

**COLLEGE TOWNSHIP
KNOX COUNTY, OHIO
BOARD OF TRUSTEE REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2023**

Trustee Chairperson Houston called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. All were invited to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Those present were Trustees William Houston, Bernard Ingles, and Edward O'Connell, Zoning Inspector Roger Yarman, Fiscal Officer (FO) Courtney DeCosky, and Administrative Assistant (AA) Lora King. Also present were Kenyon's Vice President for Facilities, Planning and Sustainability Ian Smith and Village Administrator RC Wise.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Houston made a motion to approve the regular minutes and retreat minutes from October 11, 2023; Trustee Ingles second; Vote: All Yes.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNER, RC WISE

Dumpsters were contaminated during dumpster day. The Village had to pay to have them removed. Moving forward they are considering a gate or a security camera as it has happened a few times. The Village is seeking Township input as it is a shared space. Discussions will continue on this matter.

The Village received the new police cruiser, but they do not have a deputy yet. They have been told they should have someone to be regularly assigned by the first of the year.

The Village is having a GovDeals auction. They are selling the backhoe, as they have a new one. They may sell the old cruiser as is, in addition to the old generator. The new generator has arrived, but it has not been put in yet. They will also be selling some old bricks and possibly some street signs.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNER, IAN SMITH

The College is racing towards fall break, which begins Friday, Nov. 17.

Student government is beginning to ask what is going to happen with traffic, etc. when the intersection is closed at 229/308 for the round-a-bout construction. There will be an official Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) diversion route. Local deliveries to the South Campus

Housing project could be an issue, and it is time to start really thinking through these possible issues. For anyone to get to Brown Family Environmental Center (BFEC) with a vehicle, they will have to go Big Run to Baker to Laymon. The Mount Vernon Fire Department will also need a plan.

Trustee Houston informed Mr. Smith about the tentative open house and College Township Fire Department (CTFD) dedication on December 13 at the Service Center.

ZONING

Inspector Yarman worked on the Township Map following the last meeting in which Darrel Severns attended, which he shared with the trustees. He marked land that Kenyon owns and where there are conservation easements. There is not a great deal of space to put more housing. The Township's current plan has residential growth marked North East in the Township on New Gambier Road and Quarry Chapel Road. There are a few spaces on Quarry Chapel Road that could be built. Philander Chase owns about 15-20% of Township, plus more acreage in easements. Further discussion on where potential residential growth could take place. Inspector Yarman is going to have another meeting with the zoning commission to see if they have any ideas.

There is a 3-acre pond going in on Porter Rd. The land owner is beginning the process of getting a stormwater permit. Inspector Yarman has reached out to his contact at the scenic river to get their input. The owner also wants to get a permit to build another house. However, only one residence is allowed per the zoning book. Inspector Yarman will keep his eye on it.

The new verbiage in the zoning resolution book needs wordsmithing, other than that, it is close to being finished. Further discussion on possible changes. Inspector Yarman will try to get everything condensed so the trustees can see it in December so he can get it to the Regional Planning Committee (RPC).

Inspector Yarman found out from the RPC that Knox County does not allow wind farms in Knox County, business or personal property. Inspector Yarman has received a permit application to put some solar panels behind a residence on the South side of New Gambier Road. They will also place some on their house, which does not require a permit. Another resident on SR 229 wants to put panels on their barn roof, which does not change the footprint of their property.

Inspector Yarman recently wrote a permit to a Township resident on SR229 to build a house. The land owner has gotten the necessary permits from the state for the cut for the road and the sewer system as well. Further discussion ensued on the topic.

Inspector Yarman exited the meeting.

Overall, the trustees feel the Township map is in good shape and the Township is fairly well protected against anything major.

CEMETERY

Trustee Houston read correspondence regarding the cemetery, requesting a 21-gun salute for Gambier resident Eugene Wolfe on Thursday, Nov. 16, from Kim Wallace (Friends of Quarry Chapel). Ms. Wallace would also notify any nearby residents to prevent any scares. The trustees do not foresee any issues. Trustee Houston will respond and confirm the Township is okay for them to move forward.

The Rambo Family will hold a dedication to their son on Veteran's Day. AA King gave details to the trustees. All saw no issue with the dedication and appreciated the information.

Operator Mackey blew leaves out of the cemetery. Supervisor Smith is going to ask the Village if they could pick them up with their equipment as he had trouble with the wind.

College Township's Cemetery levy on the Nov. 7, 2023 ballot passed. The Township will start receiving it in 2025. Further discussion on cemetery maintenance and chapel grounds maintenance.

ROADS

Trustee O'Connell shared Supervisor Smith's road report:

November 2023 Roads Report

ROADS REPORT

EQUIPMENT:

Donley's serviced the truck and said everything looked good. I installed the bucket back on the tractor. I brought the snow plow back up to the Center. I installed the salt spreader on the truck. To my knowledge all equipment is in good shape. We need to find a way to move the chipper out of the Bike Trail Barn.

Roads:

I trimmed the tree back across the street from Linda's house that the Bus Garage was complaining about. I will work on making a list of the trees that need trimmed or removed.

Cemetery:

We will begin removing leaves in the cemetery.

General:

I wired the light for the Memorial Stone. The remodel has started in the back office. Lora is working on getting the room painted. Once the painting is finished, we will remove the carpet and put in the new floor and mount the tv on the wall. When all work is completed, we will begin moving furniture into the room. Dan Dennis resigned his position.

Discussion ensued on chipper. It does not have wheels. The trustees may declare it as surplus and auction off.

FIRE

Incident Reports for Sept: (read by Trustee Ingles)

Kenyon: 16

Township: 1

Village: 3

Chief Christopher contacted Trustee Ingles about paper towels and the amount being used. He thinks it will be cost savings to put in an auto dispenser. He gave an estimate of \$15/ea for the dispenser. \$56.25 per case for rolls. Discussion ensued. Trustee Ingles will tell him he can move forward.

There is used turnout gear upstairs. Chief Christopher was concerned it was getting mixed in with theirs. Chief would be willing to put it on GovDeals. Trustee Ingles will wait to see if Bill was going to give them to Dr. Schermer for use on Indian reservations.

GENERAL

Fiscal Officer's Report - November 8, 2023

Year End Procedures

In preparation for closing the year end as a newer fiscal officer, I will be attending a live webinar presented by UAN on Monday, December 4, which will walk through the proper procedures for year end closing.

Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation (BWC)

The BWC has released our 12-month installment schedule for 2023. Estimated monthly installments have been reduced to \$126.45. There is an option to receive a 2% discount by paying the full 12-month estimated annual premium on or before Jan. 3, which I would like to move forward with in December.

Financial Reports

Monthly financial reports are in your folders. These reports should reflect an accurate reflection of township funds as of October 31, 2023.

*Courtney DeCosky
Fiscal Officer, College Township*

Discussion how the passing of Issue 2 may affect the handbook/drug testing policy. For now, all remains the same.

2024 Organizational Meeting: Tentatively Jan 4, 2024.

Trustee Houston has not yet heard from Brian Ball regarding help with the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant application. There is still time.

Personnel Evaluations will need to be completed by the year end.

All correspondence sent and received was discussed in the body of the meeting. There being no further business, the fund cash balances certified lawfully appropriated to pay bills being reviewed, and Trustee Houston moved to pay bills. Second by Trustee Ingles. Vote: All Yes. Trustee Houston made a motion to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. with a second by O'Connell. Vote: All Yes.

Chairperson

Fiscal Officer