

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

*Minutes of*

**Greenfield Township Trustees**

*Meeting*

April 12, 2019  
*Held 12:00 PM*

The Greenfield Township Trustees met in special session at the township. Kent Searle called the meeting to order. Dave Cotner, Lonnie Kosch and Kent Searle were present.

Julia Donnan with Brosius, Johnson & Griggs Law Firm was also in attendance to go over the paperwork for removing the junk cars on 158.

Ms. Donnan stated Trustee Cotner had sent her photos of cars and collector items on 158. She also stated there are 3 criteria for removing junk cars; over 3 years old, apparently inoperable and extensively damaged, which is subjective. The inoperable part is an objective standard, is it truly the mechanics of the vehicle, can it move and be driven. That is the hard part.

Trustee Kosch asked who makes the determination that it is a junk vehicle. Ms. Donnan said it is important to be extremely detail oriented. She suggested whoever is looking at these cars makes a presentation to the board saying we have received complaints, gone out into the field, the board has seen these vehicles, and I believe it is appropriate to move forward under the 871 action. This should be presented by stating: car #1 is a: name an approximate year range, name the make, name the model, state it is extensively inoperable and it has been sitting there for x amount of time and ask for a resolution to remove this car. Then go on to car #2 the same way. After this presentation the board needs to adopt these resolutions (one for each car), and be extremely detailed as the person presenting the information was.

Trustee Kosch asked if we should contact him and let him know we have passed a resolution to remove junk cars from the township. Julie stated that is a possibility but be straight forward, not friendly and not aggressive and tell him under the ORC 505.871 action you have X amount of time to move the cars. If you were to notify him, certified is good. There is always the possibility that some cars that may not meet the criteria to be moved but will be moved by them and help get rid of some more of the cars.

Trustee Searle asked if we have to receive a complaint before we can take action, Ms. Donnan said no. Trustee Cotner stated there have already been several complaints.

Trustee Cotner stated that the Health Department has been after him to clean up construction debris on this property and property he owns in Lancaster. The Health Department doesn't do anything about junk cars.

Trustee Cotner stated that the person that lives on that property fired a gun a neighbor. Ms. Donnan suggested taking a sheriff with the person going out there.

The trustees then worked on deciding which cars met the criteria to be removed. Trustee Searle asked if the township deemed a car inoperable and it turns out it wasn't, are we potentially in trouble. Yes, according to Ms. Donnan with discussion following about case law and what possibilities could happen.

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Trustee Kosch asked about the car title. Ms. Donnan explained the process of the towing company/salvage company obtaining the title. Trustee Cotner stated he had already called Broad & James Towing who deals in removing junk cars. Trustee Cotner also explained the process of having the fees attached to the property tax bill. Trustee Searle asked about charging an administration fee. Ms. Donnan has concerns on collecting an administration fee the way the rules are written.

Trustee Cotner said they need help filling out the forms. Ms. Donnan said her office can fill out the form since you have already identified the vehicles. Trustee Searle asked how much identification is needed on the vehicles. Ms. Donnan stated no vin number is needed but enough information that if the towing company picks up the wrong car you have proof they made the error; a photo is good. You can state the approximate year of vehicle, color, make and model (if known) and say 2 door or 4 door and then say as seen in attached photo.

Ms. Donnan said be specific on the resolution naming parcel numbers and what vehicle is on what parcel with a description of the vehicle. Also stating based on the evidence provided we have determined they are junk motor vehicles, over 3-year-old, apparently inoperable, extensively damaged and order the removal. You want to get a title search for each parcel that you want to remove a vehicle from. What the board needs to do is: identify the vehicles, authorize an individual to do the title search, authorize an individual to send notices to the property owner and any lien holders, and then authorize the fiscal officer to certify the costs to the auditor's office. Ms. Donnan provided packets with sample forms and paperwork showing how and what needs filled out/sent. Questions followed on the various pieces included in the packet.

After discussion, the Trustees decided to have the law firm write up the letter. Trustee Kosch made a motion to have Brosius, Griggs & Johnson Law Firm do the paperwork for removing the junk vehicles from the property on 158 (3449 Lancaster Kirkersville Road, Lancaster), seconded by Trustee Searle.

*ROLL CALL: Cotner: yes: Kosch: yes: Searle: yes. Motion Passed 3-0*

Trustee Searle asked Ms. Donnan if they could also do the notice. She said yes, but can't notified the lien holders until the title search comes back, but could do it once that comes back or I can put everything together and all you would have to do is insert the address once that comes back.

Motion made by Trustee Kosch to authorize Trustee Cotner to contact someone to do the title search on 3449 Lancaster Kirkersville Road, seconded by Trustee Searle.

*ROLL CALL: Cotner: yes: Kosch: yes: Searle: yes. Motion Passed 3-0*

Discussions on what is entailed to tear down abandon houses in the future within the township.

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Trustee Kosch talked about the zoning software and who needs to sign the contract. Trustee Searle needs to sign the last page and then the fiscal officer will need to fill out some information.

Motion made by Trustee Cotner to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Kosch

*ROLL CALL: Cotner: yes: Kosch: yes: Searle: yes. Motion Passed 3-0*

Meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm