

# HARPERFIELD TOWNSHIP

## REGULAR SESSION

Held on April 24, 2023

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 8:40 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: Cody Craine; Frank Henry

Visitors: Matt Rahija; Joe Craft

The minutes from the regular session held on April 10, 2023 were reviewed. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Ed seconded the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Frank and Ed discussed hydrant locations on Jeff Jenks extension of Harper Valley Lane. Frank will meet with Jeff to review the proposed hydrant locations.

Frank informed the Board that Tim Bowling has resigned from HVFD.

Frank commented that he found a local company that will apply undercoating material to the fire trucks; the first one to be done will be Unit 662.

Frank inspected the emergency exit on the Spire property and informed Spire employee Sean Bell that more stone needs to be added and Mr. Bell agreed he would see that it is taken care of.

The Board discussed the fire truck bond levy and after reviewing the numbers Frank recommended to the Board that we put the purchase of a new fire truck on hold for now; the Board agreed to his recommendation.

After discussing the dust control bid requirements, the Board decided to rebid the dust control to be opened on May 8, 2023, at 6:45 PM, in the Adm Building.

Cody questioned if any of the road crew needed to be at the "time capsule ceremony" on October 14, 2023. Ray informed him that would not be necessary.

The Board agreed to offer our zero turn rear discharge mower to either Saybrook Township or Trumbull Township for \$7,000; Cody will let them know the Board's decision.

Ed made a motion to pay the following bills: #13537 through #13548; totaling \$112,826.32; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #51-2023 through #63-2023; totaling \$383,142.04.

Sharon informed the Board that we received the "opt out forms from NOPEC". The Board agreed to enroll in the NOPEC program for electricity for all township buildings.

Ed and Jim attended the Ashtabula County Township Association meeting and Ed reported on a motion made on Prosecutor O'Toole failing in her responsibilities to the County, Townships, and residents. The Townships are receiving slow responses to questions and/or opinions. After much discussion ensued a vote of "no confidence" failed 18 votes to 9.

Ed commented that as he was inspecting the bike trail with Larry they observed a tractor spreading stone; when Spire employee Sean Bell was confronted he said that was not happening but after more discussion admitted that it was becoming a problem. He offered to put up cameras to determine who is driving on the trail. The Board agreed to this with both Spire and the Township able to view the footage.

Ed informed the Board that Cliff Henry resigned from the BZA.

Joe Craft stated that he would be interested in serving on the BZA as an alternate.

Ray postponed the public hearing for TIF#2 until May 22, 2023, at 6:45 PM in the Adm Building.

Ray made a motion to adopt the Quit-Claim Deed between Ashtabula County Commissioners and Harpersfield Township the property situated on the north side of the Adm Building/Fire Station located at 1481 Harpersfield Road; Jim seconded; the Board voted thusly: Spoor, yes; Pristov, yes; Gruber, yes

Ray stated that the Board will meet with the County to discuss CRA that could occur in our Township on May 16, 2023, at 2 PM in the County Court House.

Ray reported that an eviction summons was served by the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department to the party living in the camper on the "grange" property recently purchased by new property owner. The deadline to remove the camper from the property was April 28, 2023.

Matt Rahija was in attendance to discuss the volunteer insurance policy that the Township has. He would like to file a claim for the death benefits for firemen that passed away in 2019. Sharon stated that she will verify the policy is current and find out who the contact is that can answer what the time frame is to file claims.

If possible to file the claim from 2019, Jim made a motion to authorize Matt as a representative to file the claim; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Meeting adjourned until May 8, 2023

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh