

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on February 13, 2023

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 9:05 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, Marty Pitkin

Visitors: Rich and Renee Hanyok

The minutes from the regular session held on January 23, 2023 were reviewed. Ed made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Marty informed the Board that Jeff Jenks will file for a lot size variance (he has 2 undersize lots that he wants to sell on the new cul-de-sac); Jesse Bilicic will file for a variance for an accessory building.

Cody will meet with a rep from Suite-Kote to discuss a new surface treatment (similar to cold mix); he is getting a quote to apply the new product on Hemlock Lane.

Cody informed the Board that he will be installing 400 feet of pipe and one catch basin to correct a drainage issue on Van Pelt Road (near Rt. 84).

The Board agreed to allow Cody to purchase road signs and posts at a cost of \$3005 from Newman Signs.

Cody stated that since Lenox Equipment is closing March 1, 2023, he has to find a new outlet to purchase oil and hytran. He found a company from Wellington OH that will deliver bulk but only if he can get enough people to get a full load; he will continue to pursue this.

Jim made a motion to pay the following bills: #13424 through #13454; totaling \$48,880.24; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #1-2023 through #13-2023; totaling \$17,178.27.

Jim made a motion to adopt:

Be it resolved by the Board of Township Trustees that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said Board of Trustees, during the fiscal year, ending December 31, 2023, the following sums be and the same hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made for and during the fiscal year, as follows:

General Fund	505,925.67
Motor Vehicle License Tax	37,099.39
Gasoline Tax	274,504.56
Road & Bridge	599,111.32
Cemetery Fund	16,895.88
Bike Trail	3,000.00
Zoning	12,526.72
Fire Levy	175,328.71
Permissive Motor Vehicle	19,076.71
Fire Truck Loan	713.85
Fire Truck Bond	2,707.67
ARPA funds	119,051.89
Street Lighting	22,073.37
Building Bond	22,552.73
Fire Truck Bond	3,197.85
PACE	176,962.70
Cemetery Grant	2,000.00
JEDD III sewer project	83,422.75
2023 Dump Truck	29,766.29
2020 Dump Truck	26,900.00

Backhoe 29,400.00

Total appropriations for these funds for 2023: \$2,162,218.06

Ed seconded the motion, the Board voted thusly: Spoor, yes; Pristov, yes; Gruber, yes

Ed commented that he spoke with Alex Iarrocchi, Appalachian, regarding possible grant money to build a trail from Kwik Fill to Austinburg to extend the Greenway Trail.

The Board discussed some options to close off the bike trail for Spire events. A gate across the bridge seemed to be a good option. The Board decided that more info from Spire was necessary to determine where else Spire needed the trail closed.

Jim announced that there would not be a Community Day in July.

Ray stated that the Township was approved for the NOPEC Community Day grant and the \$1500 would be going to the clean up day expenses.

Ray attended the Sheriff's Sale and announced that the grange property was purchased for enough money to cover the Township's expenses that were incurred to clean up the burnt building debris.

Ray informed the Board that we have been awarded a NOPEC Energized Community grant of \$5,676. The Board discussed projects for these funds; it was decided to pursue cost of installing a generator at the Road garage.

Jim made a motion to accept the NOPEC grant agreement:

NOPEC ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT for 2023

A Resolution authorizing all actions necessary to accept NOPEC 2023 Energized Community Grant WHEREAS, Harpersfield Township ("Grantee") is a member of NOPEC and is eligible for one or more NOPEC Energized Community Grant(s) for 2023 as provided for in the NEC Grant Program guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Grantee wishes to enter into a Grant Agreement with NOPEC in substantially the form presented to this Board of Trustees to receive one or more NEC Grant(s); and

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it ordained by Harpersfield Board of Trustees, Ashtabula County, Ohio, that: SECTION 1 – this Board of Trustees finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the Grantee to enter into the Grant Agreement to accept the NEC grant for 2023, and authorizes the Chairman of the Board to execute the Grant Agreement to accept the NEC grant funds.

SECTION 2 – this Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board and that all deliberations of this Board were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

Ed seconded the motion; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ray read an article regarding the time capsule that was buried in September 1998:

On September 13, 1998 a group of about 30 people attended ceremonies at the Alexander Harper Memorial Cemetery (Unionville Cemetery). The occasion, the last in a year of Bicentennial events, was to bury the time capsule containing items that will be of interest in 100 years. The capsule will be opened every 25 years, on June 28 (2023—2048—2073—2098), the anniversary of the landing of the Harpers in the Western Reserve. At that time, the items will be checked and more items added. Then on June 28, 2098, the capsule will be opened and the contents revealed.

Ray was contacted by a member of the Harper and was informed that the family will have an event in October and they are asking if the time capsule can be opened then (instead of in June); after discussing this, the Board decided to have Ray try to find members of the original committee and let them decide June or October.

Ray received a letter from the County Commissioners that was sent to "Elected Official and Departments" to clarify a correspondence that was sent out from County Prosecutor O'Toole regarding a budget issue. It mentions the budget where it pertains to the Assistant Prosecutor and that the Commissioners to not dictate how Prosecutor O'Toole appropriates her funds and that she has full discretion to determine what positions that she decides a priority to serve the needs of the Ashtabula County.

Ray received a response from Chad Root, ODOT, regarding the Spire traffic light.

The Blue Ocean (Spire) study evaluation showed signal warrants were not met at the Rt. 534 and Old Orchard intersection. The study showed if a signal were installed at that intersection, northbound Rt. 534 traffic would back up and negatively affect the interchange with I-90. For these reasons, we cannot construct a signal at Rt. 534 and Old Orchard. The study is evaluating signal warrants at the intersection

of R.t 534 and Spire Circle, which would have less likelihood of negatively impacting I-90, should it be warranted. Another study evaluated a need for a traffic signal further north at Rt. 534 and Clay Street. Turning movements counts collected in August 2021 show a signal is not currently warranted at this intersection.

Meeting adjourned until February 27, 2023

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh