

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on April 10, 2023

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

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh

Employees: Marty Pitkin; Cody Craine

Visitors: Rich and Renee Hanyok

The minutes from the regular session held on March 27, 2023 were reviewed. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Marty reported that the BZA held and approved two conditional use applications: Jeff Jenks applied for undersized lots for two lots that he would like to sell and had previously donated the land to the conservatory making them now undersized lots; Jesse Bilicic applied for lot setbacks for a garage he wants to build and it would put the building to close to property lot lines but since the property is surrounded by Township property the BZA approved the application and Jesse agreed to plant trees on the property lines.

Cody commented on an issue that has come up regarding "prevailing wage" when bidding for dust control. The Board cancelled opening the bids and will look into this situation to decide how to move forward.

Cody stated that if we are going to continue contracting the cemetery mowing, we should sell our lawnmower, he has two townships interested in purchasing, the mower only has 170 hours on it, Sharon will look to see what we paid for the mower and decision will be made at next meeting.

Cody would like to list the pick up truck bed and the 7 foot brush hog on GovDeals; the Board agreed to allow this.

Cody informed the Board that he received a quote to apply insulation on the ceiling and exterior walls of the unfinished garage bay area from Boak and Sons, Youngstown OH, for \$21,030. The Board will allow the use of the \$5,600 NOPEC grant funds to be used toward this project and Ed made a motion to pay the balance of \$15,430 (out of road and bridge funds) to complete this project; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed made a motion to pay the following bills: #13517 through #13537; totaling \$16,170.20; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #46-2023 through #50-2023; totaling \$4,417.60.

Sharon asked the Board if they wanted to renew contract with Avalon to spray the Admin Building; the Board voted to continue this process and Ray will contact them.

Sharon informed the Board of the information she has obtained for the fire truck bond. Andover Bank created an amortization schedule that gave the principal and interest payments and with that information the County Auditor created what we would need for millage will be 1.3 mills for ten years.

Sharon also informed the Board that our five year 1.5 mills fire levy will be up to be put on the ballot in November.

The Board suggested that the Firemen revisit the cost of the truck and this will be discussed at a later meeting.

Sharon offered Marty mileage reimbursement to drive the township for zoning matters as most people will not come to Marty for a permit but he will have to keep watch on new construction.

Ed commented that he is still pursuing the trail that is being planned to go from Harpersfield to Austinburg on the north side of I-90.

Ed asked Marty to make sure Harrison condos have zoning permits for the newest condos being built.

Jim stated that we will host the Ashtabula County Township Association meeting on May 18th at the Spire complex; the Board agreed to pay up to \$500 for a catered meal (Jonathan agreed to pay the balance if necessary).

Ray stated that he has signed the paperwork with ODOT to release the funds for the bike trail extension that will reimburse the township for materials purchased last fall.

Ray made a motion to hold a hearing on May 8, 2023 at 6:30 PM to amend the Dollar General property that was included in TIF#1 as residential property and now will be included in TIF#2 as commercial. He added that there are two parcels in TIF#2 that are listed as residential: Duffy Chiropractic Clinic and Ed Sezon's property (where the driving school is). He is going to appeal to the Ashtabula County Auditor that they need to be changed to commercial.

The Board discussed an article that was in the Grassroot Clippings regarding solar panels. They asked Marty to do some research and start the process to amend the zoning text.

Larry Lister informed the Board of the issues he is having with vehicles driving on the bike trail. The Board will discuss this matter with Jonathon and Spire employees and see if the matter can be resolved.

Meeting adjourned until April 24, 2023

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh