

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on September 13, 2021

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 9:10 PM in the Harpersfield Township Administration Building. James Pristov, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

James Pristov	Present	Raymond Gruber Jr	Present
Edwin Spoor	Present	Sharon Rohrbaugh	Present

Employees: Frank Henry

Visitors: Alice Vervais; Anthony Rose; Renee and Rich Hanyok

The minutes from the regular session held on August 16, 2021 were reviewed. Ray made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

As Larry was absent, Ray informed the Board that he went with Larry to deliver a notice to the people living in the "Grange Building" that they had until Labor Day to end the "all summer yard sale" that they have had set up. Ray commented that the yard sale is closed and yard is cleaned up.

Frank reported that Steve Ozbolt has submitted a resignation from the fire department.

Frank will speak with Mrs. Doherty, Cork School, to discuss the fire prevention program for the students. Ed made a motion to allow up to \$750 be spent on purchasing the items to give to the students for the program; Ray seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Frank informed the Board that again 674 is back at Truckmen for further repairs.

Frank stated that OH only recognizes 120 hour class requirements and not the 36 hour class that the new firemen took in the past. Frank is trying to talk some of the firemen to take the extra needed hours. The new requirements also require a physical.

Frank mentioned that because the Co-Vid Relief monies purchased the new turn out gear the fire fund has available funds for other needed items; he would like to purchase hoses, thermal imaging camera and a MSA gas leak monitor. Ed made a motion to allow up to \$12,000 for these purchases; Ray seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ray made a motion to pay the following bills: #\$\$\$\$\$ through #\$\$\$\$\$; totaling \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

Ray moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the provisions of law has previously adopted a tax budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing January 2022

WHEREAS, the Budget Commission of Ashtabula County has certified its action thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without and what part within, the ten mill limitation; therefore, be it RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted; and be it further RESOLVED, that there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said Township the rate of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation.

RESOLVED, that the fiscal officer of this Board be and is hereby directed to certify a copy of this resolution to the Ashtabula County Auditor.

Ed seconded the resolution and the roll call upon adoption resulted as follows:

Pristov, yes	Spoor, yes	Gruber Jr, yes
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Sharon informed the Board that we received a request to transfer the liquor license from Chops Grille and Tap House to Geneva Grill Operator LLC. The Board voiced no objection to this transfer and will not request a hearing.

Ray has been working with Tim Martin, Ashtabula County Engineer, to submit a grant application to ODOT to build a sidewalk between Berringer Place and the bike trail. The Engineer's office did the drawing and wrote a letter of support. Ray commented that he has almost completed filling out the application but will not submit it until he attends a webinar to make sure he has it filled out correctly.

Ray stated that prior to our regular meeting the Board held a public hearing for a property parcel to join the JEDD. He read the following resolution #0913-21:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP-CITY OF GENEVA JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 2 CONTRACT AND ANY AMENDMENTS MADE THERETO, TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 2.

WHEREAS, the Township of Harpersfield and the City of Geneva previously entered into the Harpersfield Township-City of Geneva Joint Economic Development District 2 Contract (JEDD 2 Contract), that created the JEDD 2 District for the purpose, of facilitating economic development to create jobs and employment opportunities and to improve the economic welfare of the people in the State of Ohio and in the areas of Harpersfield and Geneva, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 5, Paragraph B of the Amended JEDD 1, JEDD 2 and JEDD 3 Contract, Harpersfield and Geneva may amend the JEDD 2 Contract and any amendments enacted thereafter to add areas to the JEDD 2 District, now in accordance with and pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 715.72; and

WHEREAS, Harpersfield and Geneva desire to amend the JEDD 2 contract, to add the property owned by Robert Augustinsky, owner of Permanent Parcel Number 22-007-000-035-00, located at 1546 Harpersfield Road, Geneva, Ohio (the Property) to the JEDD 2 District; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORC Section 715.72, Harpersfield published notice of the time and place of a public hearing regarding the Amendment at least thirty (30) days prior to the hearing; and

