

**SWANTON TOWNSHIP**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**MINUTES OF: REGULAR MEETING**

**HELD: JANUARY 14, 2020**

Chairman Jeff Michael called the January 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Swanton Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:35 PM.

Roll Call:

Trustee Gary Schroeder	- Present
Trustee Jeff Michael	- Present
Trustee Cindy Burkey	- Present
Fiscal Officer Peggy Michael	- Present

Visitors Present: 5

**Business of the Fiscal Officer**

**Motion** by Gary Schroeder to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2019 Swanton Township Trustee Special Meeting. Seconded by Cindy Burkey. Roll Call: Gary Schroeder, yes; Cindy Burkey, yes; Jeff Michael, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 1-2020.**

**Motion** by Cindy Burkey to approve the 2020 Permanent Appropriations. Seconded by Gary Schroeder. Roll Call: Cindy Burkey, yes; Gary Schroeder, yes; Jeff Michael, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 2-2020.**

**Motion** by Cindy Burkey to approve and sign P.O.'s 1-2020 through 13-2020 and Super B.C.'s 1-2020 through 30-2020. Seconded by Gary Schroeder. Roll Call: Cindy Burkey, yes; Gary Schroeder, yes; Jeff Michael, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 3-2020.**

**Motion** by Gary Schroeder to pay Warrant Numbers 5681 through 5700 and sign the payment report. Seconded by Cindy Burkey. Roll Call: Gary Schroeder, yes; Cindy Burkey, yes; Jeff Michael, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 4-2020.**

Fiscal Officer Peggy Michael reported that the December 2019 bank statement has been reconciled and signed by the Trustees.

Fiscal Officer Peggy Michael entered the correspondence into the Record.

Fiscal Officer Peggy Michael reported she was named the Deputy Fiscal Officer for Waterville Township. Fiscal Officer Michael will dig them out of a crisis and get them financially current. Fiscal Officer Michael was highly recommended by the Senior Audit Manager Chris White from the Auditor of State and John Borell from the Lucas County Prosecutors Office.

**Zoning Report**

1. Trustee Gary Schroeder gave the zoning report.

**SWANTON TOWNSHIP**  
**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**MINUTES OF: REGULAR MEETING**  
**HELD: JANUARY 14, 2020**

2. Trustee Gary Schroeder reported there were 29 Residential and 7 Commercial permits issued in 2019 collecting \$4,370. Not employing a Zoning Inspector saved the Township \$12,000.

**Roads Report**

1. Trustee Jeff Michael gave the roads report.
2. Trustee Jeff Michael reported that Lucas County issued Permit #19-892 to AT&T to bore a 4" conduit at the intersection of Whitehouse-Spencer and US20A to accommodate the new Roundabout

**Cemetery Report**

1. Cemetery report was given.
2. Trustee Gary Schroeder reported 12 burials and 4 plot purchased in 2019 collecting \$15,150.

**Old Business**

1. Regional Council of Governments Agreement Review - Trustee Jeff Michael gave a report on the current Regional Council of Governments Agreement. December 10<sup>th</sup> the Lucas County 911 Planning Committee voted to consolidate 911 operations under a new regional council of governments. They are hoping for consolidation to be a collaborative process and for all of the jurisdictions of Lucas County to become members of the Council of Governments. All of us received the agreement from Matt Heyrman for the creation of the Regional Council of Governments. They are asking that you please review with legal counsel and provide any feedback by close of business Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Each Member of the Council shall be represented by the member jurisdiction's representative on the Board of Directors

"Board of Directors" is the governing board of the Council, it consists of the following: the County Sheriff, the police chief of the most populous municipality, the fire chief from the most populous municipality in the County, the police chief from the second most populous jurisdiction in the County, a Lucas County municipal police chief selected by a majority of the suburban municipal police chiefs, a municipal fire chief selected by a majority of the suburban municipal fire chiefs, and a township fire chief selected by the Lucas County Township Association., we will be represented by the Township Fire Chief while the other 6 represent the County and Municipalities.

**SWANTON TOWNSHIP**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**MINUTES OF: REGULAR MEETING**

**HELD: JANUARY 14, 2020**

Annually the Board of Directors will determine the costs of the Regional Council for the next fiscal year and assess the county, municipalities, and townships in Lucas County its share of these costs, based on the method and formula determined by the 9-1-1 Planning Committee, regardless of membership status of the municipality, village or township.

Not being a member shall not relieve the jurisdiction from paying the assessment.

