

The next regular meeting will be on August 15, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion Heidecker to adjourn the meeting. Seconded Cunningham. Vote unanimous.

Minutes submitted by Rita Plata.


RECEIPTS


LC AUDITOR (JULY GAS TAX)	\$ 14,936.35
LC AUDITOR (JUNE MVR PERM)	5,506.03
LC AUDITOR (JUNE MVR)	1,574.42
CULVERT PIPE	500.00
PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST	30.20
ZONING INSPECTOR	20,498.20
RECREATION FEE	8,100.00
CEMETERY	<u>2,525.00</u>
 TOTAL	 <u>\$ 53,670.20</u>

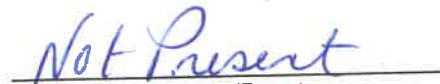
FISCAL OFFICER:


Mandie Andrews

APPROVED:


Mark C. Cunningham, Chairman


Dick Heidecker, Vice Chairman


Tony Manning, Trustee

Chairman Mark Cunningham called the August 1, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the Columbia town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Fiscal Officer Mandie Andrews took roll call attendance and Trustees Mark Cunningham and Dick Heidecker were present. Trustee Tony Manning was absent.

Fiscal Officer Andrews sent all meeting reports to the Trustees electronically.

Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on July 18, 2022 was tabled because Trustee Manning was absent. Since Trustee Cunningham was away on vacation on July 18th, he could not approve these minutes.

Mandie Andrews presented bills and payroll totaling \$113,825.03 for payment.

Motion Heidecker to pay the bills and payroll totaling \$113,825.03. Seconded Cunningham. Vote unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

Letter from Yanok Law concerning Mary Jo Vasi's request to have Glenwood Avenue maintained by Columbia Township.

Subdivider Agreement dated July 15, 2022 between the Lorain County Commissioners and the EWGC Development Group LLC for the Emerald Wood Subdivision Nos. 5 and 6.

Lorain County Sherriff's July 2022 Monthly Incident Report for Columbia Township.

From the Ohio Department of Commerce, Notice to Legislative Authority regarding the transfer of the Liquor License for Station Beverage, 11417 Station Road.

CORRESPONDENCE RESPONSE:

From the Ohio Department of Commerce, Notice to Legislative Authority regarding the transfer of the Liquor License for Station Beverage, 11417 Station Road – The Trustees did not request a hearing.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

There was no one present from the Sheriff's Department.

ZONING INSPECTOR:

Permits – For July 15-31, 2022, Zoning Inspector Bob Eichenberg reported issuing 27 permits for 9 patios, 5 decks, 1 shed, 1 barn and 11 single-family homes. Year-to-date, permits for new homes total 132.

Violations –

26624 Royalton Road

Eichenberg and Cunningham attended a court hearing on July 26th. The mobile home will be moved off of the property by August 16, 2022.

24124 Redfern Road

The property owner will be removing the trees from the road right-of-way.

25590 Folley Road

The property owners asked for more time. Since they have been cleaning up the debris, Eichenberg gave them three more weeks.

Board of Zoning Appeals – The BZA will meet on Monday, August 22, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. to hear a request by a resident on West River Road for a 7 ft. side yard variance for a pool house.

Zoning Commission – Due to vacation schedules, the Zoning Commission moved their meeting to the second Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Subdivision Status – Nothing new reported.

MS4'S – No problems or complaints reported.

ROAD DEPARTMENT:

Equipment – Service Director Bob Rundle reported all equipment up and running.

Issue I – The contractor is still waiting for reimbursement from the Ohio Public Works Commission for the South Boone Road Resurfacing Project.

Subdivision Status – Rundle attended another preconstruction meeting for the next phase of the Emerald Woods Subdivision.

MS4'S – No problems or complaints reported.

Department Input – The contractor has put both the Emmons Road and Nichols Road resurfacing projects on the schedule.

Next week, the road crew will be chipping branches. Rundle expects they will be chipping for the full week.

After chipping, they will return to Redfern Farms to do more concrete road repair.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Personnel – Chief Anthony reported 39 members on file and 36 members on call.

Calls – To date, the Fire Department has responded to 439 calls.

Transport Billing – June transport receipts totaled \$14,069.98. Year-to-date receipts total \$71,371.87.

Equipment Status – Engine 211 has a problem with the shifting module for the pump and is scheduled to go in for repair tomorrow. A problem with the air conditioning on Rescue 2 has been repaired.

A problem with a spring on one of the overhead doors will also be repaired tomorrow.

Mutual Aid – Mutual aid has been given 35 times and requested 26 times.

Station Coverage – All hours offered are being covered.

Department Input – The Fire Department is doing joint active shooter training with Eaton Township tonight at the Columbia Fire Station. Sometime in September, there will be active shooter training with the Sheriff's Department in the Columbia schools.

