

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on February 25, 2019

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 8:50 PM in the Harpersfield Township Administration Building. Clifford Henry, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Clifford Henry

Raymond Cruber Jr

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh

Employees: Larry Lister; Everett Henry; Cody Craine

Visitors: Ron Valitsky; Renee & Rich Hanyok; Jeff Lang

The minutes from the regular session held on February 11, 2019 were reviewed. Ray made a motion to accept the minutes as written; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Larry recommended that the zoning business permit (zoning permit to operate a business) be increased from \$35 to \$75. After discussing this increase Ray made a motion to increase the permit fee to \$50; Jim seconded; the Board added that this increase is to be effective immediately and that existing businesses are grandfathered.

Larry informed the Board that the Ashtabula County Prosecutor's office will be holding classes for anyone working with township zoning, whether it is the administrator, clerk, or zoning board members, it is highly recommended that these people attend these classes. The classes will be held on the first Thursday of the month for the next four months at the Old Court House building from 6:30 PM to 8 PM.

Cody received an estimate of \$1436.58 from the Ashtabula County Engineer for road stripping for LaFevre Road, Chestnut Street, and State Road. Jim made a motion to accept the estimate and have the County apply the centerline stripping; Ray seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody received a quote from Sievers Security Inc. for the fire and security alarms at the road garage building for \$24 per month. Ray made a motion to accept the quote from Sievers Security (this will replace Vector Security); Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody informed the Board that the repairs to Township Road are complete.

Cody stated that he received a price of \$950 from Southeastern Equipment for a 42" bucket (\$150 shipping to be added). Jim made a motion to allow for this purchase; Ray seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody informed the Board that a tree limb fell in Unionville Cemetery and damaged the flag pole and fence. They will attempt to repair the fence with the fence removed from Harpersfield Cemetery.

Everett informed the Board that the Fire Department received notification they were turned down for the 2019 MARCS grant.

Everett commented that the MARCS radios have been ordered and that he will coordinate with Cork School to sponsor another ALICE training this September.

Everett and Cliff met with Ashtabula County Assistant Prosecutor Catherine Colgan regarding the Hile property. They were told that as a Township there is not a whole lot we can do. As the property is still in Pauline Hile's name it was suggested to contact her daughter. It will be a long process because if the property taxes are being paid it cannot be claimed delinquent. Another suggestion is if the daughter responds to offer to help remove the unsafe structure that was damaged in a fire in 2015.

Ray made a motion to pay the following bills: #10829 through #10860; totaling \$23,627.45; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #15-2019 through #22-2019; totaling \$16,111.17.

Ray made a motion to purchase "all-in-one space saver" labor posters; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Jim informed Sharon that the Township no longer has to submit an inventory report to the Ashtabula County Engineer's office.

Ray mentioned that Eddy Eckart contacted Daniel Smith and he still plans to proceed with a hotel. Cliff also spoke with Eddy and there is an issue to be resolved with the utility line with the truck wash.

Ray made a motion to amend the Cemetery Rules and Regulations:

Add:

c. Any person/or immediate family who is paying property taxes within Harpersfield Township.

Change:

2. A resident of Harpersfield Township may purchase a grave to bury a non-resident member of his/her immediate family at the resident price. Immediate family shall be spouse, children, parents, or legally adopted child.

Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor and these changes are to be effective as of today.

Ray made a motion to amend the Employee Handbook:

Section 2.0

2.3 – add last sentence to paragraph to state:

No employee shall be entitled to benefits (sick leave, holiday pay and vacations) until the conclusion of their ninety (90) day probationary period.

Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor

The Board reviewed the proposed emergency vehicle access easement. This access is a benefit to Spire facility for emergency vehicles to use in case of emergency during a large event. The Board decided that it should not be the Township's responsibility to maintain and Cliff will contact Ron Clutter and inform him that the Township will not agree to this easement and it is not acceptable as written.

Jeff Jenks asked the Board if it would be possible to extend the pipe (that ODOT is installing in the ditch along Rt 307 in front of Harpersfield Cemetery). The Board agreed to supply the dirt which will not be smoothed or seeded but Jeff must purchase the pipe.

Ray made a motion to cancel the March 11th meeting (Jim and Sharon are unable to attend) and our next regular meeting will be held on March 25th; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ray made a motion to allow Tri County Grape Growers Association to hold their monthly meetings (first Thursday of the month) in the old Town Hall building; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Jeff Lang voiced disagreement with the Board agreeing to accept Spire Circle as a Township Road since it only benefits one business.

Meeting adjourned until March 25, 2019

Clifford Henry

Raymond Gruber Jr

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh