SR 235, there is a dumpster there. But there are still approximately 15, what I believe are disabled vehicles, including cars, trucks, boats, & RVs that they say they are working on
 - Issued certified letter to Ruby Stroud to get the property cleaned up at 7694 & 7706 C R 91 in Lewistown. They have been issued violations before & start cleaning up but never finish what I think needs to be done. Has till 4/16 to call me or until 4/30 to get the property cleaned up.
 - Issued 1st class violation letter to Donald Stonerock at 7426 West St. to get the hole in the roof in the back of the house cleaned up & closed up.
 - Issued 1st class letter to William Martindill at 7411 Center St. for the 2 campers that somebody has been staying in without permits
 - Dave Miller from the Logan County Health Dept. is retiring. He told me the Arie is taking over for him and gave me his phone number (937-844-9245). Called him & left voicemail that I would like an update on the status of the 2 houses they condemned last year. 1st is Edwards Cummins house at 7640 Williams St. 2nd is Nancy Niebuer house at 7614 Cottage Grove.
- Talked to Amber Fagan at the IL Chamber of Commerce and Ben Volrath at the Logan County Chamber of Commerce about the Logan County Bed Tax. There have been no official conversations or meeting about this. There was only some general conversation at the IL fireworks meeting.
- Alisa Cummins from Covered Bridge Naturals called me about the sign they had put up on Jason Hanger property. Said that ODOT & Logan County Engineer's office had called her because they put the sign up in the ROW. Told her I had left her a voicemail to call me on her phone about putting up the sign but she never called. She said she had talked to Tucker & he said it was ok. She told me the sign was needed today as this weekend was their grand opening. I told her the only way I knew she could do that was put the sign on a trailer & set in back off the road on Jason property until she talked to ODOT & Logan County Engineer's office.
- Talked to Curt Dill at Logan County Engineer's office about T R 285 which is 0.186 miles from CR 708 before Spend-A-Day back to Bonnie Heinz's house. He says the road & the bridge are Washington Twp.'s to maintain.
- Has a resident back in Cottonwood Mobile home park call me about a neighbor at lot 25 building an addition on the is touching the side of his mobile. I think we are still responsible for zoning in those parks but haven't been able to verify for sure if we are & do mobile home parks have they own set of regulations
- Called Logan County Building Authority to see if them or who is responsible for Mobile Home parks but they haven't called me back.
- Called Aaron Smith at the LUC & he thinks the Dept. Of Commerce, Division of Industrial Compliance is responsible for Mobile Home Parks
- Keep getting a pop up warning on my zoning laptop that the Microsoft Office 365 version is no longer being supported. That I can update it for one unit (Personal) for \$69.95 or for multiple units (Family) for \$99.95. Ask Lisa if I need to do this and if so will the township pay the \$69.95 & be willing to let me pay the additional \$30 so I can update my own personal laptop?
- I did attend the Logan County Land Bank meeting at the Commissioner's office in March. I can put a list together of parcels for the trustees to review in the near future. If you are ok with submitting that list to the Land Bank then they will review the properties to see if they think they might sell at a Sheriff's sale or even an Auditors sale. They will decide to sell them as is or sometimes they will clean up the properties before they list them. Let me know if you want me to put together a list and do you have any suggestions for the selecting those properties.
- I got Rick's email reply about the study being done back at the Moundwood Boat Ramp & Road separation does anyone else have any suggestions for me to submit to them?
- Any questions or follow-ups for me?

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Road Department - Trustee Lewis reporting for John Newland

- No bereavement policy? FO Miller: No; Trustee Lewis can he use sick days or does he have to use vacation. Lisa: either Trustee Lewis: Ok – put him down for 3 sick days. FO Miller: He can just put that on his time card and time sheet.
- Trimmed trees and graveled alleys at Orchard Island
- Changed out road signs and company exchanging 43 more signs that went bad
- Problem with Crescent flooding but the actual problem was Park St so we had to have Moody's come out. They dug it out and found a bigger problem across the road. We got it fixed. I went up there during a rain and it appears fine.
- Two large pine trees at Plum Cemetery and one at Lewistown that came down and needed cleaned up taken care of.
- Bermed some roads
- Septic tank at Park pumped
- Stockpiled tons of gravel because of April increase in gravel price but we'll use it all
- Started framing dugouts and put roofs on at Park
- Township roof – I think the price was \$7000 for Lees and another bid was \$13,000. Trustee Lewis to FO Miller: Do you have the quote? FO Miller: I haven't seen any quote. I have only heard John during the meeting and written down what he said in the minutes. He hasn't physically given me any of the quotes.
- Post hole digger put on and that worked out fine. He'll have to rent a hand one for a day maybe \$50 for the middle diamond.
- Blue Herron Cove the guy is finally getting his \$25,000 system in for his sewage