WHEREAS, since publication of that notice, there has been on file with the Fiscal Officer of Harpersfield: (1) a copy of the proposed Amendment, (2) a description of area or areas to be included in the JEDD 2 District by the Amendment, (3) a map of the areas in sufficient detail to denote the specific boundaries of the area or areas, and (4) a zoning map indicating zoning district classifications and any restrictions applicable to the area or areas, the Economic Development Plan for the JEDD, and the income tax schedule; and

WHEREAS, the description of the Property sought to be added to the JEDD 2 district is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, the owner of the Property has expressed approval of the Amendment of the JEDD 2 Contract to add the Property to the JEDD 2 District; and

WHEREAS, both Harpersfield and Geneva agree that amending the JEDD 2 Contract to add the Property to the JEDD 2 District furthers the above-stated purposes for which the JEDD 2 District was created; and

WHEREAS, Harpersfield has held its public hearing on September 13, 2021, regarding the proposed Amendment that allows public comment and recommendations on the proposed Amendment and the JEDD 2 District as amended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Harpersfield Township, Ashtabula County, State of Ohio as follows:

SECTION 1. That Harpersfield by and through its Board of Trustees finds and determines that the Second Amendment of the JEDD 2 District will facilitate economic development to create and preserve jobs and employment opportunities and to improve the economic welfare of the people in the State of Ohio and in the areas of Harpersfield and Geneva.

SECTION 2. That the Harpersfield Township Board of Trustees shall execute and deliver such instruments and certificates necessary to effectuate the amendment of the JEDD 2 District by this resolution.

SECTION 3. That the property shall be subject to the same terms and conditions of the JEDD 2 contract located in the JEDD 2 district.

SECTION 4. All other terms and conditions of the JEDD 2 contract, and amendments thereto not in conflict herewith shall remain the same and shall not be altered, amended, or otherwise affected, in any way by execution of the 2021 JEDD 2 contract second amendment.

SECTION 5. It is found and determined that all formal actions of the Board of Trustees of Harpersfield Township concerning and relating to the adoption of the resolution were taken in an open meeting of the Board of Trustees of Harpersfield Township and that all deliberations of this Board that resulted in those formal actions were in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including section 121.11 of the ORC.

NOW, THEREFORE, this resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval by the Board of Trustees and as further provided under Ohio law.

Ray made a motion to adopt the resolution as read; Ed seconded; the Board voted thusly:

Pristov, yes

Spoor, yes

Gruber Jr, yes

Ray informed the Board that we were awarded a \$1,000 grant from the Dept of Commerce for a Cemetery Grant. This is a matching grant and is to be used to repair and reset monuments.

Ray read the following resolution #0913-21-2:

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE VILLAGE OF GENEVA-ON-THE-LAKE'S SUPPORT FOR LOCAL CONTROL OF THE LODGE AT GENEVA-ON-THE-LAKE, A CONTINUED FUNDING SOURCE FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE LODGE AT GENEVA-ON-THE-LAKE, CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE LODGE AT GENEVA-ON-THE-LAKE BY THE DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES, INC. AND TRANSPARENT DECISION-MAKING OF THE LODGE AT GENEVA-ON-THE-LAKE WITH STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT WHEREAS, the Lodge at Geneva-on-the-Lake (GOTL) has been under the ownership of Ashtabula County and operated by Delaware North Companies, Inc. since its construction within the Village of GOTL, Ohio in 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Ashtabula County Conventions Facility Authority has overseen the Lodge at GOTL by leading revenue enhancement projects and contributing to its debt service since int construction; and WHEREAS, the Lodge at GOTL is a partnership between Ashtabula County and the State of Ohio due to the State of Ohio being financially unable to construct a new State Park lodge and Ashtabula County being able to finance the construction of the Lodge at GOTL for \$22,000,000.00 in 2004 and WHEREAS, Ashtabula County's annual debt service is \$1,300,000.00) paid for with revenue from a bed tax, a lodging tax, the Ashtabula County Conventions.Facility Authority, the Lodge at GOTL, the Village of GOTL the GOTL Visitors Bureau, and the Ashtabula County Conventions and Visitors Bureau; and WHEREAS, the Lodge at GOTL's new attractions, features and amenities continue to help it achieve continuous record-breaking years in revenue and maintain the Lodge at GOTL's average annual revenue growth of 11%; and