CEMETERY:

Rita Plata reported the receipt of \$425 for burials, \$500 from the sale of one grave and \$1,600 from the sale of graves.

OLD BUSINESS:

Shooting Ranges – There were a number of residents present to continue the discussion on shooting ranges.

Chairman Cunningham asked those present to address their comments to the Board and not to talk back and forth with each other. Cunningham said he knows the frustration people feel because they don't think the Trustees will do anything. Cunningham explained the Trustees do not have the power because we are governed by the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code. Regarding ORC 505.04, he explained that even if you become a Home Rule Township you still cannot pass restrictions on gun ranges. Cunningham said I know it's very frustrating that we sit up here and say we can't do anything, but it's true.

Cunningham said we have talked to our Ohio Senator and State Representatives about shooting ranges.

Residents from Akins Road were present to complain about a shooting range on their street. They reported shooting is going on 24/7 and said it's a shame they can't feel safe in their own backyards.

Cunningham explained the State laws allow shooting from 7 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. He said we are telling you about the laws we have to abide by. State law says you are allowed to discharge firearms in townships. Cunningham also explained that township government cannot overrule the state government.

Residents of the Sandstone Ridge Subdivision were also present to discuss the shooting range on Station Road. Numerous comments were made. The neighborhood feels disrespected. All emphasized their concern for safety. Other concerns are noise and property devaluation.

A resident inquired about the public meeting with the State Representatives. Heidecker said once we have established a date for this meeting, we will let you know. We also want the Lorain County Prosecutor and Sheriff to attend. Mandie Andrews explained the previous meeting was cancelled when the representative couldn't attend.

A resident on Springfield Circle said they are shooting directly at our house. He intermittently slammed his hand on the table to demonstrate the noise level they are experiencing. He asked how can I have people over? Who is going to buy my house? He said the police tell us to go in the house or go to our basements. He said I can't sell my house. He said we are begging for help.

Cunningham explained that the law says he (the owner of the shooting range) is allowed to do that.

One resident spoke to State Representative Dick Stein and was told the Trustees have to enforce the zoning. Cunningham replied that he talked to Dick Stein a couple of weeks ago and nothing was mentioned then about zoning.

The rules that limit shooting near parks were discussed. A resident suggested putting a neighborhood park somewhere in the Sandstone Ridge subdivision. Cunningham said it would first be necessary to see if the shooting range is grandfathered.

Another resident suggested those affected by the shooting ranges should circulate a petition to give to the state representatives.

Cunningham said he will talk to Nathan Manning, Gayle Manning, and Dick Stein. He also said any petition should be reviewed by the Lorain County Prosecutor.

Residents from Osborne Road said devaluating their life and safety is not okay. One resident said to have a military style range in the middle of a residential area is a complete nuisance. Also discussed were the decibels of the machine guns used, and the maximum range of the gun that was used to cut the car in half.

Cunningham explained the FAA, ODNR, EPA (because of the lead) and Lorain County Soil and Water have been to the shooting range and said it is the best range they have seen.

Discussion was concluded.

NEW BUSINESS:

One Ohio Opioid Distributor Settlement – Chairman Cunningham explained the Trustees must pass two resolutions for the One Ohio Distributor Settlement. Passing these resolutions will allow Columbia Township to share in the money that comes into the county. The payment will be spread out over 18 years.

Motion Cunningham to approve the resolution to participate in the One Ohio Opioid Settlement. Seconded Heidecker. Vote unanimous.

8-1-2022-90

Motion Cunningham to approve the One Ohio Opioid Settlement Participation Agreement. Seconded Heidecker. Vote unanimous.

8-1-2022-91

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cunningham reported the Lorain County Township Association will not meet in August. Instead, they will be manning the group's booth at the Lorain County Fair.

Cunningham had nothing new to report concerning the Rocky River Watershed Council. The RLCWA Board will meet on Wednesday, August 10th, at 7:00 p.m.

Heidecker had nothing new to report regarding NEORSD. Heidecker reported on the increase in NOPEC'S pricing. Residents enrolled in NOPEC are complaining that their electric bills are very high. Heidecker is encouraging residents call NOPEC to complain.

Since Trustee Manning is absent, Heidecker reported SWGH is full, but they are still taking patients. They do not have many COVID patients just summer emergencies.

Cunningham mentioned NEORSD's Meiring Borchers left to take a job in Washington. No one has been hired yet to replace Mr. Borchers.

Also, the Lorain County Commissioners are willing to share their American Rescue Plan funds with the townships through matching grants. Applications should be sent to Don Romancak by the end of August. Projects are not limited to stormwater.

NOACA is sponsoring the Safe Routes to School Program. Funding is provided by the Ohio Department of Transportation. The Township can sponsor a program.

FISCAL OFFICER'S FINANCIAL REQUESTS:

Fiscal Officer Mandie Andrews did not have any financial requests.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

The Trustees gave everyone present the opportunity to ask questions and/or offer comments.