

The Clinton Township Board of Trustees

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The Meeting of the Clinton Township Board of Trustees was held on March 12th at 6:00pm at 3820 Cleveland Ave. and [broadcasted](#) online. Present were Trustees David Clark, Trustees Jessica Jessberger, and Rebecca Grimm, Fiscal Officer Deb Steele, Fire Chief Brian Fraley, Police Chief Jones, Superintendent Medley of Public Works and Administrator, Community Affairs and Public Relations Specialist Deborah Smothers, Code Compliance Officer Quigley, and some residents.

GENERAL

The next meeting will be March 26th, 2024 at 3820 Cleveland Ave at 6pm

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve the agenda with flexibility. 2nd by Trustee Jessberger.

Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Police Chief Jones [presented](#) a Medal of Valor to Police Officer Dylan Struble. The Medal of Valor is a prestigious award and the highest national award bestowed upon a public safety officer recognizing his or her extraordinary acts of heroism and bravery. It involves exhibiting exceptional courage, extra-ordinary decisiveness, and presence of mind, along with unusual swiftness of action, to save or protect human life. Officer Struble exemplified these characteristics during an incident on February 19th when he immediately engaged a suspect who had a knife and was seriously attacking a Mifflin Township Police Officer. Officer Struble was able to quickly subdue the suspect, and with the assistance of Columbus Police Department Officers who later arrived, take him into custody. It was the swift actions of Officer Struble that saved the Mifflin Township Officer's life. Neighboring Mifflin Township Police Chief Briggs, and fellow Officers from both Township Departments applauded Officer Struble.

There was a Franklin County Public Health Lead [Program](#) presentation by Mike Adair who is in charge of lead renovation for private home owners. The goal is to get ahead of issues rather than reacting to lead exposure. They have partnered with Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and recently sent a postcard about the free test to homeowners in the Township, for homes that were built before 1978. If lead is found the remedy could be new windows or doors. If lead is found inside removal is not always an option but there are other mitigations they can do. There is no charge to the homeowner, however they cannot be behind on property taxes. Most households qualify for the program. Even if no lead is found they can issue a certificate that the home is lead free.

Trustee Grimm reviewed her efforts to revive the Beautification Program in 2024. She had recently met with Community Affairs and Public Relations Specialist Deborah Smothers to plan a top 12 contest that could start in April or May, and that one household could be featured per month if they would like. They are still considering how to judge and what the categories might be. Things like best overall, or most improved could be considered. Trustee Clark asked who the judges would be. Trustee Grimm responded that in the past it was residents, and she had participated in the past as a judge. She said there used to be plaques given out but the person who made them has retired. They are considering 3 winners each month, and an overall winner. Resident Bobbie Olt asked how the judging might happen, because some people have really nice landscaping in their backyards that one cannot see by driving by. In the past it is likely judges knocked but if the resident was not home they could not go in the backyard. Resident Ka Ren Steele suggested scheduling the judging visit. Trustee Grimm wants this to be flexible for everyone who would like to participate. Trustee Clark was wondering how folks could sign up. Trustee Grimm will work on potential questions and share that soon.

March is National Developmental Disabilities [Month](#). Community Affairs and Public Relations Specialist Deborah Smothers said most likely everyone has someone in their family or someone they know who has some type of disability, or they themselves have one. There is a wide range of impairments and it is important to create awareness of everyone's needs.

FISCAL

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve the Bills. 2nd by Trustee Clark. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve the Payroll. 2nd by Trustee Jessberger. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

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FISCAL CONTINUED

Fiscal Officer Steele read the February Fiscal Report. On Feb 1st the Township had a balance of \$9,653,634.70 with \$400,824.88 in Revenue and \$485,474.96 in Expenses leaving a balance of \$9,568,984.62 on Feb 29th 2024.

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve the February Fiscal Report 2nd by Trustee Clark. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve the January 23rd meeting minutes 2nd by Trustee Jessberger. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve the February 6th special meeting minutes 2nd by Trustee Clark. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve the February 13th meeting minutes 2nd by Trustee Jessberger. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve the February 27th meeting minutes 2nd by Trustee Clark. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

COMMITTEE/TEAM REPORTS

The Community Health Action Team March 8th provided 11K pounds of food to 558 individuals. March 22nd will be the next market. The free food markets are the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month and the dates are listed on the TWP's [website](#). March 15th will be Family Movie Night at 999 Chambers Rd from 6 till 9pm with food. Trustee Clark said that he and resident Bobbie Olt recently got a sandwich board to help with notices for 999 Chambers Rd.

There was a discussion about the Franklin County Emergency Response Plan, and how the Township declares an Emergency. Trustee Jessberger reminded everyone this happened during Covid and normally falls under the Police or Fire Chief. The Township Administrator and Trustee Clark might go out to Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security offices. Trustee Jessberger suggested Dave Medley become certified in the FEMA ICS 200 and ICS 300 (Incident Command System) courses as she had found them very beneficial. Administrator Medley plans to bring forward a Resolution related to an Emergency declaration. When the Township is a cooling center if the power goes out in the summer a smaller type of emergency is declared. FEMA also offers online classes for staff. Resident Roger Larson asked how deaf residents are notified of an emergency and Police Chief Jones responded there is a text alert system, and some notifications a read out loud for the hard of sight community.

There was a review and discussion about a 2021 Township [needs survey](#) that was done. It appeared the Township has been working to address the suggestions or results, such as doing more outreach on social media.

