

**MINUTES OF THE WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
HELD JULY 5, 2023**

Ms. Colvin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll call: Mr. Patrick– present; Ms. Colvin -present; Mr. Jacobs - present.

The following staff were present: Donald Edwards, Administrator; Scott Camery, Roads Supervisor; and Darrell Coffman, Fiscal Officer.

The following guests/residents were present: Dale Edwards

Ms. Colvin led all present in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Ms. Colvin motioned to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2023 meeting, and Mr. Patrick seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**ADDITIONS, REMOVALS OR DISCLOSURES FROM THE POSTED AGENDA:**

Resolution 2023-51 was not on the posted agenda and will be added.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** none

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**ROAD DEPARTMENT:**

Scott Camery, Road Superintendent, provided the following report:

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> round of mowing completed.
2. I have been dealing with some minor breakdowns. Parts are ordered.
3. Chip-Seal to begin on the 5<sup>th</sup>.
4. Micro-Seal finished Waynesville project. They're taking off the holiday week, will come back the week of the 10<sup>th</sup> work on Clearcreek Township project, then start on our project.
5. I still have some wedging to do.
6. I have completed one ditching project. I have another on the schedule.
7. I will have an equipment availability update at the meeting.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Paul Scherer, Fire Chief, provided the following report:

EMS runs for June	76
Fire runs for June	16
Public Service calls	<u>10</u>
Total runs for June	102

Ems runs for 2023	460
Fire runs for 2023	151
Public Service calls	<u>58</u>

**MINUTES OF THE WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
HELD JULY 5, 2023**

Total runs for 2023                          669

2022 had 128 Fire, 507 EMS, & 47 Service Calls total of 682 calls down 13 from last year.

Emailed out June Reports

Have couple interviews that are working on.

Door entry software is giving issues needs updated, Doors are failing to open. Dowell is working with Laforce.

Washington Twp contract billing for April May and June has been submitted to Fiscal Officer

I will be on vacation throughout July with the exception of Monday days.

**Notes:**

Sent out info on sign on bonus. Old SOP and proposed. Like to get feedback.

Brian Arnold info

**ZONING DEPARTMENT:**

Stacey Lowing, Zoning Inspector, provided the following report:

**PERMIT ACTIVITY AND FEE ACTIVITY:**

- **Accessory building** \$100  
5871 Spartan Hill Ln., Jeff Franz  
9695 Ferry Rd., K. Brandon Deaton  
5685 Chenoweth Rd., Michael Seman  
8380 Ferry Rd., Nathan Hay (solar array)  
8547 Twin Creek, Gavin Whitt
- **Sign** \$130  
5649 St. Rt. 42, Cherokee Self-Storage (Saffron)
- **Above ground pool** \$50  
8140 Township Line Rd., Paul Lezotte
- **Single-family residence** \$225  
5044 Thomas Dr., Ellis Home Builders
- **Shed** \$25  
9417 Hacker Farm Lane, Deborah Stafford

9 permits/fees collected for a total of \$930.00 All funds have been deposited.

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**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

Donald Edwards, Administrator, provided the following report:

**FD Staffing:**

Looking for approval of Bonus Sign On program reinstated for fire department staffing and consideration of presenting to voters a ballot initiative for funding a First Responding Full -time unit of personnel to supplement the Volunteer and Part-time crews now on the roster.

**Independence Day Celebration:**

“Small Town Neighborhood Party” on Friday night had a decent turnout for first time event.

July 1<sup>st</sup>, Saturday. Parade began at noon just as the rain ended. “Mark Gordon” was Grand Marshall of this year’s parade. Great turn-out.

Band at Bicentennial Park at 7:00 in the evening along with a Food Truck Rally provided a great evening for the large crowd before the Fireworks at 10:00 pm.

Thank you to all that helped with putting on these activities.

**Cemetery:**

Both Cemeteries were mowed and trimmed for Independence Day weekend.

**Road Work:**

Scott is doing a nice job of coordinating both contractors for our chip-seal and slurry-seal programs. Hope to have both contractors finished up by the middle of the month, if not sooner.

