

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Montgomery County

**Regular Meeting
December 11, 2023**

49 E. Walnut Street, Farmersville, Ohio 45325

Telephone (937) 696-3010



Mr. Michael Moyer, Trustee President, called the Jackson Township Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, to order on **Monday, December 11, 2023**, at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was as follows:

ELECTED OFFICIALS:			Present	Absent
Michael Moyer		Trustee President	X	
Randall DeVilbiss		Trustee Vice President	X	
Ryan Hodson		Trustee	X	
Elizabeth Kozarec		Fiscal Officer	X	
TOWNSHIP STAFF:				
Chief Jeff Erisman		Chief of Farmersville Fire Dept.	X	
Sgt. Mark Bruner	For Chief Schade	Chief of Jackson Twp. Police	X	
Kristen Hamaker		Park and Zoning Administrator	X	
Doug Pohl		Road Superintendent	X	

VISITORS: Glenna Madden, Jimmy Peters, David and Sue Nickelson, Joe Garrett and Sgt. Spurlock (Jackson Twp. PD)

VISITOR COMMENTS: Mr. Joe Garret from Trebel Energy spoke about the recent passing of our Aggregation. He stated he put two notices regarding the meeting that was held here on the 7th as was required and at those meetings he had one attendee at each meeting; according to Joe which is normal – many times no one shows up. He wanted to give an update on what happens next. He said the most question he gets is “When” will this go into effect. Mr. Garrett said that now they will put the townships of Jackson, Germantown, Perry and a couple entities in Preble County together to go out for bids. He is waiting until February, if we have a mild winter this will help the electric costs; once they accept a bid then he submits to PUCO an they take a minimum of 30 days to process the certificate; after that is when we can get the information from AES regarding the customers in our township. They will send out OPT OUT letters after they have this information. What is confusing about this is that if a resident is already involved with a different supplier than AES then they will NOT get the opt out letter because they are not technically a current AES customer. Sometimes customers will decide it is cheaper for them to pay cancellation fees and become a part of our aggregation and others it will not benefit to cancel their contract early. Trebel is happy to discuss this with anyone that needs additional information. Residents can contact the Jackson Township office for Trebel’s information.

Mr. DeVilbiss made motion to approve the Electric AND Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation Program and Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Motion Passed. Mr. Garrett requested an

updated vote specifically approving “The Trebel Operation and Governance Plan”. Mr. DeVilbiss motioned to approved the modified motion and Mr. Moyer seconded. Motion Passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM November 13, 2023, Regular Meeting: Mr. Moyer asked for the review and approval of said minutes; Mr. Hodson motioned to approve and Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss			X	
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS AND WARRANTS FROM November 14, 2023 through December 11, 2023: Mr. Moyer asked for the review and approval of said electronic payments and warrants in the amount of **\$326,784.65**. Mr. Hodson motioned to approve and Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

FIRE: Chief Erisman

- Chief stated he met with Rep. Rodney Creech and Tom Hall and they are working a couple projects for them at the State level. He also spoke to them regarding his issue with getting the \$25,000 that was promised them from the County from ARPA funds to used towards a new medic. Rep. Creech stated he would talk with Judy Dodge and see what he could find out.
- Chief requested a representative for the Fireman’s Dependent Fund and Mr. DeVilbiss stated he would be honored to do it again.
- The Fire Dept. has applied for a second grant to help fund fire gear.

POLICE: Sergeant Bruner (for Chief Schade)

- Sgt. Bruner stated the LEADS Audit that was completed on November 20, 2023 was returned with a 100% compliant rating.
- Sgt. Matt Spurlock started his employment with us on November 20, 2023 and is doing well. He is getting acclimated to our procedures and is fitting in great.
- Sgt. Bruner has applied for the Ohio Law Enforcement Bulletproof Vest Program to replace seven vests and purchase three new vest carriers. This grant also pays for the equipment that goes on the vest. The Township match is 25% which would be about \$2,400.
- Chief Schade has completed the 2015 Charger, it has been cleaned and stripes have been removed. Sgt. Bruner plans to put it on GovDeals in the near future.

