

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

Keith O'Connor, 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, January 10, 2024 with the above members present. The meeting was called to order at 1900.

Tom Herrli is in attendance. Last June, the Zoning Board granted the Webster's their conditional use upon certain conditions for their photography company. The restrictions that were set were: no signs, a fence was to be put up, a vehicle to be moved, and photo props not be left out on the property. Mr. Herrli is here to notify the Trustees that the truck is still on the property and they have added more photo props in the yard. The truck was previously addressed and Zoning Inspector, Brian Knowles, checked the property and the truck was no longer visibly on the property. Now that the season has changed and the leaves have fallen, it's been discovered that the truck was not in fact removed but it was moved toward the back of the property and concealed by a wooded area. A fence was put in place by The Herrli's as they made the investment because they didn't think the one the Webster's were going to do would suffice. Mr. Herrli reports that the Webster's are only supposed to be doing pictures indoors and now they have props all over their yard. In summary, Mr. Herrli states that he feels the Webster's planned for this all along and disregarded the conditional use permit agreements and he has had to bring it to the township/zoning boards multiple times. Mr. Knowles states that this is the first infraction that was brought up at this time and the first time it is being made aware that The Websters are not following their restrictions. Mr. Herrli states that he would like the Webster's conditional use permit revoked. Mr. Knowles states that there are steps that need to be followed and he will be sending a formal letter to Websters in regards to their infraction. Mr. O'Connor states that there is a process that has to be followed and that is what is being done. Mr. Herrli states that he does not feel that the "policing" of the property should be done by his wife and him. Mr. O'Connor clarifies that by "policing," they mean they have to bring these things to the township's attention as they are now. They are not expected to confront their neighbors themselves, they just need to bring their concerns to light as they have. Mr. Knowles will proceed with the steps in place.

Brian Harrington is also in attendance and wants to know if the trailers are being addressed on Old 40. Mr. Knowles states that it has already been brought to their attention and addressed. Mr. Harrington also wants to know if the sewer project is going to be started soon? The pipe, grinders and most of the material are here, and Mr. Moran was told today that the company doing the sewer project is booked with another large project and working to finish that. Lastly, Mr. Harrington also states that he previously spoke with Mr. Moran about cemetery deeds and asks if anything has changed? Mr. Moran states that it is as they previously discussed.

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer, informs the Trustees that she is accepting nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board for the year 2024. Ernest Sparks nominates Keith O'Connor for the position of Chairman and James Moran seconds. Ms. Knowles takes roll call, no objections; Mr. O'Connor is the 2024 Chairman by acclamation. Mr. O'Connor then nominates James Moran as the Vice Chairman. Mr. Sparks seconds, Ms. Knowles takes roll call, no objections and the motion is carried. Mr. Moran is the 2024 Vice Chairman by acclamation. Ms. Knowles also asked for a motion to accept Somerford Township not exceeding \$85,000 for medical insurance costs in 2024; Mr. O'Connor moves that this number be approved, Mr. Moran seconds, roll call was taken and all in favor, motion is carried. Appointment to committees for 2024 will be as follows: Mr. Moran - Regional Planning Commission and, Mr. Sparks - Central Township Fire Board, Mr. O'Connor - Madison County Emergency Medical District.

Ms. Knowles then asks if everyone has reviewed the meeting minutes from the December 2023 meeting? They were read and approved by the Trustees at this time. The Somerford Trustees also reviewed and gave approval of the January 2024 payroll and bills at this time. Lastly, Ms. Knowles asks for a motion to approve the permanent appropriations for fiscal year 2024 after review. Vice Chairman James Moran moves that these appropriations be approved, Chairman Keith O'Connor seconds the motion. A role call is taken: James Moran-Yes; Ernest Sparks-Yes; Keith O'Connor-Yes. All were in favor and the motion is carried.

Being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2108.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer

Date: _____

Keith O'Connor, Chairman