

LAGRANGE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

August 14, 2023

This was a regular scheduled meeting of the LaGrange Township Trustees. Canfield called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm with all members of the board present followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Gardner motioned to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting as presented, Canfield seconded the motion, roll call – all yes.

Public Participation

Russ Reising, 750 Timberwolf Lane, inquired about the flag that is supposed to be up at the LaGrange Community Park. He said there is a new sign installed stating this flag was donated, but there is no flag up. Roger mentioned the flag pole was being fixed. Canfield told Russ to check with Kyle after it's functional. Russ also asked if Vince could start checking into grants for replacing the roofs, preferably metal, on the pavilions as this will need done soon. Russ said that the Metro Park's use Natureworks grants. Canfield asked Russ start a list of upcoming maintenance that will need done at LCP so that they can start to prioritize repairs. Burnett will get information on metal roof quote.

Jeff Thompson, 17757 Wheeler Road, was present to inquire about and express concern about the variance request on Wheeler Road. Canfield said that it will be covered during the Zoning update later in the meeting.

Road and Cemetery

Kyle was present and reported the following:

Brush pickup still going, roadside mowing is almost done for the second time.

OPWC – Grant paperwork should be done end of this week. Canfield asked how close we are to completing paperwork and if any help is needed. Kyle said he has all the pieces, but help would be beneficial.

Grader Paving – Finished with Elyria and Carlisle townships. Ended up using 147 tons which was projected at 140 tons back in January. Completed Kipton Nickel Plate, Parsons on curb side southbound lane and Law roads. New roller made a big difference, used less water and was more efficient.

Chip & Seal – Spoke to the oil guy and on schedule for last week in August. Oil is a little cheaper than last year, so after putting final numbers together between stone and oil, we are under budget about \$5,000. Stone is coming tomorrow.

Cemetery – Sold 2 Full Lots which leaves 29 left; 3 Full burials. Canfield asked how close we are to getting things started on opening up more lots. Kyle said he can order some pins and mark it off, but needs to do some research on specific ones to order. Kyle suggested waiting until next spring to stake it all off at once.

Equipment – Berming box almost complete and forks installed on the backhoe.

Elk Creek Concrete – Canfield asked about status. Kyle said he awarded Keith the job and he was trying to coordinate with main building here. He knows his deadline is mid-September.

Penfield Twp. – Canfield said the fiscal officer keeps bringing up whether we have a written agreement for maintaining Webster Road. Kathy to research – found an MOU from 2018 that she will print out.

EMS and Fire

Mike Hornby was present and wanted to extend a thank you to Kyle and the road department. There was a house fire Thursday and Kyle was on scene first to block roads. Burnett asked if there was enough from our department. Mike said they had 5 show up and mutual aid from Wellington, Carlisle, Grafton Village and Grafton Township.

Canfield confirmed the EMS/Fire Levy is on the ballot as a 3.5mil replacement levy. The successful passage of this levy will be critical to our ability to meet the needs of the community for fire and EMS. We now have 24hr manning of our facility and we are getting the chassis redone on one of the squads to reduce costs. The levy remains the same for renewal. The Township tries to be as cost efficient as possible, but with the community growing and a shortage of qualified staff the cost keeps going up.

Zoning

Kelly West was present and reported:

Public Hearing – The public hearing is for the 41.75 acre lot on Wheeler. Tyllin wants to divide it into 4 lots preserving the house already on the lot. The hearing is set for Wednesday, August 23rd at 6:30pm. Jeff Thompson asked how many lots they are doing. Kelly said that they are requesting 4 lots. Canfield suggested the board members drive out and look at the lots to get a better understanding. Gardner asked if they are lots being cut in straight back. Kelly said they look like they're going straight back.

Fiscal Officer

Kathy Poling was present and reported:

Bills amounted to \$269,050.78.

Burnett motioned to approve the bills as presented, Gardner seconded, roll call – all yes. Burnett asked about Cross Roads check being backed out and reissued. Poling said that the original PO was only for half, so it had to be redone for the full amount. Canfield asked where that money is coming from and Poling confirmed it's coming from ARPA fund. Burnett questioned the check for Amy Richards. Poling said that she just submitted her invoice for the first 3 months of the year.

Correspondence – presented information from commissioners about windmills; report from dumpster day; information from Solid Waste and OTARMA risk control survey.

John Hurst stopped in today and said that he would like to see reflectors on the bollards on the circle. Canfield said that it has been brought up and will be discussed.

Resolution from 1997 – Mary Kay from the Village was looking for resolution 1997-10 regarding paying park board. Went through all the stuff at EMS building and it doesn't go back that far. Vince will be back tomorrow so I can get into the old fire station to look.

Solid Waste - Memorandum received to support solid waste plan put together by the county officials. This needs to be entered as a resolution.

Burnett motioned to accept Resolution #2023-11 to support Lorain County Solid Waste District solid waste management plan, Gardner seconded, roll call – all yes. No further discussion, motion carried.

Star Ohio – They sent us a letter again as we didn't receive the first one. Need to fill it out and register then we can move money during the next meeting.

Trustees Comments

Gardner asked if we can utilize Blakeslee for the Aldrich drainage project as the heavy rains brought the topic up again. Covered in park board discussion.

Rural Water

Roger said they are working on paying bills and finalizing employee handbook. Canfield inquired who they are using for updating the employee handbook for a future contact for the township. Roger confirmed they are using Matt Dooley.

LORCO

None

Park Board

Roger reported that they are working on looking for Resolution 1997-10 regarding paying park board officers. At a meeting on July 25th, Mayor Kincannon said that John Clark stated it wasn't possible to pay the park board due to an ORC code. There was some discussion on being named a Park Board versus a Park District. Canfield suggested we research to see if we need to restructure or rename to move forward.

Aldrich Drainage – Gardner asked if Blakeslee ever came and took care of it. Blakeslee owes us 8 hours of machine time. He said he would bring his medium machine and do the cleanout then he could do the drainage tile. Kyle said that we need to run a tile into the field. Jeff brought some maps from auditor's website that shows old field tile was plugged off when the ponds were put in. That was an issue before the sledding hill was in. Run a piece of 4" tile and dump it into the opening into the corner and go out a couple hundred feet. There is a pipe coming out of the one pond that would be deep enough to use. Discussions on how to approach since some of it needs to be done on park land and some on the property owner's land. Gardner said that since the park put the burden on the land owner, then we need to resolve it. Kyle said to do a tap it would be about 250-300 foot of pipe, some stone and corrugated in the field. Kyle to get an agreement / approval from Aldrich and coordinate with Blakeslee to get it resolved. Canfield said to do it under the Township and then split the cost with the Village.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Canfield motioned to go into executive session at 7:58pm to discuss employee discipline; Gardner seconded the motion, roll call – all yes.

Canfield motioned to go back to open session with no action taken at 8:39, Gardner seconded the motion, roll call – all yes.

Burnett motioned to adjourn, Gardner seconded the motion, roll call – all yes.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

 _____ Chairman

 _____ Kimberly Carter, Secretary