

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

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, June 12, 2019 at the Somerford Township Hall located at 91 St Rt. 56 NW with the above members present. The meeting was called to order late, at 8:50 p.m., following a public meeting related to the public sewer system. The minutes from the May, 2019 meeting were read and approved by the trustees.

Mr. Duane Corson was in attendance in regards to a “threatening letter” he received from the Board of Zoning Appeals. He states that his fence blew down in the winter and he doesn’t understand how he can be given 90 days to get it back up with the weather? He also states he does not understand why the cargo boxes cannot be a part of the fence? Zoning Inspector Brian Knowles explained that it was understood that he could not get his fence back up 90 days after it blew down which is why the BZA waited until the spring to give him the 90 days to replace it. He also stated that the original contract Mr. Corson signed to get his conditional use permit stated that the fence needed to be a permanent structure. Cargo boxes are not considered permanent. Mr. Corson then states that he was “forced to sign the agreement” in order to get his permit. Mr. Knowles states that once it is signed, he must adhere to it to keep his conditional use permit. Mr. Corson then states, “I’m being picked on.” He also states that he will fix his fence but he is keeping the cargo boxes within the fence. He also states that if he sees other cargo boxes out, he will file a formal complaint. Mr. Knowles responds, “Please do and we will address the matter the same way we have here,” as the BZA had received a formal complaint of Mr. Corson’s property which is the reason the formal letter was sent.

Mr. Bob Binns then takes the floor. He would like to know who is checking on Mr. Richmond’s number of dogs on the property? He states that there are more than he is supposed to have because he claims multiple Dobermans to be his personal dogs. He would like to know how this can be since Mr. Richmond advertises that they are for sale? Mr. Knowles informs Mr. Binns that the state as well as the AKC are in charge of monitoring that part of the business, not the Township. Mr. Binns then states, “I’d like for him to live next door to you,” while pointing at Mr. Knowles. At this time, Trustee Bill Laney steps in and states that we will be moving on from the topic.

Mr. Wes Royster then states that he had a question about a drainage issue on his property. Chairman Moran helped Mr. Royster and he states he has no further questions on the matter at this time.

The Somerford Trustees then reviewed and signed approval of the June 2019 payroll and bills.

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.

Somerford Township Zoning Inspector Brian Knowles then informs the Board that the following Wednesday is the final day for Mr. Richmond to meet all of the requirements set forth by the Board of Zoning Appeals. The BZA will go to the property and inspect it as well as hold a meeting that night.

Chairman Moran then takes the floor. He states that a decision needs to be made on the topic of the cemetery part time workers pay increase request. They will touch back at a later date. He also states that the previous person that was digging graves for the cemetery has retired and that a new one is needed. The Board will look into other options and discuss this topic again in the future. Mr. Moran states he will dig the graves in the meantime. He then discusses the improvements and updates that were made to the building's generator and informs the fiscal officer of the cost and to keep an eye out for the invoice that will be coming. The topic of the baseball field on the Township Building's property was once again discussed. Mr. Moran states that we should have the interested party come in to discuss what exactly they would like to do with the field. He also states the Board should decide if they would like to contribute to any future updates to that area. Lastly, Mr. Moran reminds the Board of the comprehensive plan meeting that will be held June 19<sup>th</sup> and that they will be in attendance there.

Being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer

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

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James Moran, Chairman