

THE WOODVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE’S REGULAR MEETING – April 2, 2025

Vice Chairman William Hammer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

Trustees: Bill Hammer and Ken Green. Paul Runion was excused
Fiscal Officer: Lori Kepus
Assistant Fire Chief: Mark Grove (left at 7:53 pm)
Road Supervisor: Jim Busdiecker
Zoning Inspector: Steve Michaelis
Sandusky County Engineer: Carlos Baez (left at 7:07 pm)
Guests: Allan Huss, Township Resident (left at 7:35 pm)

At 7 p.m. bids were opened for the 2025 Township Roads Resurfacing Project in Jackson, Madison, Rice, Scott, Washington, and Woodville Township (lead). The engineer’s estimate for this Issue II project is \$775,000.

M&B Asphalt, Tiffin	\$746,623.50
Gerken Paving, Napoleon	\$757,189.50
Henry Bergman, Genoa	\$814,635.25

Mr. Baez will review the bids and send his recommendation. The award of a bid cannot take place until after July 1st due to state requirements.

Mr. Baez also gave an update on reconstruction of the Cherry Street Bridge in the Village of Woodville. He said the bridge is being designed now and construction could begin next year or possibly not until 2027, but everything is going well at this point.

EMS – No report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – Fire Chief Tim Schnitker sent the following report:

- From January 1 through March 31, I kept stats on average number of firefighters responding to calls Monday through Friday from 0600 to 1700, 1700 to 0600 and Weekends. The weekday day average was 3.78 firefighters per call, weekday nights average was 5.84 and the weekends averaged 7.0 per call. I also have them listed by type of call and I will look to see if that seems to affect the turnout. I will continue to track this in the hopes of trending shortages for future considerations.
- Hoping to go to Martin Marietta Friday and finish the silo coal burn job. Plan to wet the silo down and then just stand by as the pressure washers do their job.
- Following up on Tornado Sirens. Two did not sound during the state wide test, the one at the cemetery and the one at the village administration building. The cemetery issue was the power and the power company fixed it. The village issue might be the board so P&R Communications is testing it and will follow up. The batteries at all of them are old and we will be getting prices to replace them.
- Working with Stahl and F&M Mechanical again. The exhaust system is down. We want both companies to possibly trouble shoot together, but Stahl researched the motor and does not believe the generator currently has enough power to handle start up. Judging from the breakers and the amps/volts I am guessing they are correct especially when the furnaces are on as well as the added EMS dispensers and everything else. We may have to take the exhaust off the generator or upside the generator. The quick answer would be take it off generator, but I will need to get a price to do that. Long term, especially if we add on to the building, we may need to evaluate the generator size.

ROAD DEPARTMENT – Road Supervisor Jim Busdiecker reported on the following:

- Busy working on equipment and hauling scrap
- A culvert tile on TR 56 may be plugged or broke.
- Ordered the remaining supply of salt from last year’s winter salt contract.
- Found a sink hole on TR 40 today. We will stone and patch it soon. Appears to have been caused by animals.
- There was a huge piece of plastic like a truck cover/line in the ditch on TR 42 by the Madison Township line. I hauled it away with the backhoe.

CEMETERY – Spring cleaning is done.

Ross Fought Mason Contractors repaired the concrete pillar at the fence line in the amount of \$790. The pillar was damaged during a hit/skip accident on February 12, 2025.

ZONING – Steve Michaelis reported on the following:

Caseys has officially become the property owner of land on West Main Street beside McDonalds and is planning to break ground this May. They would like a sign permit.

I sent Joel Schaffner, 20380 SR 23, Woodville, a violation letter as he was issued a home-based business permit last May and has not fully addressed the conditions that were added to his permit and those conditions were to have been rectified within 6 months. I visited Joel and he said he is working on the inside of his building to make room for inside storage of equipment and I believe he is making sufficient headway.

The Woodville Township Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on April 14 at 7 pm on the conditional use permit application of Jennifer Millerschone, 7593 SR 582, Woodville, for a home-based business to allow dog breeding, rabbit breeding, and chicken/egg sales. Permit fees of \$250 plus \$50 for a sign were paid.

Roy Whitehead, 950 Water Street, Woodville has started installing his fence around his pool, but the worker ran into some personal problems so work will continue soon.

FISCAL OFFICER – Lori Kepus presented the Trustees with the Township’s **balanced bank reconciliation** for the month of March, and the updated Fund, Revenue, and Appropriation Status reports.

Below is the March financial report.

March Revenue Received	\$ 59,308.16
March Expenses Paid	\$ 157,868.52
Balance of all Funds as of 3/31/2025	\$ 2,496,076.80

Fiscal Officer Kepus have been trying to resolve issues with the electric bills from the Village of Woodville. For the last four months, the bills have been very high. The village recently installed new electric and water meters as they switched from manual readings to automatic. Their new software began before all meters had been installed and there have been problems with the software connecting the readings into the program and other various issues.

The Township has received their 1st Quarter, 2024 Real Estate Settlement from the county auditor in the net amount of \$864,634.11 after county tax collection fees of \$32,377.70 were deducted. The NEXUS pipeline has finalized their settlement and paid the amount that was due from the last 4-5 years of payments.

In 2019, after construction of the pipeline, NEXUS disputed this value and an agreement with the Ohio State Tax Commissioner was reached setting the value at \$950 million dollars with reductions each year for depreciation and residents of Sandusky County should receive \$7-8 million in revenue from property taxes each year. This came out to be around \$300,000 in extra revenue Woodville Township would receive broken out into their General, Road & Bridge, Cemetery, EMS, and Fire Funds.

After years of court battles, the Supreme Court, in August, 2024, by a 4-3 decision determined that, by statute, the state tax commissioner’s settlement with NEXUS valuing the pipeline at \$950 million could not be appealed as the law allows a tax commissioner to settle tax values. That settled valuation was only 47% of the original \$950 million which is what NEXUS originally promoted to the public.

Trustee Green made a motion to approve the warrants. Trustee Hammer seconded. All answered yes to roll call. Motion passed. Trustee Hammer made a motion to approve the March 19, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Trustee Green seconded. All answered yes to roll call. Motion passed.

At 8:18 p.m., with no further business, Trustee Hammer moved for adjournment. Trustee Green seconded. This meeting was held in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code’s Sunshine Law.