

SOMERFORD TOWNSHIP
P. O. Box 861
Office Location: [91 State Route 56](#) N.W.
London, OH 43140

James Moran, Chairman	Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer
Ernest Sparks, Vice Chairman	Brian Knowles, Zoning Inspector
Keith O'Connor, Trustee	

The Somerford Township Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at the Somerford Township Hall located at 91 St Rt 56 NW with the above members present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and the minutes from the January, 2022 meeting were read and approved by the trustees.

Brian Harrington is in attendance looking to meet the new Trustee. He is introduced to newly elected trustee Keith O'Connor at this time.

Mr. Doug Peterman is also in attendance to give an informal update on the Solar Project. Mr. Peterman reports that he attended a lunch with Dave Dhume as well as a representative from the Solar Project. He reported that Rob Slaine has made a powerpoint presentation regarding the project and reports that he will get that to Jimmie to disperse among the other Trustees. If the project chooses to use the payments in lieu of taxes program and integrate levies, the solar company will pay directly. Mr. Peterman reports that all funds for this project would go to the Jonathon Alder School District unless it is decided that the funds go into The Clean Air Act and then the Commissioners can distribute funds among multiple school districts, including London City Schools. Savion, the company presenting this project, has been bought by Shell but will still function under the name Savion. Chairman Moran asks if the project is too far along to discuss "buffer zones" and Mr. Peterman says absolutely not. The project will need to be designed first before they can begin actual work. He explains that the Township has the option to put one of the Trustees on the project's Board as a representative. There were no further questions at this time and Mr. Moran thanks Mr. Peterman for coming.

Mr. Doug Peterman also reports to the meeting for a personal matter that he has been in discussion with Zoning Inspector Brian Knowles about. He has 32 acres on Arbuckle Road and another 3 acres as a separate parcel. He is looking to split 8 acres off his larger parcel and add them to the 3 acre parcel. There is plenty of frontage but there was a house at one point on the 3 acre parcel and Mr. Peterman is asking if he would need a conditional use permit to rebuild there? Mr. Moran and Mr. Knowles will discuss it further and get back to Mr. Peterman.

Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer, hands out the February bills and payroll at this time to be reviewed. There are also two deeds to be signed for the sale of cemetery plots. Next, Ms. Knowles asks for a motion to approve the permanent appropriations for fiscal year 2022 after review. Vice Chairman Ernest Sparks moves that these appropriations be approved, Trustee Keith O'Connor seconds the motion. A roll call is taken: James Moran-Yes; Ernest Sparks-Yes; Keith O'Connor-Yes. All were in favor and the motion is carried.

Mr. Bob Blake is in attendance and states that he feels that he is being harassed on what is going on with his property. He doesn't have time to go to court with his schedule and he feels that compared to other properties in the Township, his is being held to higher standards. Chairman Moran explains that when the Trustees receive complaints, they have to have actions to help resolve these complaints. The Township received a complaint about Mr. Blake's property and they have followed protocol to get this matter taken care of. Mr. Blake states that he has lived here for many years and he has had to deal with the sewage smell near his property for the last 30 years and that he has never come to complain about it but he is now. Mr. Moran reassures him that the Health Department will be helping to resolve this situation until the Sewer Project comes through. Secondly, Mr. Blake reports that the snow removal near his property is unacceptable. He reports it is especially poor in the alleys, reporting that his was not even touched with the last snowfall. Mr. Moran states that he will bring this up with our snow removal team.

Zoning Inspector Brian Knowles updates that he has court scheduled on March 4 for Blake property and a public hearing for a lot split for a conditional use permit on Old Columbus for the Willis Family. Mr. Knowles also reports that he continues to work with multiple property owners to get there properties up to code.

Chairman James Moran reports that he attended the EMS meeting and that the squad is looking to obtain a new truck but that they won't get anything for nearly two and a half years even if they order now. He also reports that the EMS and Fire are working on unifying the accounting systems between the two entities as well as that they are staying busy with COVID issues and are continuing to have staffing issues. They report that they are constantly hiring and trying to stay well-staffed with qualified individuals. Mr. O'Connor asks if the trucks that they currently have will last for the next two and a half years? Mr. Moran states that this is the issue they are currently looking into.

Mr. Brian Harrington asks about lost deeds and the process taken to replace them. Ms. Knowles explains the process used and Mr. Moran reiterates it at this time.

Being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 1953.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer

Date: _____

James Moran, Chairman

