

# Record of Proceedings

## Liberty Township Board of Trustees

### Special Meeting

On November 14, 2018 the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of Liberty Township, Union County, Ohio convened for a special meeting at 7 pm in the LIBERTY TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY BUILDING. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the findings of the feasibility study conducted by Larry Zimmerman and Gregg Stubbs in cooperation with Liberty, Taylor, and York Townships.

Chairperson Karen Johnson called the meeting to order and Jeff led the pledge of allegiance. The following members and guest were present:

**MEMBERS:** Jack McCoy-present Karen Johnson-present, Jerry McClary-present, Jeff Rea-present.

**EMPLOYEES:** Lloyd Segner, Dave Thomas, Chad Heminger, Walt Hamilton, Tim Merrick

**VISITORS:** Trustees and Fiscal Officers from Taylor, York, Leesburg, and Allen Townships, representatives from the Northern Union Fire District, Rick Rodger, Assistant County Prosecutor.

#### **Agenda**

Karen Johnson turned the meeting over to Fire Chief Lloyd Segner who discussed some of the history of fire service in Union County as well as the history of the Liberty Township Fire Department, and the current situation of the department.

Dave Thomas then took to the podium to discuss the challenges the department faces today and some of its obstacles. He also spoke about possible solutions and the need for commitment from all parties to succeed in solving the problems of staffing and funding a fire department.

Larry Zimmerman addressed the meeting to discuss the results of the feasibility study. The findings of the study were that the evidence suggests that a fire district could solve a lot of problems that exist within the current arrangement. Combining tax bases and evening the playing field for funding would allow for the possibility of a full-time fire station which would

solve any problems with staffing and uneven shift coverage. He also pointed out that there are other options to consider if a district isn't formed to alleviate these problems. His suggestions are to:

- Determine the level of service that residents want, and the cost required to provide that service
- Determine all parties interested in participating in the district
- Implement a planning team and develop a time line to proceed

Dave Thomas stepped up to ask for questions. He then began to discuss a possible Development team schedule consisting of a representative Trustee from each Township that wishes to be involved. Fiscal Officers from each of the Townships, Staff from the Fire Department and a facilitator to direct the efforts of all involved. He also discussed the solution criteria going forward from here:

- Long term commitment from all parties involved.
- Equal and fair cost burden.
- Each participant should have ownership, accountability, and trust.

Chad Heminger from the Liberty Township Fire Department then discussed the take away from this meeting. He pointed out that the cooperation to work together would ease the financial burden on each entity and optimize resources to achieve the goals and reduce the competition between nearby entities. He also outlined that the definition of clear goals and how to implement change is necessary for future growth and development.

Karen Johnson then asked for any further questions, there were none so Jerry McClary made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Jack McCoy. A vote was taken Jack McCoy-aye, Jerry McClary-aye, Karen Johnson-aye. The meeting was adjourned

---

Karen Johnson-Chairman

---

Jeff Rea-Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, UNION COUNTY, OHIO concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

