

# HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

## REGULAR SESSION

Held on September 11, 2023

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 8:05 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: Larry Lister

Visitors: Rich and Renee Hanyok; Mickey Mihalick

The minutes from the regular session held on July 17, 2023 and August 21, 2023 and the bid opening held on August 21, 2023 were reviewed. Ray made a motion to approve both sets of minutes from the regular meetings and the bid opening minutes; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Larry informed the Board that the property on West Street with the "cabin" has been divided and the property owner where the "cabin" currently is placed is owned by Marty and Mary Ann Slaybaugh. They have been informed of the zoning situation with the "cabin" and Larry is working with them through the process to correct the situation.

Ed checked with the Ashtabula County Prosecutor regarding the previous owner being told by previous Township Zoning Official that the cabin would fall under agriculture. Assistant Prosecutor Pizmoht researched the matter and gave the opinion to not allow the agriculture ruling but to have Larry proceed as our zoning policy states. The Board agreed to stand behind Larry as he moves forward with this matter.

Larry commented that because the first Monday of September was a holiday the Zoning Commission cancelled their monthly meeting. Larry recommends that with all of the zoning issues happening in the Township that the Zoning Commission meet a minimum of once per month. The Board agreed with Larry and Ed will inform the Zoning Commission members.

Ray stated that Tony Kosicek spoke with him regarding yard signs advertising events. Ray spoke with Heidi Fought (Ohio Township Association) who informed him that "yard signs advertising events can be put on the property of the event" (example: if a winery wanted to advertise an event they can put signs up on their property). If signs are to be placed elsewhere, they must follow zoning rules.

Cody reported that with the help of the cemetery grant funds we have repaired 84 footers.

Cody questioned the Board regarding double urn burial and if we can charge the extra cost. After discussing the matter; Jim made a motion that burial will be charged "per person" and to be effective immediately; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody informed the Board that he placed 35 MPH signs up on VanPelt; Bishop; and Rt. 84.

Larry asked the Board if we can attach "Zoning Permits Required" signs to the Harpersfield Township signs; he would like 10 signs; the purpose of these signs is to let people know that we have zoning in our Township when moving to the Township from other areas.

Cody commented on the status of the salt building – the floor is done and the block wall is complete.

Cody reported that with the new house construction on Harper Valley Road the road is blown apart and will need to be repaired in the near future.

Cody stated that Southeastern Equipment is no longer renting equipment and is selling the used equipment; Cody is interested in a "hammer" attachment for the mini excavator for \$7500 used to break up concrete or shale; the Board unanimously agreed to this purchase.

Jim made a motion to pay the following bills: #13700 through #13734; totaling \$170,107.33; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #184-2023 through #198-2023; totaling \$28,103.42.

Sharon informed the Board that she signed a two year contract with NOPEC to be our street lighting supplier. This will save the Township half the cost of what we were paying with Illuminating Co.

Sharon commented that the property owner of 1970 South Broadway responded to the letter regarding the short term rental and registered the property and paid for June and July lodging tax.

Ed reported that the clean up day was a success with 77 vehicles bringing items.

Jim reported that he attended a ribbon cutting ceremony for ACMC now at the Spire complex in the aquatic building.

Jim stated that the repairs to the damaged lamp posts on Berringer Place will be delayed due to the recent storm outages/repairs.

Jim commented that he registered with <sup>FIRST ENERGY</sup> ~~NOPEC~~ for the tree program to be used for the Cork School tree project.

Ray commented that the balance of the NOPEC grant funds will be released.

Ray stated that Sam Purkey reported that a neighbor built a dog enclosure on the road right of way; Larry will look into it.

Ray reported that Tonia Varquette will be the Township representative for the Geneva Senior Center.

The meeting adjourned until September 25, 2023

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh