

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

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

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

The Somerford Township Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, July 10, 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. The minutes from the June, 2019 meeting were read and approved by the trustees.

Mr. John Smith stopped in to pick up copies of his deeds. His contact information was updated at this time as well.

Mr. Josh Polcyn was also in attendance related to getting a permit for a pole barn. He was referred to Zoning Inspector, Brian Knowles, at this time.

The Somerford Trustees then reviewed and signed approval of the August 2019 payroll and bills. Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer, then informs the Board of a cemetery grant she would like to apply for. The Board is in favor. This grant would be very beneficial as the roads need repaired at the cemetery. Also, Ms. Knowles states that we are in need of having the Zoning Inspector bonded and that she will get that paperwork started.

Cemetery Sexton, Dave Jeffers, gives the burial receipts and payments to the Fiscal Officer at this time and states that he doesn't have any topics of discussion to bring forth.

Trustee Bill Laney takes the floor to update the Board on EMS topics. He states that the EMS Board will appoint a committee that consists of one member from each township in order to make sure all townships are involved with decision making and planning. Mr. Laney then shifts the attention to our fire coverage. He states that he needs a copy of Central Township's acceptance letter stating that they will take responsibility for fire coverage for Somerford Township. Ms. Knowles will get this to him ASAP. Mr. Laney then moves a motion for the Auditor to place a hold on any and all fire levies that are on the books effective October 1, 2019. This would not cancel said levies, just cease collection for the time being. Vice Chairman Sparks seconds the motion and the motion is passed. Mr. Laney states that he met with the EMS Boards to discuss utilities at the Township Hall and that they have the topic tabled at this time. Mr. Laney will break down the usage of the building by the square footage to present to the EMS Board at the next meeting. Lastly, the baseball field on the township's property was discussed once more. The Squad surveyed the area and have decided they would like to take the project on. This would entail sandblasting, painting, repairing and replacing equipment. Chairman Moran states that a budget needs to be set and that we should request a list

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from the squad of the repairs they believe they will need to make and then make a budget based upon that information. All trustees are in agreement and Mr. Laney will take this request back to the squad.

Vice Chairman, Ernie Sparks, states that they had 165 contestants at the Annual Fourth of July Fishing Tournament at the Choctaw Marina. He was happy to report this is one of the largest turnouts in recent history and everyone had a good time.

Somerford Township Zoning Inspector Brian Knowles then informs the Board that the Richmond deadline had passed and the BZA inspected the property. Mr. Richmond met all of the requirements and his conditional use permit will be granted. He then discussed some concerns addressed by the BZA. They would like to look into whether or not fines can be put in place for zoning infractions. This would help to keep resolutions upheld in the future. Mr. Knowles will look into this further. Mr. Knowles also discusses the Frank Ward properties at this time. The BZA has taken pictures of the properties to document the lack of work being done to clear the them. Mr. Knowles suggests inviting Mr. Ward to the next meeting to discuss, in person, a plan to get things in motion. Chairman Moran states that he thinks it is a great idea to include Mr. Ward in the discussion and to aid him in these beginning steps. The BZA has received formal complaints on two out of three of Mr. Ward's properties at this time.

Being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer

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

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James Moran, Chairman