WHEREAS, Delaware North Companies, Inc. has invested several millions of dollars into the Lodge at GOTL in the form of pool area renovations, 25 lakeside cottages, and a zipline course; and

WHEREAS, the Lodge at GOTL accounts for more than 25% of the bed tax revenue that funds the Ashtabula County Conventions and Visitors Bureau; and

WHEREAS, the Lodge at GOTL's distinctive presence along the shore of Lake Erie is an integral part of Ashtabula County's attraction of hundreds of thousands of new visitors each year, as well as enhance the appeal and real property values of an area rich in recreational, historical and entertainment offerings throughout Ashtabula County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Harpersfield Township Board of Trustees, Ashtabula County, Ohio, concurs with the following:

SECTION 1. That Harpersfield Township Trustees herein declares its desire for the Lodge at GOTL to remain under local control of the Ashtabula County Conventions and Facilities Authority in its current capacity.

SECTION 2. That Harpersfield Township Trustees herein declares its desire for the Lodge GOTL to continue current funding sources through revenue from the lodging and bed taxes for continued maintenance and revenue enhancement projects.

SECTION 3. That Harpersfield Township Trustees herein declares its desire for the Lodge at GOTL is to continue its current contract with Delaware North Companies, Inc. and to approve subsequent renewal periods that have been agreed upon and set.

SECTION 4. That Harpersfield Township Trustees herein declares its desire for decision-making of the further of the Lodge at GOTL be conducted with Ashtabula County stakeholders' involvement in a public and transparent manner.

SECTION 5. That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of the Harpersfield Township Board of Trustees concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Harpersfield Township Board of Trustees and that all deliberations of this Board were conducted in an open meeting and was open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the ORC.

Ray made a motion to adopt the resolution as read; Ed seconded; the Board voted thusly:

Pristov, yes

Spoor, yes

Gruber Jr, yes

Ray spoke with Jeff Jenks about the trees that were cut down between Harper Valley Lane and the cemetery fence. Ray has not talked to Cody to find out why they were cut down. The Board agreed to grind the stumps and determine if something needs to replace the trees. Sharon suggested Ray talk to Cody to get more information before a decision is made.

Ray informed the Board that we just received correspondence that further information is needed to complete the indigent burial reimbursement request that was submitted in August 2020. He will gather the required paperwork and submit it.

Ed and Jim commented that it was another successful year for the clean up day event being held at Doherty's; over 115 vehicles went through.

The Board complimented Larry on the cosmetic work he has done on the bike trail. He has expanded the mowing area to create a large buffer between the trail and the tree line. He planted trees and bushes to separate the Spire parking area from the trail. If you enjoy walking, it is a nice asset to residents to have a safe place to walk without traffic. Even though it wraps around the Spire complex, it is owned and maintained by the Township and is there for all to use (if you bring your 4-legged friend with you please have them on a leash and pick up after them). If you would like to donate to the maintenance of the trail or for future cosmetics (benches – dog poop bag stations etc.) please contact Sharon at the Township office (440 466-2242).

Ed has contacted Bill Conrad to create signs for the bike trail “Harpersfield Trail” to be mounted on the wooden railings.

Alice Vervais asked if signs could be put up on the bike trail “dogs on leash”; informed the Board that trash is being dumped on vacant property on Bishop Road; requested that a message informing the caller they have reached the Twp Road Dept be recorded on the answering machine.

Meeting adjourned until September 27, 2021

James Pristov

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

Sharon Rohrbaugh