

# HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

## REGULAR SESSION

Held on September 18, 2017

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 8:30 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, Steve Opron, Everett Henry

Visitors: Jeff Lang, Julie Henry

The minutes from the regular meeting held on September 5, 2017, were reviewed. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Cliff seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Larry reported issuing two zoning permits.

Larry informed the Board that Mike Parker applied for a variance to build a garage in front of the house structure. Larry spoke with a few of the BZA Board members after they received the application and the consensus was a no vote, therefore, Larry chose to cancel the variance hearing. Cliff stated that the Trustees have no power over the BZA's decisions and that if a resident wants to pursue/challenge a BZA vote they have the option of taking the issue to court.

Larry will check with the County Prosecutor for opinion regarding a light manufacturing company operating a business in a residential district. He will ask if it is grandfathered in as it has been used for industrial purposes for years.

Cliff commented that ODOT did not confirm receiving our salt application that was sent in June. Cliff emailed his ODOT contact but has not received a response. He stated that we may have to contact Morton Salt or Cargill and set up a contract on our own.

The Board agreed to allow Steve to order 200 tons of #411 stone.

Everett informed the Board that we were turned down for the FEMA grant this year and that Everett told Andy to resubmit for next year. This news means that we will have to pay for four sets of turn out gear; Jim made a motion to purchase four sets of turn out gear; Cliff seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Everett stated that fire departments in Texas need SCBA and fire equipment as a result of the recent hurricane. We have the older but useable SCBA and Everett would like to send them to Texas. Cliff made a motion to declare the older SCBA units obsolete and to donate them to Texas fire fighters; Jim seconded; the board voted unanimously in favor.

Everett commented that the fire department will be attending a health fair at HDT on October 19<sup>th</sup> between 1:30 to 3:30.

The Fire Prevention program will be held at Cork School on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Everett is planning to do a complete "ALICE" at Cork School to simulate a total disaster on October 24/25. Their plan is to make it as real as possible without scaring students but to educate them on what will happen if a disaster occurs.

Cliff made a motion to pay the bills totaling: \$20,889.23 - #9817 through #9838; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #172-2017 through #191-2017; totaling \$28,842.07.

Sharon informed the Board that she requested an Amended Certificate to the County Auditor for the additional funds the Township will receive for the sign grant; these funds will put the Township in the next level on the annual budget compensation chart. Sharon asked the Board for their decision if once the amended certificate was received if they wanted the increase in the pay. Jim made a motion to accept the increase in pay after Sharon has received the amended certificate from the County Auditor; Cliff seconded; the Board voted thusly: Henry, yes; Pristov, yes; Gruber, yes

The Board agreed to have Cliff and Larry attend the Planning/Zoning Seminar on October 27<sup>th</sup>; each will attend different classes to get more info from the event.

Cliff commented that the Trustees, BZA Board members, and the Zoning Commission Board met with CT Consultants speakers. Cliff made a motion to contract with CT Consultants to assist the Township to update/change the zoning text for the Rt. 534 – I90 area for the amount of \$11,000 to \$12,500 which will be taken from the General Fund; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Jim made a motion to send a letter to residents in the area of the “Bike Trail” to be constructed on Spire property (from Rt. 534 to Clay Street); 36 residents will be involved in that area. Cliff seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ray gave the latest info regarding the Geneva Schools/Spire tax issue. The School Board did come to a “user agreement” with Spire for sports etc that will take place at Spire. The next step in this long process is to agree on the payment of property taxes.

Ray commented that the Hotel Study is complete and stated that our township is the next best sight in Ashtabula County for a new hotel. Now we have to determine what happens with a Phase II proposal and the cost.

Cliff made a motion to adopt the proposed road damage form and to charge a \$30 permit fee; Steve will issue the permit; the form will not be put into place until the road use manual is complete; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ray reported that there is one easement that has not been completed for the JEDD III sewer project. The City attorney requested that our attorney review the wording in the easement. Ray contacted Paul for his opinion. An individual owns the sewer line but Geneva City maintains and the individual wants more revenue before he will grant the easement.

Meeting adjourned until October 2, 2017

Raymond Gruber Jr

James Pristov

Clifford Henry

Sharon Rohrbaugh