- The Village of Camden is interested in purchasing the 2014 Charger. Their Chief stated it would be the first of the year before he would make the purchase.
- Sgt. Bruner requested the 3% raise for the full-time police officers (excluding Sgt. Spurlock) beginning in 2024 – this is the same pay raise we have done in the past. Mr. Hodson made motion to approve the pay raise and Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

ROAD: Mr. Pohl

- Mr. Pohl stated he would like to apply for a recycle grant that would pay 70% of a new rock crusher, if awarded. The small crusher would crush approx. 30 tons per hour and the larger one about 90 tons. Our current one does 2. Trustees agreed that applying for this grant would be beneficial and discussed current cost of gravel and what we have to recycle into gravel.
- Road Dept. has been working on equipment maintenance and repairs.
- Maintaining Roadways.
- Gravel on Lower Gratis Rd.
- They replaced the battery on the flashing stop sign; Mr. Pohl stated they are said to last a year which is what this one did and Mr. Moyer noticed the other one needs a new battery of this morning.
- Cleaned up dumping on Venus Rd.
- He requested an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel.
- Mr. Moyer asked him how the drain system at the park is going? Mr. Pohl answered that it has not been started yet, but will be soon. Mr. Pohl is also talking to Choice One about applying for a grant to help pay for a new parking lot.

PARK: Mrs. Hamaker from written report

- The Park Committee met at the end of last month and would like to move forward with Shamrock Pool’s idea of a troth drain around the pool. We are working with Rob at Shamrock to get the scope of the work and a price. Want to get this work done at the end of the 2024 pool season.
- In addition, the committee would like to increase/change the pricing for the Community Center. Currently, there is a fee for events having alcohol and events without alcohol. They would like to make all events the same price of \$275 plus a \$50 deposit due at booking. The \$50 is returned if the Center is cleaned per the contract. Mr. Hodson made motion to approve the rate change and the Moyer seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

- The Park Committee also discussed the possibility of the Mudcats running the concession stand on their own at the ballfields. We would either make sure it is up to code or leave it the way it is and they are limited on what they can sell – we would charge a fee for the lease of the concession stand. No decision has been made on this, yet.

- The Park Committee will be charging Farm Days and Oktoberfest for the use (and non-use for us) during their events. We are not able to book the Community Center on the dates of these events due to parking conflicts; therefore, we will now charge a \$125 fee per day for the rental of the park.
- In addition, to the above there was discussion about a book bin at the park, painting the shutters at the Community Center, getting new flooring at the Community Center (Johnson Flooring is coming out to measure and give us our options) and getting the shelters around the park repaired.
- There is a golf cart at the park that they would like to sell unless there is another use? The solar covers for the pool will also be sold.
- Mr. Hodson stated that Kercher Park had a resident write a grant that ended up paying for the new tennis courts. Mr. Hodson would like us to contact her about writing one for Pickleball Courts at our park.

ZONING, REFUSE, SENIOR CENTER: Mrs. Hamaker

- ZONING Criminal charges for 2510 Farmersville-Johnsville Rd. for Mary Perkins; 1512 Farmersville-Johnsville Rd. for Jesse Johnson; and 1651 S. Fuls Rd. for Carol Foust are scheduled for tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. Mrs. Hamaker stated she was not invited to the hearing.
- **REFUSE:** All is going well.
- **SENIOR CENTER:** all is going well.
- **RECYCLE CENTER:** All is going well. Clean out is scheduled for December 26.

