

Jersey Township, Licking County

Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2024 - 7:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Dan Wetzel, Chairman
Ben Pieper, Trustee

Marko F. Jesenko, Fiscal Officer

Staff Present:

Bud Witney, Zoning Inspector
Rob Platte, Administrator

Visitors:

See Sign-In Sheet

Trustee Wetzel called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Platte called the roll confirming that Trustees Wetzel and Pieper were in attendance. Trustee Fry was excused.

Trustee Wetzel moved to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

Trustee Wetzel moved to open the hearing at 7:34 p.m. for Zoning Application Z-23-24 for solar facilities that was tabled on March 4, 2024. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote. Trustee Wetzel reviewed the updates on the application. Trustee Pieper's concerns regarding the setbacks of solar units and locating them in front yards were addressed with the option of applying for a variance and language was added to allow for temporary solar panels. Trustee Wetzel recommended specifying the reference to residential R or RR by modifying the text to R-1, R-2, R-3, RR, and RR-3. Trustee Wetzel moved to close the public hearing at 7:44 p.m. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote. Mr. Platte discussed updating the Zoning Fee Schedule if this text amendment passes.

Trustee Wetzel introduced the minutes of the March 4, 2024, Regular Meeting and asked if there were any requested changes. With no changes being requested, Trustee Wetzel moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

Trustee Wetzel asked for Public Comments. Concerns regarding the Licking County Recycling bins, the inconsistent trash collection times, and truck traffic on Mink Street were expressed.

Fiscal Officer Report

Mr. Platte provided the current fund balances and reviewed the checks that need signed. Trustee Wetzel moved to approve the Finance Report as presented. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote. The trustees also signed two cemetery deeds for one resident.

Trustee Wetzel asked for department reports.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Platte discussed the requirement per Ohio Revised Code §109.43 and 149.43 that elected officials are required to complete three hours of public records training for each term of office for which the officials are appointed or elected.

Resolution 24-04-01-01: Trustee Wetzel moved Resolution 24-04-01-01 to appoint a designee to obtain all public records law training, appointing Rob Platte as the designee as presented. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Platte stated the unofficial results for the liquor option, Jersey Township Revitalization District, show it was not approved by seven votes. In Precinct A it passed by thirty votes and Precinct B it did not pass by thirty-seven votes. Trustee Wetzel moved to authorize and direct the Administrator to publish notice in the Newark Advocate one time in each of two consecutive weeks of the Board's intention to consider, at its May 6, 2024, meeting, whether the Jersey Revitalization District meets or fails to meet the standards for designation as a Revitalization District pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §4301.81. Should the Board determine that the Revitalization District fails to meet the standards, it may, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §4301.81(D), determine the district to no longer exist. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Platte reported the Gateway CIC met on March 22, 2024, to organize and hold a regular meeting. The officers remained the same. The blacksmith shop in Jersey has been purchased by the CIC. Kelsey Miller with Connect Real Estate will be working with the CIC on the Jersey Historic Preservation Project. Two culverts will be replaced with the OPWC grant money. The Licking County Engineer's Office authorized the Verdantas engineering firm to provide the specification for the project. Jersey Township will pay Verdantas for the engineering directly. This will be for the culvert and paving. Once the design is completed, the project can be put out to bid in June or July with estimated construction of September 2024. This project will include parts of Green Chapel, Caswell, and Burnside Roads. The Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District will be the service provider for the Burnside Road Alignment. There will be one water tower at the corner of Patterson and Hatch Roads with a second water tower in the future. Additionally, water lines are being planned to be run to service the Jersey Baptist Church and create loops back to current and/or future lines.

Zoning Report

Mr. Witney stated that he is still working with the property owners of the abandoned trailer home at Mink and Morse Roads. A violation letter was sent to the property owner on Mink Road regarding the trucks. Mr. Witney will meet them on site to review the property. The tenant for the property owner that was issued a Conditional Use Permit for inside storage only has started the cleanup of the property. Hope Timber has contacted Mr. Witney regarding a property on Beaver Road which they would like to use for pallets.

Fire District Report

Trustee Wetzel reported the Administrator at the District resigned. The Fire Station at Columbia and Refugee Roads is coming along. Mr. Platte shared that the signed contract from Monroe Township has been received.

Trustee Wetzel introduced Unfinished Business.

Resolution 24-04-01-02: Trustee Wetzel moved Resolution 24-04-01-02 to adopt with modifications the recommendation of the Jersey Township Zoning Commission regarding an amendment to the Jersey Township Zoning Resolution as presented. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

There was no New Business.

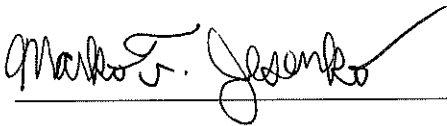
Trustee Wetzel asked for any Public Comments. The location for the water tower and water lines were discussed. The location of the property on Beaver Road was discussed regarding Hope Timber.

Trustee Wetzel asked for Trustee Comments or Announcements. Trustee Wetzel discussed a resident's concern regarding tornado sirens. The Licking County Emergency Management Agency provided the township with the locations of the sirens near Jersey Township. The residents can also sign up for notifications for severe weather.

Trustee Wetzel moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and the voice vote on the motion was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Marko F. Jesenko, Fiscal Officer



Attest:

Dan Wetzel, Chairperson

Jeff Fry, Vice-Chairperson

Ben Pieper, Trustee

