

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

James Moran, Trustee	Amanda Knowles, Fiscal Officer
Bill Laney, Vice Chairman	Brian Knowles, Zoning Inspector
Ernest Sparks, Chairman	Dave Jeffers, Cemetery Sexton

The Somerford Township Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 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.

Ms. Vickie Cordle and Jaime Martin were in attendance. They wanted to report that the property located at 2789 Old US 40 has been abandoned as the owner passed away and the yard has become overgrown and an eyesore. They are hosting a wedding in their backyard on June 20th and they would like if the neighbor's yard could be cleaned up. Trustee Moran states that it may be hard to get it cleaned up that quickly as it sounds like it may be a health department situation. Zoning Inspector, Brian Knowles, will look into the property further. The second property they wanted to report on was the gold house, they believe it to be 2770 Old US 40. The owners of the property are burning tires as well as parking illegally in the alleyway. Mr. Knowles reports that he has certified letters that will be sent out the following day notifying owners that their properties need to be cleaned up or further action will be taken. He also stated that Ms. Cordle should continue to call police and fire when they are burning illegal items and parking in the alley.

Mr. Brian Harrington was also in attendance. He wanted an update on where everything stood with the shipping containers he had reported on at the previous meeting. He also reported that he wanted the Ward properties escalated to the EPA. Mr. Knowles informs Mr. Harrington that he met with the Madison County Prosecutor as well as the two Assistant Prosecutors to discuss the appropriate process and procedure to get the ball rolling with all of these properties. He already had certified letters typed up for the trustees to review and he would be sending them the following day. Mr. Harrington states that he appreciates the process being started. Next, Mr. Harrington discusses the email he had sent to the Fiscal Officer the previous evening asking for the Township's financial reporting. Ms. Knowles, Fiscal Officer, states that she can get him a copy of the Appropriations, as they are public record, before they leave the Township Hall that evening.

Ms. Mary Corson then reports that there is a house that was knocked down and partially buried just on the edge of Somerford. Mr. Moran states that the concrete portion of the house can be buried. Mr. Knowles has not received a permit for that property but he will check on it.

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer, then has the Trustees review the meeting minutes from the May, 2020 meeting. They are read and approved by the Trustees at this time. The Somerford Trustees reviewed and signed approval of the June 2020 payroll and bills. Multiple deeds were also signed for cemetery plots that were purchased.

Zoning Inspector Knowles then reports on his meeting with the prosecutor and assistant prosecutors. Assistant Prosecutor Rickelle Davis will be his contact person when dealing with the properties that have been reported on. Certified letters are being sent out to property owners. He also reports that he has had a large number of building permits over the last few weeks and he has given all checks to the Fiscal Officer for deposit. Lastly, he reports that the Board of Zoning Appeals is holding a public hearing the following evening to discuss a specific property that would like to build a residence on an agricultural property and have requested a conditional use permit to do so.

Trustee James Moran then updates the Board on a drainage situation on Old US 40 near the Rothwell property. He spoke with the county and they are going to take a look at it. He also had a sewer update as the Engineer's Office has reported that the initial drawings are done and are just waiting on final approval and the grants to come through. Lastly, Mr. Moran reports that the ISO rating for Somerford Township has come in and he is proud to report that while the original report put the township at a rating level of 10, the new ratings are 6 in some areas and 4 in others. Insurance rates should go down for residents.

Being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Knowles, Somerford Township Fiscal Officer

Date: _____

Ernest Sparks, Chairman

