

# HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

## REGULAR SESSION

Held on May 22, 2017

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 8:55 PM in the Harpersfield Township Administration Building. Raymond Gruber Jr, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Raymond Gruber Jr	Present	James Pristov	Present
Clifford Henry	Present	Sharon Rohrbaugh	Present

Employees: Larry Lister, Everett Henry, Steve Opron

Visitors: Ron Valitsky, Jeff Lang, Rory Whelpley

The minutes from a public hearing for the JEDD III addendum and a public hearing for public opinion for the proposed zoning text amendment for new height restrictions for the AC/ACJ districts and the regular session held on May 1, 2017, were reviewed. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes for all three meetings (both public hearings and the regular session) as written; Cliff seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Larry reported that he gave Susec Chalet an agriculture certificate for their winery on Barnum Road. He stated that he issued one zoning permit. Larry was questioned about an individual that wants to build a storage building on his property prior to building the house structure. It was decided that he would have to apply for a variance.

Steve commented that Martuccio plans to apply dust control product the first week of June – weather permitting.

Cliff will contact Tim Martin, Ashtabula County Engineer, for help/advice on the condition of Township Road.

The Board and Steve discussed a situation on Lisa Pucci's property on Old Orchard Drive. A lot of water flows on the south side in the front of her property into the road culvert. Steve suggested to build a head wall at her driveway by building a form and pouring concrete; the Board requested he get cost figures and discuss it at the next meeting.

Steve reminded the Board that the Road Crew are now working the "summer hours" until Labor Day (6 AM until 2:30 PM).

Everett informed the Board of a new firemen added to the roster: Ignatius Puleo.

It was mentioned that new American flags are needed in the Unionville Cemetery and the Hall. Steve will get them put up. The flowers and mulch project have been completed; Everett asked if the overgrown bush on the north side of the Admin. Building could be eliminated; the Board agreed; the Road crew will take care of it.

Everett stated that the new SCBA's are here and the firemen are training on how to use them. Everett is looking into donating the old SCBA units to Canadian departments; glitch in doing that is they can come here to get them and take them across the border but we cannot take them across the border to them.

Everett with assistance of the road crew cut a tree up in the Harpersfield Park (wood to be used for the beef roast); while there Everett noticed several trees are in bad shape and need to be removed prior to property damage and personal injuries. Jim will contact the County Metro Park Board and have them investigate and take care of the matter.

Everett and Todd Nagy, Ashtabula County Health Dept, inspected Vineyard Woods and both agreed the buildings are "OK" to open to the public. They also inspected the Spire aquatic building and Mr. Nagy will write a letter to Ron Clutter and if the corrections are not completed the doors will be locked to the public.

Cliff made a motion to pay the bills totaling: \$28,350.52; #9612 through #9647; Jim Seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #71-2017 through #79-2017; totaling \$4,712.37.

Sharon questioned the Board about Janie Sibell coordinating the newsletter this fall after the situation she created working with the printing company during the last newsletter. Jim stated that he has spoken with her and should not happen again. Sharon will contact printing company to question if they will work with her again and instruct them to forward all emails to the Board.

Sharon informed the Board that the new Zoning Clerk is helping Larry with variance applications and other "secretarial" duties for him. Sharon suggested that we compensate Debbie for this extra work as this was not included in the Zoning Clerk job description she agreed to. Cliff made a motion to compensate Debbie \$400 for the extra work (to be paid annually – in December when the zoning Boards are paid); Jim seconded; the Board agreed unanimously in favor.

Cliff contacted Deborah Woodworth, she is offering to donate property to the Township, she is requesting a letter stating the property is a value equivalent to \$25,000. Cliff contacted the Ashtabula County Assistant Prosecutor and was told that the Township cannot write a letter stating as such. Cliff made a motion to accept the property donation subject to Ashtabula County Assistant Prosecutor Catherine Colgan IRS stipulation; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cliff had a request for a speed limit sign and children playing sign for Harper Valley Lane. Steve will get the children playing sign and Cliff will ask Tim Martin, Ashtabula County Engineer, about the speed limit for the road.

Jim commented that the Metro Park Board will be handing out bike helmets at events throughout the summer.

The County will be placing recycle bins throughout Ashtabula County and the Board agreed to request one in Harpersfield Township.

Ray gave a summarized update of the Spire tax evaluation and the letters and proposals going back and forth between Spire and the Geneva School Board.

Ray and Steve completed the road sign grant and the grant application has been filed and accepted. The total amount of the grant that was applied for was \$31,090.73 which is for 429 various road signs and 434 posts including hardware. Ray commented we should find out mid-July if we get the funding.

Ray received a complaint regarding the guard rails on Clyde Hill; most of the guard rail is below the road edge. Board discussed if we should close the road until situation has been remedied. It was decided to contact Tim Martin, Ashtabula County Engineer, for his opinion/suggestions of what to do. Cement barriers were suggested.

Ray researched the Brakeman Cemetery at the Ashtabula County Recorder's office. The property is currently owned by Daniel Rauckhorst and there is nothing on his deed that shows a cemetery located on his property. John Brakeman was a very big/prominent family in the Township in 1834, so it is more than likely a family cemetery from that time period. It has never been owned/maintained by the Township.

Ray reported that he assisted the road crew in correcting an outer grave lot pin owned by Dick Savel.

Ray questioned if anyone in the Township was interested in a wellness program with the Ashtabula YMCA in conjunction with the BWC, everyone agreed it was too far away and not interested.

Meeting adjourned until June 19, 2017

Raymond Gruber Jr

James Pristov

Clifford Henry

Sharon Rohrbaugh