The Trustees decided there is not any benefit in being a member.

**New Business**

1. Call from Toledo – Lucas County Port Authority President & CEO Thomas Winston

Trustee Jeff Michael reported Thomas Winston, the new President and CEO of the Toledo – Lucas County Port Authority reached out requesting to get together. Mr. Winston stated he would like to create a relationship, discuss shared interests in the community, and start a new and work together on initiatives they are undertaking.

The Port Authority and Swanton Township relationship has been strained going back to Burlington Air in 1991, buying up land around the airport and not paying taxes on the property, allowing runoff from the quarry to flow through their ditches, to trying to circumvent our zoning regulation and slam a substandard building to the south of the airport.

Trustee Michael will contact Mr. Winston to set expectations and see where it goes.

2. Call from Ohio House of Representatives 47<sup>th</sup> Representative Derek Merrin

Trustee Jeff Michael reported Representative Derek Merrin of the 47<sup>th</sup> District gave him a call to discuss the State Capital Budget process. They discussed the budget process, how local governments make requests for local projects (this is not the OPWC process), and they will have a discussion in the next budget cycle.

Trustee Michael and Representative Merrin discussed the Road Diet at St Rt 295 and Airport Highway. This is a very problematic intersection as it is a permanent construction zone. Trustee Michael stated we are working with the Toledo Public Schools, TPS is concerned because they moved other schools into the Aviation School building and that increased the number of students that come out here. Representative Merrin said to send a letter to the new District Deputy Director of District 2 Patrick McColley, Representative Merrin said he's a pretty good guy and if we don't get anywhere give him a call.

They also discussed that the MetroParks and State Forest do not clean their ditches to allow water to flow through. Almost all of the drainage ditches in the Township, at some point, goes through one or both. This causes backups throughout the Township.

**SWANTON TOWNSHIP**  
**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**MINUTES OF: REGULAR MEETING**

**HELD: JANUARY 14, 2020**

Representative Merrin said that's a tough one and he doesn't have much to do with them but will mention it to them to come to the table for discussions.

Lastly, they discussed that we had an employee whom the Jobs and Family Services Review Commission ruled was not eligible for benefits, however the investigator approved benefits when they shouldn't have. Trustee Michael told him that Jobs and Family Services is billing the Township to collect what was incorrectly given. Representative Merrin said that doesn't sound right and sounds very frustrating. He will look into this.

3. Lucas County Stormwater Assessment

After speaking to Representative Merrin about drainage, the road workers, Fiscal Officer Peggy Michael, and Trustee Jeff Michael conferenced with the County. While Townships cannot go on private property, the County can through a few programs such as the Sanitary Engineer and Stormwater program.

Ditches outside of the road right of ways are owned by the property owner. By law, these ditch owners are responsible for keeping the ditches cleaned. Reality is, that doesn't happen.

Ohio law requires the County to get temporary easement from each property owner. Usually there are a few property owners along the ditch that won't grant the easement. Even if easements were granted, there still is the problem that almost all of the ditches go through the Oak Openings or the State Forest. Both of these refuse to clean their ditches because they say it harms the plant life along the ditch. So the water stops there and backs up.

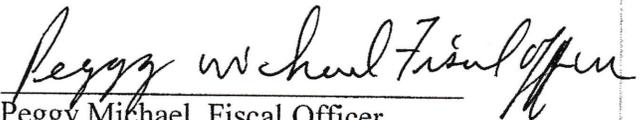
The Stormwater program puts a tax on each property in the Township, these dollars are put in an account, and then used to clean out the property owner's ditch. All residents in the Township are assessed this tax to be used to clean ditches that the property owners should be doing. However, if Oak Openings and the State Forest don't clean their ditches, it is wasted money.

The County won't know the cost or details for a few months, they plan to have them ready for the annual meeting with the Engineer's Office.

A Spencer Township Trustee contacted us because they are facing the same issue with drainage. Trustee Michael and Fiscal Officer will meet with him next month.

**SWANTON TOWNSHIP**  
**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**MINUTES OF: REGULAR MEETING**  
**HELD: JANUARY 14, 2020**

**Motion** by Cindy Burkey to adjourn at 8:15 PM. Seconded by Gary Schroeder. Roll Call: Cindy Burkey, yes; Gary Schroeder, yes; Jeff Michael, yes. Motion Carried. **Resolution 5-2020.**

Signed:   
Peggy Michael, Fiscal Officer

Signed:   
Trustee