

The November 14, 2023 meeting of St. Albans Township was called to order by Chairman, Randal Almendinger.

All trustees and fiscal officer were present.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

The minutes of the October Emergency meeting were approved.

The fiscal officer read fund balances to date.

Stephanie McManus said the form based code draft will be reviewed with the zoning commission at their December 7th meeting.

A draft copy of the employee handbook has been given to the trustees for review.

They need to give input on vacation time and records policy for completion.

Jim Lenner would like the trustees to consider Bricker Graydon to represent and advise the township on immediate efforts relating to water and sewer agreements and issues.

Christy Schirra a partner with Bricker Graydon who focuses on environmental law introduced herself to trustees and audience.

Bruce Lane said he just wants to make sure St. Albans Township is well represented.

Christy Hawthorne from Licking County Water and Sewer spoke about storm water management, Raccoon Creek, increased water testing, local standards, grants, water studies all to maintain and sustain our natural resources.

Audience members asked questions.

Dave Sapp talked about the gas lines being installed in the township and what they have been doing at the township garage.

Woody Fox said Martin Trucking is no longer in violation, they are not putting the structure up that they were in violation for.

Bruce Lane asked Woody if he could start attending the Zoning Commission meetings, stating they would like some guidance.

Mike Theisen gave the October Fire and EMS reports.

Bill Bogantz, Liberty Township Trustee, spoke about a fire that happened this past weekend in one of their trustees garages stating that trustee had spoke about it at their meeting on Monday night and could not say enough good things about the St. Albans Township Fire dept and how well they handled things as well as response time.

Mike said they will be putting a 10 mill levy on the ballot to replace the current 4 mill levy and will let the 3 mill levy fall off. The purpose of this levy will be for continued maintenance.

Randal Almendinger did not receive the levy paperwork from the prosecutor for tonight's meeting.

Bruce Lane stated he feels we need to temporarily hold 2 meetings per month.

Bruce Lane made a motion to hold a special meeting on November 28th at 7:00 P.M. at the Fire Station Community Room for the purpose of reading the fire levy and other township business.

2nd by Jean Morrison. Roll call: Jean Morrison -yes, Bruce Lane -yes, Randal Almendinger -yes. Motion carried.

Mike Theisen invited township residents to come and see him if they wanted more information or just explanation on the fire levy.

Mike presented a quote for new radios that he has been talking about at previous meetings. These are for Kenwood, not Motorola.

Bruce Lane made a motion to approve the purchase of 4 radios for approx. \$15,000.00.

2nd by Jean Morrison. Roll call: Jean Morrison -yes, Bruce Lane -yes, Randal Almendinger- yes. Motion carried.

Randal Almendinger asked other trustees to look over the HR manual and give input on vacation time and records retention.

Randal Almendinger said Peter Griggs apologized and said he is running behind but will have our TIF done soon.

Ann Lodder asked if the gas and electric aggregate can be put back on the May ballot by the township.

Randal Almendinger will check into it and find out.

Herb Kohler and Melissa Hartfield, from Granville spoke about purchasing the Alexandria Sewer plant, saying Johnstown and Granville did make an offer as a joint effort. If it is accepted there will be an updated MOU between the municipalities and townships. They will not participate in an agreement that pits a municipality against a township, and it will include a non-annexation agreement. Audience members asked questions.

Bruce Lane said the water and sewer decisions will have a generational impact, and everybody is trying to work together.

The Zoning Commission is working on Noise ordinances and solar farms, but getting some concerns from Bruce Lane on the noise ordinances at their meetings. Commission members want to know should they continue to work on noise ordinances in the zoning resolution or not, stating they have already spent a lot of their personal time on this issue.

Bill Bogantz, Liberty Township Trustee said they covered both of these items recently and explained how they handled them. He will forward some information on to the trustees.

Bruce Lane made a motion to hold a records retention meeting on December 28 at 5:45 P.M. at the St. Albans Township Fire Station Community room with an end of year meeting immediately following.