LUC Board – Trustee Faulder

- Nothing for Logan County
- I have the meeting minutes

EMS Board – Trustee Lewis

- Not a lot going on...trying to get manpower up to date
 - Hired two perm and three part time
- Won't be having Mike Yoder come back to help us anymore as someone upset him at the last meeting; that will be a huge loss.
- Still no check yet for the old building.; they are asking about items like manuals, keys to generator, etc.. bunch of small stuff.
- Still having problems with the delinquents – nothing is happening. They just don't go anywhere but still working on that.
- Working on different benefits – in-between person that takes care of something. There was a bill for \$23,000 FO Miller: Managed by a third party? Trustee Lewis: Yes, and they had co-pays of \$6500 / year and is all quite confusing so Susie is checking into that.
- New Chief doing well
- \$603,879.24 in Money Market / \$320,000 in primary account
- Leah came back to work finally

Fire Board – Trustee Berg

- Water Consumption: 2500 gallons
- MARCS equipment to be installed in next two weeks. Have not received grant check yet.
- Ice training Rescue went well
- Discussed current levies with Jack Reser. Jack advised keeping the .50 mill levy as continuous and add a 1.5 mill continuous levy which would generate \$190,000.00 and remove the 1.0 mill levy which the EMS is in the title and generates \$107,500.00. The 1.0 mill levy is voted on every five years. The earliest this can go on the ballot is November 2022.

Old Business – Trustees

- Trustee Lewis: They should start mowing the cemeteries soon. FO Miller: He's already mowed at Lewistown Cemetery.
- Trustee Lewis: Jeff will probably be spraying the ball park first and then mow. Terry: Ball Association already sprayed it. FO Miller: John Dawson sent Jordan over to spray. Trustee Lewis: They need to let us know so we don't do the same thing. Terry: He was over there Sunday spraying. Trustee Lewis: I'll call him and ask.
- Trustee Lewis: Roof – what are we going to do about the roof? Trustee Berg: They got it temporarily stopped. Terry: Have you talked about going to a metal roof? Trustee Lewis: That would be more than \$7,000. Terry: It would be more but it will pay for itself in the long run.
- Trustee Lewis: Helen Norris – need a Trustee to volunteer for work day; I went by myself and almost got nominated but got out of it.
- Trustee Lewis: Had a nomination for officers at the Logan County Township Association – the are looking for someone to serve as secretary / treasurer. County Commissioners were there and advised getting rid of JDC because they're losing too much money. Talking about having one building as a holding place at JDC but they would all go to Marysville. Saw Sheriff Dodds outside and he said the Drug Task Force is working well.

New Business - Trustees

- Nothing

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Public Comment

- Sharron – I actually don’t have any comments at all. But, I do want to talk to you Don before tomorrow night. Maybe we could speak tonight. Trustee Lewis: Ok
- Carlotta – they still come to me to ask about the Dumpsters. FO Miller: Dumpsters will be here June 3 and 4. On June 3rd they will be at the spillway and Lewistown and on Friday they will be on Mauger and Lewistown...two days only. Carlotta: Ok, thanks. And they are asking about Spend-A-Day and that they can’t see anything coming over the bridge. We wondered if we could get one of those concave mirrors on the telephone pole At Chestnut and Orchard Island Road. You can’t see anything coming over the bridge unless you come out slowly into the intersection, you can’t see anything. With golf carts it’s really hard to see. Also, the house on Woodlawn/Crescent that’s been there for 10,000 years. Trustee Lewis: I haven’t been to the 3rd prosecutor’s assistant to discuss. I don’t know who took Jessica’s place? FO Miller: It’s Chelsea, that’s who I talk to. Carlotta: the black/pink house on Crescent/Woodlawn. Trustee Lewis: No one has been there in a long time, right? Carlotta: right. A long time ago Rick was able to get some things done. Trustee Lewis: I will check into that again. It’s another one of those things that takes forever.
- Trustee Lewis: Any other items? Terry: John may be aware of this but there are three trees at the Lewistown Cemetery that are dead and need taken down or trimmed way back, they are all close to the road. There is also a lot of big limbs and debris on and around some gravesites right under one of the dead trees that needs cleaned up. Also, can we get doggie bags for park and cemetery? Trustee Lewis: Yes, Lisa asked me that earlier. Terry: You mean I sat here all that time for nothing. 😊 I do have another question. What’s going on with the green house on Council Street? Trustee Lewis: They had 30 days to get out, but are still there. They have no water.

With no further business to come before the group, Trustee Berg made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM; Trustee Faulder seconded. All answered “Aye”. Motion passed 3-0. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the township hall.

Lisa A. Miller, Fiscal Officer

Don Lewis, Chairman

Jason Faulder, Vice Chairman

Tucker Berg, Member