

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Jerome Township Board of Trustees

Minutes of

Meeting

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

Held

October 17, 2023

20

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on October 17, 2023, at 7:05 p.m. Board Chairman Wezlynn Davis 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 Inspector / Coordinator), Julie Donnan (Brosius, Johnson & Griggs), and members of the public.

Wezlynn Davis presented the agenda which was reviewed, modified as necessary and approved.

Executive Session

At 7:06 p.m. it was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat 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 7:27 p.m. it was moved by Wezlynn Davis 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.

Wezlynn Davis asked legal counsel to provide an update on the lawsuit filed by the County. Julie Donnan stated they are working with the County's legal counsel on an agreement. The Township has suspended the zoning amendment in question with mediation efforts being undertaken resulting in deadlines in the lawsuit being suspended. However, she noted that the Township is still in an active litigation.

Wezlynn Davis read a statement from the Jerome Township Board of Trustees to the residents of Jerome Township dated October 17, 2023 to rectify any misconceptions and present citizens with an accurate account of the events that unfolded during court proceedings that took place earlier today. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Megan Sloat that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees approve the statement to residents dated October 17, 2023.

The vote resulted as follows:

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

The motion carried.

Robert Caldwell presented minutes for approval. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Barry Adler 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:

- Special meeting of August 18, 2023
- Special meeting of September 5, 2023
- Regular meeting of September 5, 2023
- Special meeting of September 18, 2023
- Regular meeting of September 19, 2023

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 Wezlynn Davis 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 approve warrants 44058 through 44112 and 93080 through 93084 for payment.

The vote resulted as follows:

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

The motion carried.

Robert Caldwell asked the Board to approve the following amendment to the 2023 Appropriations Resolution. It was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

The Jerome Township Board of Trustees amend the 2023 Appropriations Resolution as follows:

- Appropriate \$7,000 from previously un-appropriated funds to appropriation 05-A-05 "Improvement of Sites" Cemetery Fund.

The vote resulted as follows:

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

The resolution carried. (Res. 23-104)

Old Business

Wezlynn Davis stated the Board will be conducting a third town hall meeting regarding limited home rule on October 25, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at Station 211.

Megan Sloat wished to address, and fact check information being distributed to Township residents regarding limited home rule. She addressed the following items about limited home rule:

- It does not provide the Trustees with any new taxing authority; all tax levies must be placed on the ballot to be voted on by residents.
- It will not require the Trustees to create a police department, the current Public Safety Officer program with the Union County Sheriff will continue.
- It will allow the Trustees to contract with an engineer if so desired to facilitate infrastructure projects in the Township to be funded by TIF revenue.
- It will not necessitate a budget director.
- It does not allow for unlimited taxpayer spending.
- It does not eliminate current township oversight.
- It has been adopted by a limited number of townships in Ohio (33 of 1,308) primarily due to the minimum population requirement.


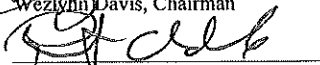
Wezlynn Davis added that request for limited home rule is being made by the Board of Trustees is attributed to the growth pressure in the area and will allow the Trustees to utilize TIF revenue rather than taxpayers' money for infrastructure projects.

New Business

A resident wished to address the Board regarding the differences in pool and zoning requirements of the various political subdivisions in the area. She stated there are differences in requirements between Union County and Delaware County on whether fences are required verses pool toppers. She noted that neighboring Concord Township has adopted the ISPSC standards which allow for either safety covers or fences. Currently Jerome Township only allows for fences and is asking the Township to consider allowing for one or the other.

Wezlynn Davis indicated she has researched the matter and believes it is something the Township should consider. Eric Snowden stated that over the years the standards for fencing have changed and outline the process for the Board to seek an amendment of the current zoning resolution which would include a public hearing.

At 8:20 p.m. it was moved by Wezlynn Davis and seconded by Barry Adler that the Jerome Township Board of Trustees adjourn. The motion carried.


 Wezlynn Davis, Chairman

 Robert Caldwell, Fiscal Officer