**Budget:**

The 2024 budget has been prepared for Public Hearing and Board’s approval.

Darrell does a great job and will be dearly missed next year.

Thank you, Darrell !

**Millage Certification:**

Received millage certification from the Warren County Auditor’s office.

Residential / Ag valuation is 294,638,290

Class II 14,581,940

Public Utility 37,880,480

TOTAL Valuation = 346,880,480

Interest received this year has averaged about \$27,000 per month. 180,000 in interest was the highest ever collected prior to this year.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Website update status- Ms. Colvin asked Mr. Patrick about the website and whether it would be ready by the next meeting.

B. Other- the speaker that was scheduled to speak about the Little Miami River float several meetings ago stopped by the office. He provided information about an event on the Little Miami. There will be a “float” on the Little Miami, and then a luncheon with a speaker.

**MINUTES OF THE WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
HELD JULY 5, 2023**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Questions or Concerns Regarding the Bills:** NONE

**B. Legislation:**

**RESOLUTION 2023-48 APPROVING THE REMOVAL OF BRIAN ARMOLD FROM THE ROSTER OF WAYNE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Patrick motioned to adopt the resolution. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion and upon call of the roll thereon the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Patrick – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea; Mr. Jacobs– yea. The resolution was therefore adopted the 5th of July 2023.

**RESOLUTION 2023-51 RESOLUTION APPROVING OF A WAYNE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT SIGN-ON BONUS FOR NEW MEMBERS AND THEIR SPONSORS**

Ms. Colvin provided information from the resolution, and there was discussion about the previous program and the current proposal. Mr. Edwards explained how the payments would work. Discussion ensued about the sign-on bonus between the trustees, Mr. Edwards, and Mr. Coffman.

No action was taken on this resolution at this time.

**C. Other:**

**Budget Hearing 7:24 PM**

Mr. Coffman presented a proposed estimated budget for fiscal year 2024. The fund categories include the general fund, motor vehicle license tax fund, gasoline tax fund, road and bridge fund, fire district fund, fund “b,” permissive motor vehicle license fund, local fiscal recovery fund, lighting district fund, and the food pantry fund. The revenues, expenditures, and unencumbered balances for each fund were given in the presentation, as well as a grand total for all funds.

**RESOLUTION 2023-50 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BUDGET OF WAYNE TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, OHIO AS ESTIMATED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024**

Ms. Colvin motioned to adopt the resolution. Mr. Patrick seconded the motion and upon call of the roll thereon the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Jacobs– yea; Mr. Patrick – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea. The resolution was therefore adopted the 5th of July 2023.

**Legislation continued:**

**RESOLUTION 2023-49 A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH PROPOSING A NEW ADDITIONAL TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE TEN (10) MILL LIMITATION, (TBD) MILLS ADDITIONAL**

Mr. Edwards stated that the purpose of this levy would be for staffing for the station. He explained the

**MINUTES OF THE WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
HELD JULY 5, 2023**

existing fire levies, and future equipment expenses by year. The levy is needed as there are a declining number of volunteers, and to provide staff to be able to respond 24 hours per day. Other charts that he showed included call trends and response times. Full-time staffing would reduce the response time. A budget was established by calculating pay for six full-time employees with varying levels of certification and years of service. The estimated cost is \$650,000 per year.

There was discussion about the millage that should be requested. The trustees talked about whether a new fire chief (after Chief Scherer's retirement) would want a different plan, but that there is a culture issue that volunteerism is not going to be a reliable source of staffing. Other discussions revolved around attracting talent, pay scale, and mutual aid.

The resolution would have to be passed by the next Trustee's meeting to be placed on the ballot.

No action was taken on this resolution.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** none

**ELECTED OFFICIAL'S COMMENTS:** none

**WORK SESSION:** none

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** none

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, at 8:32 pm Ms. Colvin motioned to adjourn. Mr. Patrick seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

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President, Board of Trustees