

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on October 24, 2022

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 8:30 PM in the Township Administration Building. Ed Spoor, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

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

Employees: Cody Craine

Visitors: Richard Leskovec; Renee and Rich Hanyok; Larry Lister

The minutes from the regular session held on October 10, 2022, were reviewed. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Ray seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody informed the Board that the Mack truck chassis is done and at Austinburg Truck Center; he received a trade in quote of \$9,500 for the 2003 Mack truck and recommended that we accept the offer. Ray made a motion to accept the \$9,500 trade in quote for the 2003 Mack truck and Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody stated that the cinder shed and storage bay is full; he added that he hauled concrete to Simak and brought back the cinders.

Cody informed Ray that he has installed the gate at the end of LaFevre Road.

Cody commented that Southeastern Equipment informed him that they found a mouse nest in the mini excavator and that multiple wires were chewed; Cody and the Board have issues that the mouse came from the Township yard as Southeastern has had the excavator for months trying to determine what is wrong with it; Cody will continue to discuss this with Southeastern as who is responsible for paying for the repairs.

Cody described to the Board that currently the road crew has to receive road salt at the yard and transport to the storage bay and then when needed transport it back to the yard; this is a time consuming process; therefore, Cody would like to construct a new building to store the salt at the yard and eliminate the transfer process. He has a quote for a 30x34x18 building that would hold up to 300 ton of salt. The quote from SteelMasters Building for the metal is \$12,680. Cody would like to place the metal roof section on concrete blocks and estimates cost of \$4,000. He stated that he would put in concrete floor but Ed suggested asphalt as salt eats and crumbles concrete over time. Cody said that was better idea as price of concrete is high right now and the road crew could do the asphalt floor themselves. Ray made a motion to allow up to \$25,000 to construct the building; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody stated that the recycle bins would have to be moved as where they currently are located in the road garage yard is where Cody will construct the new salt building. The Board discussed a new location and could not decide on a new area that would work out for the community. Ray will contact Jake and let him know that the recycle bins would have to be re-located out of Harpersfield Township.

Jim made a motion to pay the following bills: #13213 through #13229; totaling \$21,232.66; Ray seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #231-2022 through #244-2022; totaling \$22,521.83

Sharon commented that we received the 2023 Cemetery Grant check for \$1,000; this is used to repair headstone footers.

Sharon informed the Board that she received the 2023 agreement from Ashtabula County Emergency Management Services. Ray made a motion to enter into an agreement with Ashtabula County Commissioners/EMA where EMA would be authorized to exercise any power, perform any function or render any service on the Township's behalf. Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Jim attended the Spire open house and stated it was a good event to show off the campus and found out that they plan to add pickle ball courts and a ninja center.

Jim questioned Ray if it would be possible to add Ed Sezon's property to TIF district #2; Ray said at this stage it would be possible and will contact Atty Lucas.

Ray informed the Board that he received confirmation of \$25,000 grant from ODOT to cover materials to create the bike trail extension. He was told that the extension should be completed one year from when he signed the application which he thinks was in the spring of 2022. Cody will construct the base now and apply the asphalt in the spring.

Ray contacted Rich Sheppard as to the status of painting the soffit on the old town hall building; Rich replied he was waiting on direction from Ed; Ed will contact Rich and resolve the issue.

Ray reported on the JEDD board meeting: the Board is continuing to have discrepancies with Nextsite over successor fees (Ray found in the JEDD Feb 2021 minutes that Nextsite would be entitled to successor fee for Starbucks); Atty Gary Pasqualone will review and respond to the matter; the JEDD board asked Atty Pasqualone if he will be liaison to replace Eddy Eckart.

Ray commented that with the help of Assistant Prosecutor Colgan, he created an agreement between the Township and Sam Purkey that gives Mr. Purkey permission to mow/maintain the rightaway of Gladstone Drive (that currently is not being used as a road); the agreement also states that the Township can extend Gladstone Drive at any time deemed necessary which will nullify this agreement. Ray added that he had the Ashtabula County Engineer stake out the rightaway so Mr. Purkey is aware of the boundaries. Ray made a motion to appoint Mr. Purkey as a volunteer of the Township; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor. Ray will meet with Mr. Purkey to discuss the agreement and get his signature.

Ray informed the Board that he wrote a letter of support for NOPEC as the company is going through a difficult time right now and is going before the PUCO board as other electric companies are pushing to have NOPEC decertified. He added that the Township has been with NOPEC since 2000.

Ray stated that he made an error when asking to renew the full page ad in the Visitor Bureau's guide. He needs \$150 more to pay the renewal. The Board agreed to pay the extra amount.

Ray mentioned that he was contacted by Greg Mayers, Growth Partnership, regarding the Appalachian grant. He asked the Board and Cody for project suggestions. Three projects were decided: Old Orchard storm drains and paving; Bishop Road resurface concrete section; Bishop Road water line in cooperation with Ashtabula County.

Ray amended the Employee Handbook in Appendix H – ORC 124.388 Administrative Leave

- (A) The Township Trustees may, in its discretion, place an employee on administrative leave with pay. Administrative leave with pay is to be used only in circumstances where the health or safety of an employee or of any person or property entrusted to the employee's care could be adversely affected including maternity leave. Compensation for administrative leave with pay is solely at the discretion of the Township Trustees, but shall not exceed the length of the situation for which the leave was granted. The Township Trustees may also grant administrative leave with pay of two days or less for employees who are move in accordance with Section 124.33 of the ORC. Employees who are requesting maternity leave upon approval of the Township Trustees will be eligible for up to two (2) weeks pay. If additional leave is requested upon approval of the Township Trustees vacation or sick leave will be utilized up to four (4) weeks.

Ray made a motion to adopt the amendment; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Renee Hanyok suggested a sidewalk and crosswalk near the Rt. 534 and Old Orchard area; Ray will contact ODOT to get options.

Larry Lister reported that we have vehicles driving on the bike trail and he is concerned that walkers are going to get injured. Ray commented that he spoke with Ashtabula County Metro Parks and they stated that they are having the same issue on their trails.

Meeting adjourned until November 14, 2022

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Raymond Gruber Jr

Sharon Rohrbaugh