

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on March 14, 2022

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 9:20 PM in the Harpersfield 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: Larry Lister, Cody Craine

Visitors: Rich and Renee Hanyok; Bob Keyerleber; Jeff Jenks

The minutes from the regular session held on February 28, 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 he replaced two catch basins in the Administration Building's parking lot. He added that the parking lot is in bad shape and needs to have work done; he is suggesting digging up about a foot to be able to build a new base and create a slope that will allow water to flow away from the fire truck bay area. He stated that would be a good time to redo the sidewalk and to install under ground wiring for the light pole.

Cody commented that he has purchased #8; #411; #304 stone from Simak Trucking under the price quote that expires March 31, 2022. He is attempting to stock pile as much as he can under last year's prices as he has been told there will be a price increase starting April 1, 2022.

Cody stated that American Electric has replaced the electrical panel in the garage but not the outside lights.

Cody informed the Board that the transmission on the backhoe needs to be rebuilt or replaced. He will get more information on best option and he added that he will be renting a backhoe while repairs are being done.

Cody would like to hold the bid opening for 60,000 gallons of CRS-2 and 10,000 gallons of AEP on April 11, 2022 at 6:45 PM.

Cody requested that Ray ask the Ashtabula County Engineer to put together a packet to pave Old Orchard and Pamona Drive.

We received information from the Ashtabula County Engineer regarding the concrete on Bishop Road; it would be very expensive to bust the concrete up as it is reinforced with rebar it is recommended to just apply an overlay of cold mix and the following year cover with CRS-2.

Cody commented that he met with a rep from Gray Stone Construction to get information about building a salt shed. He showed the Trustees the brochure and stated he would do more investigating and visit other Townships that have constructed similar buildings to get ideas.

Ray made a motion to pay the following bills: #12898 through #12920; totaling \$15,798.35; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #38-2022 through 44-2022; totaling \$1,523.34.

Trustee Gruber made a motion to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township has received a distribution of monies (ARPA Funds) from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA or the ACT); and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Act Effective March 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Section 603 created the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund which, among other things, appropriated money to nonentitlement units of local government to mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19); and

WHEREAS, Section 603© generally provides that:

USE OF FUNDS: a nonentitlement unit of local government shall only use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover costs incurred by the nonentitlement unit of local government by December 31, 2024 –

For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of nonentitlement unit of local government due to the Covid-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the nonentitlement unit of local government prior to the emergency WHEREAS, Department of Treasury Final Rule, published on January 6, 2022, and effective April 1, 2022, provides in part that:

Treasury presumes that up to \$10 million in revenue has been lost due to the public health emergency and recipients are permitted to use that amount to fund "government services".

WHEREAS, the Rule further observes that:

The standard allowance provides an estimate of revenue loss that is based on an extensive analysis of average revenue loss across states and localities, and offers a simple, convenient way to determine revenue loss particularly for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund's smallest recipients. This change is intended to promote administrative efficiency and simplify revenue loss calculation for smaller recipients.

WHEREAS, the rule further clarifies that recipients can use:

SLFRF funds on government services up to the revenue loss amount for the standard allowance.

Government services generally include any service traditionally provided by a government, unless treasury has stated otherwise.

WHEREAS, Government services is deemed by Treasury the most flexible eligible use category under the SLFRF program, and funds are subject to streamlined reporting and compliance requirements; and

WHEREAS, funds utilized pursuant to the standard revenue loss allowance continue to have certain restrictions, including:

Deposit into pension funds

Satisfaction of settlements or judgments

Contributions to financial reserves or "rainy day" funds

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board that:

The Township elects to use the standard allowance and its presumption of revenue loss due to the public health emergency and to use the amount authorized herein to fund government services.

No obligations paid under the authority of this Resolution were incurred prior to March 3, 2021.

Trustee Pristov seconded the motion, and thereupon, the Board voted thusly: Pristov, yes; Gruber, yes; Spoor, yes

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: THAT IT IS HEREBY FOUND AND DETERMINED THAT ALL FORMAL ACTIONS OF THIS Township concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Township Trustees, and that all deliberations of the Township Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the ORC.

Sharon commented that we have to be alert if Gov. DeWine waives or decreases the gas tax as this will significantly affect the road and bridge funds.

Sharon informed the Board that she received the "Transient Lodging Tax Collection Intergovernmental Agreement" from the Ashtabula County Commissioners. The Board stated that they will leave the decision up to her; Sharon stated that she is comfortable with the relationship that she has with the "hosts" and does not want to participate with the County at this time; the Board accepted her decision.

Jim commented that he spoke with Austinburg Trustee Dutton regarding a fire district and he said he would send out letter to determine if there is interest in developing a fire district with the surrounding townships.

Ray stated that he would like to create a six member committee to discuss the "center of the roundabout". It was decided Ray (would represent the Twp); Nick Ferrante (rep the wineries); Bob Keyerleber; Larry Lister; Donnelle Winchell; Stephanie (visitor bureau).

Bob Keyerleber submitted drawings and material to ODOT for the artwork to be constructed in the center of the roundabout and received approval; he also requested aesthetic lighting and received approval that would be paid for as part of the project and maintained by ODOT. If committee decides to install low voltage lighting to light up the sculpture the Township would have to pay for it.

Ray informed the Board that he has spoken with Pat Tutolo (owner of the grange building) and posted letter to him regarding the clean up of the burned down structure. The last letter (dated March 13, 2022) informs Pat that he has until March 31, 2022 or the Trustee's will move forward in cleaning of the property if he fails to do so.

Ray stated that the Board received resumes for the road crew position and will conduct interviews on March 16th.

Jeff Jenks attended the meeting and gave the Board a drawing of his idea to plant arborvitae to replace the trees removed that were encroaching the cemetery fence on Harper Valley Lane. The Board will review and investigate his plans and decide at a later time.

Ray asked for the Board's opinion on how to move forward on getting a company to mow the cemeteries this summer. We can advertisement or just make phone calls. After discussing the options, the Board decided to make phone calls instead of advertising.

Ed commented that he is continuing to work on the South River Road water line and determine how many property owners are interested.

Ed gave the Board a copy of the Spire complex showing new construction ideas and "roads" that Jonathan, Spire, plan to build and as the Board, Cody and Larry reviewed the drawing the list of questions grew; therefore, it was decided to meet with Jonathan and get the questions answered.

Meeting adjourned until March 28, 2022

Edwin Spoor

Raymond Gruber Jr

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh