

SOMERFORD TOWNSHIP  
P. O. Box 861  
Office Location: [91 State Route 56](#) N.W.  
London, OH 43140

James Moran, Chairman  
Ernest Sparks, Vice Chairman  
Bill Laney, Trustee

David Jeffers, Cemetery Sexton  
Brian Knowles, Zoning Inspector  
Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer

The Somerford Township Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at the Somerford Township Hall located at 91 St Rt 56 NW with the above members present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and the minutes from the November, 2019 meeting were read and approved by the trustees. The Somerford Trustees reviewed and signed approval of the December 2019 payroll and bills.

Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer, then presents the Trustees with the Temporary Appropriations for year 2020. Vice Chairman Sparks makes a motion to adopt these Temporary Appropriations and Trustee Laney seconds motion. A roll call vote was called and resulted as follows: Chairman Moran-yes, Vice Chairman Sparks-yes, Trustee Laney-yes. Motion was passed at this time. A public notice will be placed in the paper to inform the public of the Appropriation measures. Ms. Knowles also informs the Board of the new bonding coverage that will take place in 2020. It is referred to as the Faithful Performance of Duty and will umbrella all bonded employees under one contract. After review of documentation, Vice Chairman Sparks makes a motion to adopt the Faithful Performance of Duty coverage. Trustee Laney seconds that motion. Roll call is taken and all are in favor and the motion is carried.

Somerford Zoning Inspector, Brain Knowles, updates the Board on the Frank Ward property. He is still working to try and get the properties cleaned up. He will also check on a pole barn that is already constructed on Route 187.

Cemetery Sexton, David Jeffers, informed the Board that a monument company from Columbus notified him that a family is interested in putting up a two-person crypt on the cemetery property. There are not guidelines in place regarding whether or not a crypt can be put in the township cemetery. Mr. Moran states that is something the Board would have to review and come to a conclusion on after doing a little more research. Mr. Jeffers will request more information on the size of the crypt and the lot sizes needed to hold one. The other questions that arose were regarding who would be responsible for the upkeep of the crypt or if there was vandalism? Who is responsible if the foundation it sits on cracks? Will touch back on this topic at a later date after further research has been done on the topic.

Mr. Bill Laney then informs the Board that Grace Electric has already begun switching all of the lightening over to LED bulbs. He states that the Township will pay the bill when it comes in

but that Central Township and the MECMD will reimburse the township 1/3 each. The township will collect the rebate.

Lastly, a Mr. Bruce Rafferty was in attendance. He stated that his mother and three other relatives are buried in the back of the cemetery. He states that they own the other four graves in that plot but that they cannot find the deeds for those graves. Ms. Knowles pulls up the Crypt Keeper, the cemetery application used by the township, and that the four graves he is discussing are not listed as purchased. Under further review, it is noted that these graves have not yet been plotted. Mr. Rafferty would like to have the rights to these graves but he does not want to pay for them. Without the graves being plotted, they cannot be purchased. Mr. Moran suggests we contact Prosecutor Pronai at this time. He will follow up.

Being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

James Moran, Chairman