2nd by Randal Almendinger. Roll call: Jean Morrison -yes, Bruce Lane -yes, Randal Almendinger -yes. Motion carried.

Bruce Lane made a motion to hold a special meeting on November 21 at 6:00P.M. for the fire department levy reading.

2nd by Jean Morrison. Roll call: Jean Morrison -yes, Bruce Lane -yes, Randal Almendinger -yes. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned 9:10 P.M.

SPECIAL MEETING

The November 28, 2023 special meeting of St. Albans Township was called to order by Chairman, Randal Almendinger.

All trustees and fiscal officer were present.

The purpose of this meeting is to read fire levy documents and discuss other township business.

#37-2023 Randal Almendinger made a resolution determining that it is necessary to levy a tax outside the ten mill limitation for fire protection and Emergency Medical Services and requesting the Licking County Auditor to certify the amounts described in the ORC (entire resolution is on file).

2nd by Bruce Lane. Roll call: Jean Morrison -yes, Bruce Lane -yes, Randal Almendinger -yes. Resolution passed.

Mike Theisen answered questions from audience members and explained the reasoning for requesting 10 mills.

Bruce Lane presented an engagement letter from Roetzel & Andress for legal services for water and sewer matters, proposed by Jim Lenner.

The individual that attended the regular November meeting who was proposed to represent us is not able to due to representing someone else that could present a conflict of interest.

Woody Fox suggested interviewing the individual and asking questions before jumping into signing an agreement with them.

Pam Hills asked questions about the JED that was talked about a year ago and why we haven't started on it yet. Asked about progress on the TIF, saying it seems like we are spinning our wheels when neighboring Townships got a TIF done in a couple of months.

Bruce Lane said that the state wants to exploit St. Albans Township and we need to maintain partial ownership. We need representation so things don't get messed up. Bruce gave his thoughts on the importance of hiring this attorney.

Audience members gave their thoughts and are worried if this is not acted on tonight and nothing is done until the December 12th meeting, this attorney could contract with someone else and then not able to represent St. Albans Township because of a conflict of interest.

Woody Fox asked Bruce Lane what his concern is from SWL and why he is so against them, and reminded everyone that when an MOU is signed the township is giving up power.

Bruce stated multiple reasons, but mostly that they are untrustworthy. Bruce did meet with their new director, Jim Roberts, and was impressed with him however has concerns that Jim may not always be there and things can change.

Trustees decided they will meet at 6:30 on December 12th with the proposed attorney for water/sewer for a question and answer session.

Bruce Lane said the hourly cost for the attorney is \$395.00/hr, and depending if he needs to consult with other partners the cost could be more or less and we pay him only when we use him.

It was discussed to set limits of how much can be spent and check in's to keep tabs on how many hours are being billed to us.

Bruce Lane made a motion to hire Gary Pasheilich at the rates stated in the engagement letter from Roetzel and Andress.

2nd by Jean Morrison. Roll call: Randal Almendinger -no, Jean Morrison -yes, Bruce Lane -yes. Motion carried.

Bruce Lane said he got a complaint from Ben Zanks about the dust at Martin's.

Woody Fox said they are waiting on the county for their buffer zone, Martin's are doing everything legally. The zoning resolution limits him on what he can do.

They are watering several times a day and they are attempting to do their best. It's a gravel pit and there is going to be dust, they can only control so much. And with their zoning they have no limitations.

Bruce Lane said he talked to the Chief of Police for the Village of Alexandria and he is interested in using our old township building and asked Bruce to bring it up at a meeting. Trustees did not seem interested and road maintenance supervisor said that building is not safe which is why we moved out of it.

The parking lot on the side of that building was discussed and the only part owned by the township is the footprint of the building.

Bruce Lane made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Jean Morrison.

Roll call: Bruce Lane -yes, Jean Morrison -yes, Randal Almendinger -yes.

Meeting adjourned 8:32 P.M.