

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF JACKSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES EMERGENCY MEETING

OCTOBER 22, 2021

Hawke called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the Jackson Township Hall with Trustees Todd Hawke, John Pizzino, and Jim Thomas (via phone for informational purposes only) present. Fiscal Officer Gonzalez, Administrator/Law Director Vaccaro, Major Jim Monigold, Fire Chief Berczik, Deputy Chief Crable, Public Works Director Rohn, David Ruwadi, Carles Moore, and Victor Volpe were also in attendance.

Hawke called the General Session to order. He requested that all cell phones be silenced at this time.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Vaccaro began by stating that the Stark County Library-Jackson Branch was opening this morning and had moved barricades around to allow for entry only to the library.

Pizzino thanked all involved for their expedited response and for the smooth implementation of the emergency plan. Hawke echoed those sentiments and thanked everyone as well.

Berczik said that Lake O Springs Ave. is now open. Power stayed on and the emergency personnel kept residents away from the live downed power wires. There was some minor roof damage. There does not appear to be major damage in the neighborhoods and no one was displaced from their homes. Red Cross was ready however if needed.

Rohn remarked that Haymaker and Berens both sent several crews out to help right away. Volpe also got the highway crew moving quickly to remove debris.

Vaccaro confirmed there was no damage to the Safety Center or Administration Building.

Chief Berczik reported that Royal Docks had significant damage. A large garage door was blown in and broke off a sprinkler head, causing flooding inside the building. Bosco Pizza also suffered storm damage. No other businesses reported storm damage.

North Park is hosting a softball tournament on October 23 and 24. The coaches have been informed that North Park is closed until further notice. Each structure at the park will need to be examined for damages and there is still debris that will need cleaned up. The group discussed the condition of the equipment at the amphitheater. An air conditioning unit at the amphitheater was damaged.

Ruwadi reported that Fisher Park suffered significant damage. The bleachers were destroyed and the dugouts are missing. There was discussion about how to handle the damaged trees and debris at Fisher Park.

Vaccaro and Moore reported on the damage to the highway and maintenance buildings. The main garage is missing a portion of its roof. One garage door was destroyed and hit a maintenance truck. Several walls and doors were damaged. The entire building will need inspected, however there doesn't appear to be structural damage.

There is no damage to South Park or Jackson Middle School. Lake Cable had trees down and some soffit damage. Southway Fence is going to secure the Annex fence today and then permanently fix it next week. The tennis court fences at North Park were also damaged.

Vaccaro suggested there is not enough information to support requesting county or state assistance. Pizzino agreed. The National Weather Service and Stark County EMA will be on site today.

Rohn reported that other townships have offered man power and equipment. Gonzalez pointed out that during the 2002 tornado, they had no radio communications and used cell phones. Last night there was smooth radio communications, which speaks volumes to the new updated system.

Hawke moved and Pizzino seconded a motion to go into an open recess in order to further assess damage and to communicate with County EMA and the National Weather Service.

3-0 yes

Upon return from recess, general session resumed at 1:23 p.m.

Hawke reported that he, Pizzino, Vaccaro, Rohn, and Gonzalez went out to assess the damage in the township. Crews are cleaning up North Park. If the electric company can shut off power to down poles, they plan on opening the park and should be able to hold the softball tournament.

There is a structural engineer assessing the amphitheater and the highway buildings.

Fisher Park will remain closed. Hawke emphasized that there is too much damage and also no immediate need to reopen. Some damaged trees are not down yet and will need to be removed.

While there is some damage to homes, they are all still habitable. Hawke also said that all roads are open.

Pizzino thanked the employees and emergency workers who have worked hard through the evening and again today.

Pizzino confirmed that North Park is clear to open if electricity is able to be turned off. Field 12 will be closed. Hawke stressed that everyone stay away from Field 12. Upon reopening North Park, extra patrol may be necessary.

Pizzino moved and Hawke seconded a motion to adjourn.

3-0 yes

Todd Hawke

Randy Gonzalez