FISCAL OFFICER: Elizabeth (Lisa) Kozarec

- Trustees had no questions regarding the fiscal reports provided.
- Mrs. Kozarec requested a special meeting to approve the 2024 temporary budget, as well as, passing the resolution for the South Fire Replacement Levy Determining to Proceed once we receive the information from the Auditor’s office. The trustees decided on Monday, December 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
- She explained that CAMP (Community Action Mission Project) was requesting donations and wanted to know if the Trustees wanted to donate and how much? They asked how much we gave the last time we donated. Mrs. Kozarec stated in 2020 with Covid money we gave them \$15,000. Mr. Hodson stated that he thinks we should match that donation due to our StarOhio interest. Mr. Hodson made motion to approve and Mr. DeVilbiss seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution: 2023-24: *Advancement of Funds from County Auditor’s Office* Mr. Hodson made motion to approve and Mr. DeVilbiss second the motion. Motion passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

Resolution: 2023-25: *South Fire Replacement Levy Auditor Certification.* Mr. Hodson made motion to approve and Mr. DeVilbiss seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

Resolution: 2023-26: *Declaring the 2007 Chevrolet 2500HD as Surplus.* Mr. Hodson made motion to approve and Mr. DeVilbiss seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

Resolution: 2023-27: *Revenue and Appropriation Maintenance (multiple accounts).* Mr. Hodson made motion to approve and Mr. DeVilbiss seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Moyer Stated that it is our year to have a representative on the JEDD Board for two years. Mr. Mark Keener from German Township called Mr. Moyer and requested that they allow him to stay on in our place since he is the treasurer. Mr. Moyer made motion to allow and Mr. Hodson seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

TRUSTEE COMMENTS:

Mr. Moyer: None

Mr. Hodson: Mr. Hodson wanted to address the situation with the annexation of 23 acres of farm land on Fuls Rd. to the Village of New Lebanon. He stated he is “uncomfortable” with this situation and feels we owe our Township Residents around this land to be against it. He spoke with residents near this proposed development of 82 acres and they are not happy. One resident recently built a \$300,000-\$400,000 home believing he would remain in the country and not look out at a subdivision. Mr. Hodson stated that the zoning for Jackson Township is to remain rural, we cannot get more land – unless New Lebanon has open land to trade? Which he stated they do not. Mrs. Hamaker, Zoning Administrator, stated that this is not fair for township residents that have followed our rule of no more than 15% of farmland can be divided. Mr. Hodson stated he believes New Lebanon is doing this just to get money because their budget needs it; he also wondered if New Lebanon had thought about the increase in numbers to their school and other affects? Glenna Madden then requested to speak and stated that New Lebanon’s finances are fine and that is not the reason, in addition the school has also been made aware and are able to handle an increase, too. The land owner came to them requesting this because a developer wanted to buy the 23 acres. When asked if they had many residents opposing this development Ms. Madden responded that there have been “a couple”. Mrs. Kozarec asked about water and sewage and Ms. Madden confirmed that their system could handle the increased population. Mr. Hodson continued by saying he believes we should not approve if a resolution is presented to our trustees, he then asked Ms. Madden “New Lebanon has not yet passed their resolution, correct?” and she confirmed that they have not. Mrs. Kozarec stated that we should look into hiring a private annexation attorney to help as the documents she has received are difficult to understand. Mr. Hodson concurred stating the one document he has from the Ohio Twp. Assoc. is 50 pages. Mr. DeVilbiss then stated that he, too, is against this annexation and believes in keeping our township’s farmland.

Mr. DeVilbiss: None

Motion to move into Executive session to discuss personnel made by Mr. Moyer and seconded by Mr. Hodson. Time: 6:52 p.m.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

Motion Return to Regular Session made by Mr. Moyer and seconded by Mr. Hodson. Time 7:00 p.m.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

Mr. Hodson made motion to increase Steve Burnett’s salary by \$1.00 to \$26/hour. Mr. DeVilbiss seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			

- Mr. Hodson made motion to approve up to \$1,500 retention bonus that may be paid to any full-time police officer no more than four-times per year. This will be determined by the Chief of Police and awarded as he chooses. Mr. Moyer seconded, Motion passed.

VOTE:	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. DeVilbiss	X			
Mr. Moyer	X			
Mr. Hodson	X			

MOTION TO ADJOURN the meeting was made by Mr. Moyer and Seconded by Mr. Hodson, meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Signed by:

Attested by:

Michael Moyer, President

Elizabeth Kozarec, Fiscal Officer