

# HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

## REGULAR SESSION

Held on May 22, 2023

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 10 PM in the Township Administration Building. Raymond Gruber Jr, 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: Renee and Rich Hanyok

The minutes from the bid opening and the regular session held on May 8, 2023, were reviewed. Ed made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as written; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Marty was contacted by a company that is building wine barrel structures at wineries to be used as Airbnb units. The Trustees thought it was a unique idea but would have to be given to the wineries to see if they would be interested as the structures would be built on their property.

Cody informed the Board that Suit-Kote will apply our dust control product on the roads in August.

Cody stated that the Clyde Hill road and bridge are open for the summer months.

As the Board has been receiving complaints from Joe Kochevar, 4876 Leslie Road, regarding the road right of way has been constructed wrong. It has been that way for years and Cody commented that it is within the right of way and would cost over \$100,000 to correct. After hearing Cody's explanation, the Board agreed to leave the road as is and will support Cody on the decision to do so. Cody also explained to the Board that he will finish cleaning the ditch on Leslie Road as soon as the new house being built is completed.

Jim made a motion to pay the following bills: #13572 through #13589; totaling \$13,128.99; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #79-2023 through #89-2023; totaling \$55,528.88.

Jim made a motion that it is necessary to levy a tax outside the ten-mill limitation and will seek to have a levy approved by the electors of Harpersfield Township to be held at the General election held on November 7, 2023. The Board is hereby requesting that the Ashtabula County Auditor certify the total current tax valuation of Harpersfield Township and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by 1.5 mills. The purpose of the proposed tax is to provide and maintain fire service and/or fire equipment for five years commencing and appearing on the tax list for the years 2024 first due in calendar year 2025. Such tax will be submitted to a vote and shall be a renewal of an existing levy of 1.5 mills. Ed seconded the adoption of this resolution and the vote was the following:

Raymond Gruber	yes	James Pristov	yes	Edwin Spoor	yes
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Ed reported that neighboring residents of the old town hall property have been riding four wheelers on the township property and causing damage to the lawn etc. Ed spoke with the residents and told them they were not allowed to be on Township property and to repair the lawn damage.

Ed spoke with Sheriff Niemi and asked if he could patrol the Bishop Road more often. Ed said that someone abandoned a boat on Bishop Road.

Ed spoke with Sean Bell, Spire employee, regarding two of their houses on Beringer Place that grass needs to be cut and repairs to a shed door; Sean stated he would take care of it.

Ed commented that Starbucks did install the ADA plates where their driveway cut across our bike trail.

Jim commented that the County Township Association meeting (that we hosted at the Spire complex) went well and about 45 members attended.

Ray reported that he found documentation that the Township put Bishop Road and LaFevre Road on non-maintenance status in November 2004. After the Board reviewed ORC 5571.20, Ed made a motion to reverse the non-maintenance status for both Bishop and LaFevre Roads; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor. Ray will contact County Engineer Tim Martin for guidance.

Ray reported that the Board held a public hearing prior to our regular meeting for the purpose of creating TIF#3. When we created TIF#1 the Dollar General property was residential and now commercial so instead of amending TIF#1 it was recommended to create TIF#3.

Ray moved to adoption the following resolution:

A resolution declaring improvements to certain parcels of real property to be a public purpose, describing the public infrastructure improvements to be made to directly benefit those parcels, requiring the owners thereof to make service payments in lieu of taxes and establishing a tax increment equivalent fund; and related authorizations.

Jim seconded the adoption and the Board voted as follows:

Raymond Gruber Jr yes      James Pristov yes      Edwin Spoor yes

Ray commented that the Board met with the Ashtabula County Commissioners in an informational session regarding the CRA (Community Revitalization Act) because Spire wants to add work force housing to the agreement. The Board informed the Commissioners that this must comply with our zoning. Ed made a motion to back the Commissioners to amend the existing agreement to allow work force housing; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Jim made a motion to write a letter of support for the traffic light at Spire Drive; Ray seconded; the Board agreed unanimously in favor.

Ray made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters; Jim seconded; roll call: Jim-yes; Ed-yes; Ray-yes

Ray made a motion to adjourn the executive session; Jim seconded; roll call:

Jim-yes; Ed-yes; Ray-yes

The regular meeting was adjourned until June 12, 2023

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh