

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Jerome Township Board of Trustees

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held

March 15, 2022

20

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on March 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Board Chairman Megan Sloat called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Megan Sloat, Barry Adler and Wezlynn Davis answered the roll call. Also in attendance were Robert Caldwell (Fiscal Officer), Eric Snowden (Zoning Coordinator/Inspector), Doug Stewart (Fire Chief/Director of Departments), Jeff Stauch and Bill Narducci of the Union County Engineer's office, Anthony Turowski of the Ohio Department of Transportation, and members of the public.

Ms. Sloat presented the agenda which was reviewed, modified as necessary and approved.

Mr. Caldwell presented minutes for approval. It was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Wezlynn Davis that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees waive the reading and approve the following minutes:

- Regular meeting of February 15, 2022
- Regular meeting of March 1, 2022

Being no opposition, the motion carried.

Robert Caldwell, Fiscal Officer, provided the Board with updated financial reports (receipt account status, appropriation status and fund status). Mr. Caldwell presented the pending warrants as detailed in the "Pending Warrant Report," for payment. The Fiscal Officer certified that there were sufficient funds to pay the bills. It was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve warrants 42608 through 42642 and 92017 through 92020 for payment.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

Bill Narducci of the Union County Engineer's office addressed the Board to provide updates on the Industrial Parkway corridor and the surrounding area traffic discussion and updates. Mr. Narducci addressed the following items:

- During Covid traffic was down but the number of crashes increased based on Ohio Department of Public Safety crash data
- Crashes in 2021 were up eleven percent from 2020
- There was a total of twenty-six crashes in the Route 42/Route 33 area
- Road projects completed by the County in 2021 included Route 33/42 interchange improvements and the construction of the Route 161/Cosgray Road intersection
- Future projects include the Industrial Parkway/Mitchell-Dewitt Road intersection and the Warner Road widening project

Anthony Turowski of the Ohio Department of Transportation addressed future projects of the State including the following:

- Route 33/Route 161/Post Road interchange estimated at \$39 million to run from 2022 to 2025
- Route 42 pavement repair and widening scheduled through 2024
- Route 42 and Industrial Parkway right-of-way acquisitions through 2024
- Route 33 resurfacing in 2022
- Beecher Gamble bridge replacement 2024

Mr. Adler asked if there was anything the Township can do to assist with these projects. Mr. Turowski replied with additional funding, working with developers regarding fair share contributions, and notifying the Union County Engineer and the Ohio Department of Transportation of new developments. Mr. Turowski added they are currently working on acquiring rights from forty parcels for the Route 42/Industrial Parkway project.

Mr. Alder stated that there has been some question about where the money from FedEx is being spent. Mr. Narducci stated that the money is being used within the area with approximately \$1.5 million for the Route 161/Route 33 interchange as well as the Mitchell-Dewitt/Industrial Parkway intersection and the Route 42/Industrial Parkway project.

Zoning

Ms. Sloat indicated the Board needed to schedule two public hearings. It was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

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The Jerome Township Board of Trustees set two public hearings for April 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall located at 9777 Industrial Parkway for Case Z22-001 and Case PD20-001 DP-01.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

Mr. Snowden provided an update on the comprehensive plan update indicating that the request for qualifications due date closes at the end of the week and had received inquiries regarding the request.

Public Safety Officer

The Deputy provided stats for the month and indicated additional efforts to monitor speed on Routes 42 and Industrial Parkway.

Executive Session

At 7:58 p.m. it was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(3) with legal counsel to discuss pending or imminent court action.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

At 9:54 p.m. it was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Wezlynn Davis that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn from executive session.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

No action was taken as a result of executive session.

Fire Division

Doug Stewart, Fire Chief, noted that groundbreaking for Station 211 will take place on April 13 at noon at the site located on the corner of Ewing Road and Ravin Hill Road. He also indicated that Jerome Township is in the prime viewing path of the next solar eclipse to take place in 2024.

Old Business

Mr. Adler reported for parks and trails, he is working with staff collecting proposals for a master plan, scheduling a meeting with residents, and addressing playground equipment.

Mr. Adler reported that he attended training on economic development and as a result feels it is important to define roles to prevent overlap. He asked to Board to appoint him as the representative to the CIC (Community Improvement Corporation), the Union County Chamber of Commerce to assist with grants relating to brownfield remediation, and with the Union County Commissioners regarding CRAs (Community reinvestment areas). The Board discussed the request with Ms. Sloat indicating she is already involved with the County regarding their comprehensive plan. The Board members agreed to Mr. Adler request to represent on the CIC and matters regarding brownfield remediation. It was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Wezlynn Davis that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees appoint Barry Adler as the representative of Jerome Township on the CIC (Community Improvement Corporation) Board.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 22-026)

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New Business

Ms. Davis provided the Board with three estimates to replace the current mowers owned by the Township. She stated that she has had discussions with the Road Supervisor as well as contacting the vendors and feels it prudent to upgrade at this time. The Board discussed the timing indicating that the existing three-year warranty on the current mowers expires this year. In reviewing the costs estimates it was determined that while the quote from Hilliard Lawn and Garden Equipment for three Ferris mowers in the amount of \$17,700 was higher than the quote received for three Hustler mowers of \$12,675, that the warranty and therefore the period of usage would be increased from three years to four years. As a result, the annual cost of the Ferris mowers was calculated to be \$4,425 per year versus the Hustler mowers which was calculated to be \$4,225 per year. Ms. Davis also emphasized the additional features of the Ferris mowers. Mr. Adler questioned if the extra costs was necessary. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve the purchase of three Ferris mowers from Hilliard Lawn & Garden Equipment with a net cost after trade-ins of \$17,700.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 22-027)

Ms. Davis made a motion to file a BOR (Board of Revision) complaint relating to the FedEx parcel due to an arms-length sale. She stated that this would increase TIF revenue and the filing date was March 31. Mr. Adler and Mr. Caldwell indicated they had no prior knowledge of this request and asked pertinent questions such as what process was followed in determining the need for such a filing and what documentation was available. Ms. Davis and Ms. Sloat indicated they had spoken to legal counsel with Ms. Sloat adding that she was not aware that others had not received any information. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees file a Board of Revision (BOR) complaint with the Union County Auditor prior to the March 31, 2022 deadline on the FedEx Parcel.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, abstain
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 22-028)

Executive Session

At 10:36 p.m. it was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(8) for the purpose of considering confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, and trade secrets of an applicant for economic development assistance that is to be provided or administered pursuant to ORC Section 5709.73 to 5709.75, inclusive, and involves public infrastructure improvements directly related to an economic development project. The executive session is necessary to protect the interests of the applicant or the possible investment or expenditure of public funds to be made in connection with the proposed economic development project.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

At 11:25 p.m. it was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn from executive session.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

No action was taken as a result of executive session.

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At 11:25 p.m. it was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Wezlynn Davis that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) to consider the employment and compensation of a public employee.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The motion carried.

At 12:49 a.m. it was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn from executive session.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, ___
Barry Adler, ___
Wezlynn Davis, ___

The motion carried.

As a result of discussion in executive session, it was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Wezlynn Davis that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees accept the resignation of Doug Stewart from the position of Director of Departments.

The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 22-029)

Prior to adjournment Mr. Caldwell reported to the Board that there was only seven thousand dollars remaining on the initial purchase order issued from legal consulting of Brosius, Johnson & Griggs noting that much of the purchase order had been used for matters relating to litigation. He asked to Board if they wished to encumber an additional twenty-five thousand dollars. It was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

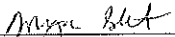
The Jerome Township Board of Trustees encumber \$25,000 for additional legal expenses of Brosius, Johnson & Griggs.


The vote resulted as follows:

Megan Sloat, yes
Barry Adler, yes
Wezlynn Davis, yes

The resolution carried. (Res. 22-030)

At 12:52 a.m. it was moved by Megan Sloat and seconded by Wezlynn Davis that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn. The motion carried.


Megan Sloat, Chairman


Robert Caldwell, Fiscal Officer