

Jersey Township, Licking County

Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2023 - 7:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Dan Wetzel, Chairman
Jeff Fry, Vice-Chairman
Ben Pieper, Trustee
Marko Jesenko, Fiscal Officer

Staff Present:

Rob Platte, Administrator

Visitors:

See Sign In Sheet

Trustee Wetzel called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m., and then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Platte called the roll and it was confirmed that Trustees Wetzel, Pieper and Fry were in attendance.

Trustee Pieper moved to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Fry seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

Trustee Wetzel introduced the minutes from the September 6, 2023 Regular Meeting and asked if there were any requested changes. With no changes being requested, Trustee Pieper moved to dispense of the reading of the minutes and approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Fry seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

Trustee Wetzel asked for Public Comments. No public comments were provided.

Trustee Wetzel asked for the Fiscal Officer items. Fiscal Officer Jesenko reviewed the Finance Report and read checks aloud. Trustee Pieper moved to approve the Finance Report as presented. Trustee Fry seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote. Mr. Platte stated the township had been contacted by a Tony Walker, offering volunteer assistance in restoring and maintaining older grave markers at the cemeteries. Mr. Platte had also recently spoke with Don Weiland concerning the same. Mr. Weiland had offered to meet with the township staff and Mr. Walker to review proper procedures. Mr. Platte stated that he will reach out to all parties to coordinate a meeting.

Trustee Wetzel asked for department reports. Mr. Platte gave an overview of the County Commissioners' electric and natural gas aggregation issue on the November 7 ballot. As far as Mr. Platte understands, participation is optional via an "opt-out at any time" provision, and the program does not affect residents receiving services from a Cooperative. Mr. Platte followed up on the possible Revitalization District application that was discussed at the September meeting. The RD would be created pursuant to ORC 4301.81, and is only done via application of a land owner, not by the Board. This would be a designated area along the commercial corridors of the township where liquor permits would likely be utilized as the area develops. By and large, this is geared towards retail establishments such as restaurants. Trustee Wetzel asked about the

expiration of permits and the cost to obtain them. Mr. Platte stated that he would follow up. Mr. Platte reminded the Board that should the township receive an application, the Board simply submits the question to the Board of Elections for the residents to decide as a ballot issue. Mr. Platte shared that Mr. Witney had asked him to make the Board aware that he is planning to attend an OTA zoning training. Additionally, the Zoning Commission is continuing to look at solar regulations and may have a recommendation to the Board in the near future. Trustee Wetzel did not have an update on the fire departments for this meeting.

Trustee Wetzel asked if there was any unfinished business for the Board to consider. Mr. Platte stated there was none.

Trustee Wetzel asked for New Business. Mr. Platte stated that the township had been made aware of the availability of the +/-0.18 acre parcel that is essentially an island within the township's property. The Licking County Land Bank had recently received the property and was able to offer it to the township for \$400.00. Mr. Platte asked the Board to approve a resolution for the purchase. Trustee Pieper moved Resolution No. 23-10-02-01, Resolution Authorizing The Purchase Of Real Property (R.C.511.11). Trustee Fry seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote. Mr. Platte shared that the township is permitted to enact an excise tax on hotel lodging within the unincorporated areas of the township of up to 3%. Mr. Platte stated that with the likelihood of hotels wanting to develop along the SR161, Mink and SR310 corridors, the township has an opportunity to generate additional revenue from those types of uses through this excise tax on transient guests. Trustee Wetzel moved Resolution No. 23-10-02-02, Resolution To Levy An Excise Tax On Hotel Lodging. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

Trustee Wetzel asked for Public Comments. The county aggregation issue was discussed, as well as, the effect of the excise tax on Bed and Breakfast uses.

Trustee Wetzel moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and the voice vote on the motion was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Marko F. Jesenko, Fiscal Officer

Marko F. Jesenko

Attest:

Dan Wetzel, Chairperson

Jeff Fry, Vice-Chairperson

Ben Pieper, Trustee

Dan Wetzel
Jeff Fry
Ben Pieper