

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on November 27, 2023

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

James Pristov

Mickey Mihalick

Edwin Spoor

Sharon Rohrbaugh

Employees: Cody Craine; Larry Lister

Visitors: Greg and Matt Henry; Sandy Cinkole; Jeff Griffiths

The minutes from the regular session held on November 13, 2023, were reviewed. Ed made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Mickey seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody informed the Board that he met with Jeff Jenks regarding the situation on Harper Valley that Jeff wants to use the cul-de-sac as a round-a-bout for the extension to Harper Valley. Cody does not recommend that we allow this and use his plan to eliminate the cul-de-sac and to make the road straight between the beginning of the cul-de-sac to the new road extension. After discussing the matter, the Board agreed with Cody to make the road straight through and to eliminate the cul-de-sac.

Cody announced that Clyde Hill bridge area is closed for the winter season.

Cody stated that the correct base plates (for the new salt building) arrived and have been installed.

Cody commented that Brobst Tree Service removed four trees from Maple Grove Cemetery. He added that the new property owner whose property abuts the cemetery has installed fencing surrounding their property and that includes around the Maple Grove Cemetery.

Larry informed the Board that he is dealing with a person living in a camper on property on South River Road East. Larry has been in contact with the property owner and they said the person should be moved out by Thanksgiving; Greg Henry stated that as of today it is still there.

Larry stated that AT&T will be adding antennas to the existing Verizon tower.

Larry commented that the BZA will be holding a conditional use hearing for Harpersfield Flats (apartments buildings) on Wednesday, November 29, 2023.

Larry commented that he is working with Jake (Ashtabula County Auditor's office) to update the zoning map.

Ed made a motion to pay the following bills: #13828 through #13837; totaling \$7,072.78; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #260-2023 through #272-2023; totaling \$16,320.79.

Sharon reported the renewal fire levy results held on November 7, 2023; for 1.5 mills for five years, commencing in 2024; total number of votes cast-1173; total for the tax levy-816; total against the tax levy-357.

Sharon questioned the Board if they wanted to proceed with the TIF hearing to be held in Columbus in January 2024 regarding the North Coast Driving school property being listed as residential property and not commercial which does not allow that property to be in the TIF. After discussing the issue, both Ed and Jim agreed to cancel the hearing as they believe it will be a waste of time as long as the Ashtabula County Auditor has this property listed as residential even though it has been used for commercial purposes for many years it is still a house with detached garage structure. Sharon will notify Attorney Lucas of their decision.

Mickey read Assistant Prosecutor Angiolelli's correspondence with Rich Odell (CEO of Spire) regarding motorized vehicles on the bike trail:

On 11-22-2023 – Atty Angiolelli wrote to Mr. Odell: "Thank you for chatting with me this week. I spoke with my client. They appreciate the cooperation and understanding of public safety concerns of not

using motorized vehicles on the trail. To memorialize our discussions, my client has expressed concerns regarding motorized vehicle use on the trail. You had indicated you have had recent conversations with my client about this issue, and you have already instructed your staff that there is not to be motorized vehicles on the walking trail. I would just kindly ask that you provide me a confirming email that your staff has been instructed not to use motorized vehicles, ATVs or otherwise on the trail.”

On 11-24-2023 – Rich Odell responded: “I have had conversations with each of the five on site Directors and am having a note put out to all staff clearly stating no SPIRE four wheel motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail at any time.”

Mickey added that the Prosecutor’s office is working on a legal opinion of ownership/easement of the bike trail.

Ed contacted Bill Strubble, ODOT, regarding the request make by Judge Schroeder of the crevice on the south/west corner of Cork Cold Springs Road and Rt. 534; it was repaired very quickly; Judge Schroeder was very pleased and thankful for the quick response.

Ed also discussed with Bill Judge Schroeder’s other concern of his daughter’s driveway visibility; there is not much the Township can do; Jim will talk to the Ashtabula County Engineer to see if they can help and possibly the Ashtabula County Commissioners or State Rep Sarah Fowler.

Jim reported on the JEDD board meeting and the moratorium that Geneva City has put on the growth of future construction in any of the JEDD areas. Geneva City is having a study done because the city’s sewer lines are 8 inch and the JEDD sewer line that connect to the City’s lines are 12 inch and are causing issues. The wastewater treatment has the capacity for the sewage but the decrease in the lines is the issue. Jim confronted the wastewater treatment rep and stated this is unacceptable as it stops all growth in the Township and this should have been addressed when the JEDD’s were created.

Jeff Griffiths was in attendance representing Geneva City Council to discuss the Electrification Coalition opportunity. He presented the info to the Board and asked the Board to consider joining the City in this venture.

Sandy Cinkole questioned the Board if a cremation wall has ever been considered to be constructed in one of the township’s cemeteries. Jim said that we looked into it years ago but it never materialized.

The meeting adjourned until December 11, 2023

James Pristov

Mickey Mihalick

Edwin Spoor

Sharon Rohrbaugh