Fiscal Officer Steele provided a Budget working group update, they had met before the last Trustee meeting on Feb 27. The 2023 budgets per each fund were reviewed. The next meeting will be May 14th at 3820 Cleveland Ave at 4pm. The goal of the next meeting will be to start a draft of the 2024 and 2025 budget that needs approved by mid-July by the Board of Trustees. A final meeting will be held in October or November and residents are encouraged to participate.

Feb 28th there was a Joint Economic Development Zone meeting at the Township. Fiscal Officer Steele updated everyone that the JEDZ Board would like to hire a consultant or work with an Economic Development company to assist the Township. Right now the JEDZ Board receives 1% of the revenues collected, however it used to be 2%. It might be proposed to go back to the 2% amount to be able to continue working with a consultant or a team in an ongoing way for Economic Development needs. A lot of redevelopments are happening around Lennox Town Center, and it is important the Township be involved.

ADMINISTRATION

A Monthly Report was provided.

March 20th at 9:50am there will be the Statewide Tornado Drill. Severe weather week is March 17th to the 23rd.

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ADMINISTRATION CONTINUED

Administrator Medley provided updates on two projects. The Cooke Rd project will go out to bid in 2025. Cleveland Ave has been expanded some and will likely start next year. Trustee Grimm asked if this would include the COTA bus stops. Mr. Medley said the COTA improvements depend on the proposed funding increase that needs approved by voters. The TWP has the new road signs and will need to choose some hard and soft landscaping. Trustee Grimm asked about time frames and if tree roots could impact the pavement. Trustee Clark wanted to know more about banners the Township might put up along street or utility poles. FO Steele added that the banners are normally affordable but needing to rent a bucket truck is the larger expense. Mr. Medley will continue to work on how the Township can collaborate on the Cleveland Ave updates.

Community Affairs and Public Relations Specialist Deborah Smothers is gathering submissions for the Solar Eclipse Coloring [contest](#). There are 3 age groups for children between ages 3 to 18. Folks need to submit their coloring pages by March 18th.

The University View Civic Association will be having an Easter Egg Hunt on March 23rd at the Playground on the Westside.

Motion by Trustee Grimm to appoint Trustee David Clark as the Board liaison to the JEDZ and MORPC 2nd by Trustee Jessberger. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Motion by Trustee Grimm to allow the Township Administrator to advertise for bid of the Police Department Carport 2nd by Trustee Clark. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

There was discussion about needing Township Board approval to move forward with Regionomics for continued Economic Development regarding doing surveys with existing businesses. The consulting efforts that will start with the JEDZ Board will complement these efforts.

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve spending up to \$4,000.00 with Regionomics to conduct a business survey utilizing line item 1000-110-310. 2nd by Trustee Jessberger. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

It would be good to get the word out more about the [Inclusion Grant](#) offered by JobsOhio as well.

FIRE

A monthly report was provided.

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve hiring Jared Yorde as a full-time firefighter effective March 14th 2024 to be paid from funds 2111-220-100 & 2281-230-100, 2nd by Trustee Jessberger. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Motion by Trustee Grimm to approve hiring Ann-Marie McDonalds as a part-time firefighter/paramedic at \$20/hr pending successful physical and background check. To be paid from funds 2111-220-100 & 2281-230-100, 2nd by Trustee Clark. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

POLICE

A monthly report was provided. There was 541 calls for service last month. The new full time officer for Lennox and University View has started. The Cap City Grill is expected to open in May.

PUBLIC WORKS

A monthly report was provided. There was an update that a Small Government storm drain improvement grant application has been submitted. Last August the Board approved spending about \$350K on the project, the newest round has an obligation of \$500K if awarded. It would take Board approval to move forward with the project.

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PUBLIC WORKS CONTINUED

There was an update on the 2024 repaving plan efforts. \$350K has been set aside, the current estimate for repaving parts of the Westside are about \$400K. There are 7 zones in the plan and the goal is to address each zone within 10 years.

Motion by Trustee Grimm to direct the Township Administrator to add streets to the repaving plan submitted by the County 2nd by Trustee Jessberger. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

CODE COMPLIANCE

There was a presentation by Compliance Officer Quigley. Right now he has 31 cases and 11 are open. Residents are encouraged to report issues they see [online](#), where photos can be uploaded. A property on Audrey Rd was cleared out last year, that has monies owed to the Township for some of the clean-up done. The Compliance Officer aims to work with a resident and offer resources if that can help them, this sometimes happens with the intern. Resident Roger Larson who lives on Ormond Ave is upset people are always parking on the newer storm lines in the grass, and he does not understand why he got a letter about a trailer being an issue that was parked on his driveway. Resident Mr. Farmer who lives near Elmore and Walford said there is always a car parked in the alley. He and his wife also still really dislike the speed bumps at the intersection as well.

APPRECIATIONS

Deb Steele thanked her wife Daisy who came to the Township 3 times to help fix issues with the sound system and microphones.

OTHER ITEMS

Motion by Trustee Grimm to enter executive session pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the discipline or investigation of a complaint against a public employee 2nd by Trustee Clark.

Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Start at 7:50pm

End at 8:42pm

Motion by Trustee Grimm to authorize the Township attorney to conduct interviews and or an investigation associated with a complaint against a public employee 2nd by Trustee Clark. Vote: Trustee Grimm – Yes, Trustee Jessberger – Yes, Trustee Clark – Yes

Motion by Trustee Grimm at 8:43pm to adjourn 2nd by Trustee Jessberger

ATTEST:

Rebecca Grimm, Chair

Deborah Steele, Fiscal Officer