

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

Bill Laney, Chairman
James Moran, Vice Chairman
Ernest Sparks, Trustee

Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer
Brian Knowles, Zoning Inspector

The Somerford Township Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 via Zoom Call with the above members present. The meeting was called to order at 1900.

Mr. Josh Cross from Ohio Edison was on the call. He wanted to reach out and make sure the township was happy with services. Vice Chairman Moran asked if the street lights might be getting changed to LED bulbs any time soon? Mr. Cross states that Ohio Edison is planning to upgrade all lights to LED by 2030. If we have any lights that go out, they will be replaced with LED at the time.

Eva Thiel was also on the line to ask a question regarding her property tax bill. Ms. Thiel explains that there was no previous Madison County Tax bill on her previous years' statements. Chairman Bill Laney discusses the Fire and EMS levies as well as the stand alone Somerford Township Levy. He then explains that about ten years ago, London took over the EMS runs. There was a small area that was within Mechanicsburg school district that was not taxed by Mechanicsburg nor London. Ms. Thiel's property happens to be one of the homes that was not taxed. She confirms that her home is in the location Mr. Laney described and states she understands. At this time, Ms. Theil asks for cemetery information and Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer, states that she will get her the information.

Ms. Kathy Platter was on the line observing the meeting and has no questions or comments at this time.

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer, then has the Trustees review the meeting minutes from the January, 2021 meeting. They are read and approved by the Trustees at this time. Trustee Ernest Sparks motions to accept meeting minutes. Mr. Moran seconds, all are in favor and the motion is passed. The Somerford Trustees then reviewed and gave verbal approval of the February 2021 payroll and bills at this time. Ms. Knowles informs the Board of a new option within UAN that the township can opt-into. It allows UAN to send notices when the monthly bank reconciliations are not submitted within 60 days of that month's end. Mr. Moran requests more information on the topic and motions to table the decision for thirty days. Mr. Sparks seconds, motion is carried and will be reviewed at the March meeting. Ms. Knowles then moves on to the CARES Act funds and updates the Trustees on the receipts and invoices she has received and what the balance is on the Township's Cares Act Fund.

Trustee Ernest Sparks then reports that the scheduled zoning meeting was cancelled due to weather.

Vice Chairman James Moran then gives an update on the routine fire meeting from the previous month. Central Township Fire reports that they have adequate supplies at this time and that the new fire truck is done and being trained on. It will be in service by March. Mr. Moran also reports that the sewer project is still behind due to COVID-19 but that it should be in motion come May 2021.

Somerford Zoning Inspector, Brain Knowles, updates the Board on their recent BZA Meeting regarding the Creative Carpet property. It was decided that the building can be rebuilt without a variance and this was approved by the BZA members. Construction is set to begin over the next two-three months. Mr. Knowles reports on two other properties that were scheduled to go to court that met their requirements. Mr. Knowles also reports that he is still working closely with Mr. Blake and Mr. Ward regarding their properties and sees small improvements. He plans to reach out to both once the weather breaks.

Chairman Laney updates the Board on the annual fire alarm inspection of the Township Building. It has been completed and passed. Chief Bennington was present for the inspection. Mr. Laney also reports that the key to Dr. Kaehr's old office is in the lock box attached to the Zoning Inspector's office door should anyone need to get into that room. Mr. Laney reports that he virtually attended the OTA Conference the week before and that he had the recordings if there were any that anyone would like to review and gain CEs for. Lastly, Mr. Laney reports that Chief Olwin has officially retired and that Chief Bennington is absorbing his roles as of now.

Being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 1941.

Respectfully submitted:



Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer

Date: 3-10-21



Bill Laney, Chairman