

# Kinsman Township Trumbull County Records of Proceedings

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Regular Meeting Held on June 12, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.

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Chairman Bruce Bancroft called the meeting to order. All elected officials were present.

All present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

## Correspondence:

1. Optavise left literature regarding township-employees supplemental insurance should they become ill.
2. Ohio EPA sent the trustees their agreement to use the office space located at the township garage.

[RN2023-071] Greg Leonhard made a motion, seconded by Jamin Banning, to accept the Ohio EPA two-year contract with the same terms as last year of \$1200 per year paid twice a year, beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025.

The vote was as follows:

Greg Leonhard	Yes
Jamin Banning	Yes
Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

## Minutes:

[2023-072] Jamin Banning made a motion, seconded by Greg Leonhard, to waive the reading of the May 8, 2023 minutes, and to accept them as read by the trustees. Copies of the minutes are provided on the desk and upon request of the fiscal officer.

The vote was as follows:

Jamin Banning	Yes
Greg Leonhard	Yes
Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

Bruce Bancroft made a motion, seconded by Greg Leonhard, to open the 2<sup>nd</sup> public meeting to discuss Current Expense Levy.

The vote was as follows:

Bruce Bancroft	Yes
Greg Leonhard	Yes
Jamin Banning	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

The trustees and fiscal officer opened up discussion to the public and discussed the reasons why a Current Expense Levy is necessary. Since 2011 when Local Government Distribution was cut from 3.52% to 1.66%, utility expenses have continued to rise. Park utilities are paid from the General Fund and include the community sign, bandstand, park lighting, concession lighting/heating, Kinsman Park lighting, and the new restroom at the Greenspace lighting/heating. Also included in Current Expense

utilities of the General Fund are the Administration/Police/Zoning lighting/heating/internet/phone and fax. OTARMA insurance, as well as Workers Compensation, are paid from the General Fund. Salaries are dictated by the township budget and include PERS, federal and state taxes. There was a question regarding adding a Park Levy versus a General Fund Current Expense Levy, and Greg explained that a Current Expense Levy could be utilized to pay all General Fund expenses, including Park expenses. The use of ARP funds has helped us tremendously to support the General Fund, but once that money is expended it will not be replaced.

[RN2023-0070] Greg Leonhard made a motion, seconded by Jamin Banning, to Proceed with placing a 1.5 mill 5-year Current Expense Levy on the November 7, 2023 ballot that will generate approximately \$60,000 per year, which will be calculated at \$53 additional tax per year on a \$100,000 county auditor’s appraisal value due to the necessity of diminished Local Government Distribution and continually rising utility, insurance, workers compensation, and various expenses.

The vote was as follows:	Greg Leonhard	Yes
	Jamin Banning	Yes
	Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

[RN2023-073] Jamin Banning made a motion, seconded by Greg Leonhard, to close the 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting to discuss proceeding with placing the Current Expense Levy on the November 7, 2023 ballot.

The vote was follows:	Jamin Banning	Yes
	Greg Leonhard	Yes
	Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

[RN2023-074] Greg Leonhard made a motion, seconded by Jamin Banning, to open the Regular Trustees Meeting.

The vote was as follows:	Greg Leonhard	Yes
	Jamin Banning	Yes
	Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023

**Old Business:**

1. New Police Garage- The trustees discussed bids received and a decision regarding building the new police garage. The trustees are awaiting official findings from the county commissioners regarding awarding ARP monies toward the building expense. Shawn received an email from the commissioners’ attorney that explains the project may not fit in with their award criteria. A Plan B may need to be implemented to utilize the back room at the Fire Station to house Police Vehicles. Bruce is planning to attend the next Fire Association meeting on Tuesday. When previously discussed, the association had no negative feelings about this plan. Cory has no reservations about this plan. Bruce will attend the Friends of Kinsman meeting on Wednesday.
2. Phase 3 Sidewalk Project- Marge has received the donation from the Friend of Kinsman Sidewalk Project through the Community Foundation in the amount of our local share of \$6416.03, which she paid to Foust Construction. The resolution to utilize the \$1700 from the bidding of salvaged slate sidewalk slabs has not yet been received but will be received shortly.

[RN2023-075] Greg Leonhard made a motion, seconded by Jamin Banning, to rescind RN2023-062, which states the \$1700 will be utilized to pay the local share of Phase 3. The \$1700 bid money will now be used to pay for the next phase of sidewalk local share expense.

The vote was as follows:

Greg Leonhard	Yes
Jamin Banning	Yes
Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

Greg discussed the positive attention the new sidewalk brings to Kinsman, as well as the safety aspect for walkers and runners.

- 3. TTA May Meeting- Kinsman co-sponsored the Trumbull Township Association meeting with Johnston Township at the American Legion. The dinner went very well with about 60 people in attendance from throughout the county.
- 4. Clean-Up Day and Scrap Tire Collection- The clean-up day went well. Greg is waiting for canceled checks from Sunburst, U-Haul, and Liberty Tire so that he can submit the grant request. We made several hundred dollars from scrap, and 240 tires were collected.

**New Business:**

- 1. Road- Tim is wondering if we can submit a request for ARP funds from the county commissioners to purchase new playground equipment. The trustees asked him to get quotes. Tim is also wondering if we can submit a request to resurface the driveway and parking area at the township park. Jamin will call Tim to get quotes. Greg has asked Gary Shaffer to supply engineering for sidewalk throughout the Greenspace Park.

[RN2023-076] Bruce Bancroft made a motion, seconded by Jamin Banning, to enter Executive Session to discuss the continued employment and/or retirement of Police personnel. The time was 6:52 p.m.

The vote was as follows:

Bruce Bancroft	Yes
Jamin Banning	Yes
Greg Leonhard	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

[RN2023-077] Greg Leonhard made a motion, seconded by Jamin Banning, to return from Executive Session, which was entered into to discuss the continued employment and/or retirement of Police personnel. The time was 7:23 p.m.

The vote was as follows:

Greg Leonhard	Yes
Jamin Banning	Yes
Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

[RN2023-078] Greg Leonhard made a motion, seconded by Jamin Banning, to take the following action resulting from the Executive Session. Police Chief Shawn Rentz will be in retirement from July 1, 2023 until September 1, 2023. He will then return at a pay rate of \$21.66 per hour, and he and the trustees will continue to seek additional help for police coverage. Greg will reach out to the county sheriff's department to supplement coverage during this time.

The vote was as follows:

Greg Leonhard	Yes
Jamin Banning	Yes
Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

2. Police Garage- The trustees are awaiting the award decision regarding the county ARP monies. If denied, Plan B would be to move into the Fire Hall and to retrofit the dining area to accommodate police vehicles after a discussion with Cory and the Friends of Kinsman who supplied a \$30,000 donation toward a new police building. Bruce said that he has discussed possible continued use of the old police building while work is done to house the vehicles one more year with payments of all utilities, including sewer, and the organization of the back room.
3. Zoning- Mark gave the trustees his full monthly zoning report for May. He has not gotten a signed letter let regarding McKinley Road. He has notified the owner of the home on State Street that zoning violations should be addressed by July 10, 2023.
4. Fire-Johnston Township’s request of the county commissioners for power cots and loaders has been officially approved.
5. Greg took a minute to discuss Police Secretary Megan Garcia’s recent accident. She suffered broken bones and continues to heal. Road Worker Jim Grove has had brain surgery after suffering seizures. Greg asked everyone to keep them in our prayers.
6. Police- Shawn gave the trustees his stats for May, and reminded everyone that Safety Forces Day is Saturday, June 17, 2023 beginning at 10 a.m. Shawn spoke with Megan who has not been using the walker and is getting better. Shawn reiterated that he will be retiring for a two-month mandatory period from July 1, 2023 until September 1, 2023. He will then be returning to work part-time until the trustees secure another chief.

[RN2023-079] Greg Leonhard made a motion, seconded by Jamin Banning, to allow Marge to supplement the General Fund by the donation of \$6416.03 to be then paid to Foust Construction for Phase 3 of the Kinsman Sidewalk Project.

The vote was as follows:

Greg Leonhard	Yes
Jamin Banning	Yes
Bruce Bancroft	Yes

Be it so resolved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

Bruce Bancroft made a motion, seconded by Greg Leonhard, to adjourn the Regular Trustees meeting. The motion was unanimous. The bills were paid. The time was 7:33 p.m.

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Trustees

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Fiscal Officer