

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

James Moran, Chairman
Ernest Sparks, Vice Chairman
Keith O'Connor (via phone)

Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer
Brian Knowles, Zoning Inspector

The Somerford Township Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, October 12, 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 September, 2022 meeting were read and approved by the Trustees.

Bob Blake, Jr is in attendance again. Chairman Moran states that he spoke with the EPA today and the sewage situation is going to become a legal issue with the county. The Prosecutor is getting involved at this time. Mr. Blake states that none of us in this room would put up with the sewage he has to put up with. Mr. Moran says the EPA is saying one thing and as a township they can say what they want but it's a county issue as they are the ones with the grant money and funding for the project. The bidding has been done so hopefully this spring the sewage project will begin. Mr. Moran states that the project is huge and he is happy with how far along the sewage project has come and hopefully central water will follow but it will take time. Mr. Moran asks if Mr. Blake got a letter from The Health Department that they said to contact them and they'd work with residents until the sewage project is completed? Mr. Blake is unsure. Mr. Moran will keep on pushing and get some kind of answer from the county. Mr. Blake states he just wants to know what he needs to do to prepare? Mr. Moran informs him that a backflow system might be included with the project. Bob Blake Sr. arrives approximately 30 minutes into the meeting and asks for an update. Mr. Moran reiterates what he had already discussed with Bob Blake Jr. and also restates that he will be calling the Prosecutor tomorrow to touch base. He says he, again, is turning it over to the Prosecutor, Nick Adkins, to deal with the EPA and the Health Department and the County Commissioner's Office. Mr. Blake, Sr. states he will get the press involved if need be. Mr. Moran states that he has worked for the last 6 years before the County took on this project. It's overdue but there is nothing he can do to make it move any faster. Bob Blake, Sr. states that someone needs to come up with some money to fix the problem now, not next year. Would like to have a nice yard to sit in without smelling sewage. Mr. Moran says he's done everything there is to do up to this point. At this time, Mr. Blake's grandson states that he has been living with his grandpa for 6-7 months in sewage. He states that he works for a waterproofing company and he knows he could fix the problem. Bob Blake Sr. asks him to keep his comments to himself. He also states that he would like a letter showing a conversation between Mr. Moran and Prosecutor Nick Adkins. Mr. Moran agrees to let him know once they have spoken.

Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer, hands out the October bills and payroll at this time to be reviewed. Ms. Knowles reports that a resolution needs to be passed to appoint a township representative to the Ohio Power Siting Board. Vice Chairman Ernest Sparks makes a motion to

appoint James Moran as the township representative to the Ohio Power Siting Board. Mr. O'Connor seconds the motion. A roll call is taken: Mr. Moran-yes, Mr. Sparks-Yes, Mr. O'Connor-Yes. All in favor and the motion is passed. Ms. Knowles signs the resolution with the Trustees as witnesses at this time. Ms. Knowles also hands over 3 deeds for cemetery graves to be signed at this time.

Chairman Moran states he has a lot going on with the Solar Project as well as the Comprehensive Plan. He attended two meetings regarding the review of the proposed Comprehensive Plan and will continue to take part in future meetings. He also states that the brush has been cut down and signs are ordered for Karen Drive as discussed in the previous meeting.

Vice Chairman Sparks discusses the previous EMS meeting and reports that the EMS are in the process of getting the garage door fixed.

Zoning Inspector Brian Knowles reports on the zoning board's proposal of solar zoning regulations. He also reports that the old drive thru has a new owner and is filing for a conditional use permit to operate a semi repair shop. Mr. Knowles asks if there are any height regulations when building? Mr. Moran states that the County might know. Mr. Knowles will follow up. Mr. Knowles also brings up a complaint he received about the brightness of the electric sign in front of the Township Building. The sign has already been adjusted. Bill Laney contacted Mr. Knowles about the status of a variance request from the airport for a new hangar. Mr. Knowles states that the hearing was scheduled last winter but no one from the airport showed up. When Mr. Knowles called to follow up, they said they were going in a different direction. Mr. Knowles has not heard from them since. A public hearing for a conditional use permit to split off a buildable parcel on an ag property is scheduled for tomorrow, October 13. Lastly, Mr. Knowles reports that the residents that purchased the Deer Farm on Trader's Road are wanting to hold a Wedding Venue on their property. Dave Hughes informed Mr. Knowles that they can but not without specific restrictions. Mr. Knowles is still working with the owners at this time.

Being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2034.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer

Date: _____

James Moran, Chairman