

Salem Township Trustees

At the Salem Township Conference Room

March 10,

2020

The Salem Township Board of Trustees met March 10, 2020 in regular session at the Salem Morrow Fire Station Conference Room for the purpose of transacting the business of the Township. President Susan Ramsey called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with board members Ralph Blanton and Heath Kilburn present. Mrs. Ramsey led all those present in the pledge to the flag.

Others present: Chief Harrison, Bob Stewart, Don Lynch, Gary Paynter, Vicki Von Holle, Ron Stratton, Ron Brinkman, Major Arrasmith, Greg Gatman and many family members of J.R. Vearil

Cemetery Updates

There were no changes to the cemetery records for this time period

The trustees read the minutes from the February 25, 2020 meeting and Ralph Blanton made a motion to approve these minutes. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion. (This motion was made later in the meeting)

Vote Mr. Blanton yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea

At this time Mrs. Ramsey introduced Major Arrasmith from the Warren County Drug Task Force and he presented their annual report. He stated there had not been any changes to the structural make up of the task force. He spoke on the drug trafficking problem. He explained that the task force was governed by a Policy Board made up of the Warren Co Sheriff, the Warren County and Clinton County Prosecutors, and members of the police departments of the various townships and cities in those counties. He reported that Warren County had the highest seizure rate of LSD in 2019. He continued to speak of the various work of the task force and what things they were able to accomplish in the past year.

J.R. Vearil, representing the many members of the family of Jim Vearil who were present, came forward to speak about how his father had been involved for many years with the township and the food pantry. As a group they wanted to make a donation to go towards the new handrail at the food pantry. They presented over \$600.00 to go towards the improvement. Donald Lynch added to the contribution Mrs. Ramsey stated it was appropriate to honor Mr. Vearil and the township would like to put up a plaque with his name in his honor.

Fire Department

Chief Harrison had a new cadet to add to the roster, Kaitlyn Vaught. Ralph Blanton made a motion to approve the addition of Kaitlyn Vaught to the cadet roster, seconded by Heath Kilburn.

Vote: Mr. Blanton, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea

He then put the name of Andrew Wysong before the board to approve adding him to the part-time roster. Ralph Blanton made a motion to approve the hiring of Andrew Wysong as a part time employee; seconded by Heath Kilburn.

Vote: Mr. Blanton, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea

He then asked the board to remove Zac Beach as a volunteer as his wife is ill and he cannot work.

Heath Kilburn made the motion to remove Mr. Beach; seconded by Ralph Blanton

Vote: Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea

Next, Chief Harrison reported the certification for the proposed levy to be on the ballot had come back from the auditor's office and they needed to pass a resolution to place it on the ballot. Ralph Blanton made a motion to pass **Resolution 2020-0310 to approve putting the 5 year renewal of the fire department levy on the ballot for the voters to approve.** Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea

Chief then brought up the matter of the old trailer they had received from Pepsi that has been being used by another township who no longer needs it and gave it back. The fire department doesn't have any use for it and he would like to sell it or scrap it. After a brief discussion, Ralph Blanton made a motion to put the trailer on Gov. Deals to try to sell it; seconded by Heath Kilburn.

Vote: Mr. Blanton, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea

Chief Harrison mentioned that the annual fire department fish fry would be held on April 3rd.

He reported that he had talked to the Turtlecreek Township Fire Chief about pressure washing the underside of the fire trucks to combat the damage done by salt on the roads in the winter. He has looked into purchasing a heavy duty power washer to take care of this problem. It was priced at \$10,768.25. He said Sycamore and Symmes Townships each are using one of these machines. Ralph Blanton made a motion to purchase the power washer with a 50/50 split of the cost between the Fire Department and the Road Department. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mrs. Ramsey, no

Salem Township Trustees

At the Salem Township Conference Room

March 10,

2020

Chief Harrison brought up the issue of the coronavirus. He was informed that the nursing home has gone on lockdown for 30 days. Masks won't be available until June. Don Lynch asked what actually caused death. Chief explained the process and said it is the weakened system that would probably be the reason for death.

Ron Stratton, when asked if he had any business, stated he thought the purchase of the power washer apparatus would add to the life of the vehicles.

Ron Brinkman asked if there was anything new on the status of the junk house on 22-3.

Greg Gatman mentioned a small sink hole in his area.

Vicki VonHolle reported she has been working with Debbie to learn more about the fiscal officer's duties.

She asked about the transition of moving the office from Debbie's house to the office in the Fire House.

She also mentioned that she would like to keep working with Debbie when she begins her term with compensation being paid to Debbie for her work.

Ralph Blanton made a motion to approve the purchase of any equipment that would be necessary to get Vicki up and running. Susan Ramsey seconded the motion. Vote: All yeas

After a brief discussion it was decided there was no longer a need for the safety deposit box and Debbie will close it out.

Susan Ramsey reported she had a call from someone whose parents owned a grave and she wanted to know if her ashes could be buried there. It was stated that the owner of the graves or their heirs who would have the deed would have to approve.

Susan brought up the need for road work in the Washington Way area; with Brook and Rae Court being really bad.

Ralph Blanton had paperwork from the county for extending the guard rail when they work on the bridge. After a brief discussion it was agreed to have the extra guardrail put in. Heath Kilburn made a motion to accept the proposed extra guard rail work by the county; seconded by Ralph Blanton.

Vote: Mr. Kilburn, yea Mr. Blanton, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea

Mr. Kilburn reported he had attended the Warren County Health Department meeting and they wanted to know if the township wanted to have another tire recycling day. It was agreed to provide this service again.

Mr. Kilburn voiced his concern over the fact that the company that is erecting the new communication towers are tearing up the roads really badly. It was determined that the damage should be photographed and the company would do the restoration of the damaged areas. Mr. Kilburn stated he had talked to Mark Dawson at the county and he said to take photos and keep an inventory of the damages.

Fiscal Business

Debbie Harper, Fiscal Officer, brought up the annual letter asking for contribution to the Warren County Drug Task Force program. After discussing the matter, Ralph Blanton made a motion to send \$500 to the program. Susan Ramsey seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea Mr. Kilburn, no

Ms. Harper, Fiscal Officer, had prepared checks **#21952-22032, 93236-93237, and 15-2020 thru 36-2020 which totaled \$79,933.35**. The board examined the bills that were ready for payment and Ralph Blanton made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Heath Kilburn seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Blanton, yea Mr. Kilburn, yea Mrs. Ramsey, yea

For this reporting period the fiscal officer deposited receipts in the amount of **\$34,405.14 which included receipts #55-2020 – 69-2020**.

With no further business to come before the board, Susan Ramsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. Ralph Blanton seconded the motion.

Vote: Mrs. Ramsey, yea Mr. Blanton, yea Heath Kilburn, yea

 Susan Ramsey, Chairman

 Deborah Harper, Fiscal Officer

 Heath Kilburn

 Ralph Blanton