

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on September 25, 2023

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 7:50 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: Cody Craine; Frank Henry

Visitors: Sandy Cinkole; Louise Pristov; Lisa Linehan; Bob Wilhelm; Dave Snyder; Rich and Renee Hanyok; Sam Purkey, Toby Burgett; Mickey Mihalick; Ron Stettler

The minutes from the regular session held on September 11, 2023, were reviewed. Ed made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon informed the Board that the Road Dept used the MORE grant for the past two years and she would like to have the Fire Dept use it this year toward the purchase of safety vests. The Board agreed to this suggestion.

Frank stated that he will need to purchase supplies for the Fire Prevention program at Cork School. The Board agreed to this purchase with a cap of \$800.

Larry submitted a bill from Loudermilk Tractor Sales for repairs to his lawnmower he uses to mow the bike trail. Larry is asking how much of the \$917.90 bill the Board would be willing to help with. After discussing the matter, Jim made a motion to pay the entire bill; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cody stated that he received an estimate from American Electric to eliminate the overhead wiring; remove the pole; and to run underground wiring at a cost of \$8264. This pole is in the parking area on the south side of the Administration Building. The Board agreed to continue with the pole removal project with American Electric.

Cody commented that he ordered the "zoning signs" that Larry requested; ten signs for \$180.

Cody informed the Board that he completed a ditching project on both sides of Brandt Road.

Sharon informed the Board that the Ashtabula County Prosecutor signed the Koski Construction paving project contract and Koski has been given a copy of the signature pages and will be in contact with Geneva City regarding the sewer risers.

Jim made a motion to pay the following bills: #13735 through #13753; totaling \$44,448.98; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #199-2023 through #204-2023; totaling \$47,548.93.

Sharon commented that she spent time on the Airbnb site and found six short term rentals that were not registered with the Township. She sent letters out informing them of our 3% lodging tax.

Ed reported that he and Larry met with Rich O'Dell (Spire) regarding the bike trail. There is a discrepancy of who owns the bike trail – Spire or Township ?? We will reach out to the Ashtabula County Prosecutor for legal opinion on the recorded easements that were given to the Township by Ron Clutter (previous owner of Spire). In the meantime Rich stated that Spire will attempt to discontinue using the bike trail as a road.

Ashtabula County Engineer Tim Martin would like to partner up with the Township to work on the drainage problem on Jobey Trail and the road extension on Lafevre Road. Cody will get more info on this.

The Township has received information that the Harpersfield Dam bridge is scheduled to be complete in the spring of 2024.

Jim stated that the 2024 calendars should be delivered by end of September.

Ray reported that the paving on the bike trail extension is expected to be complete by end of September.

Ray informed the Board that he received a letter from Attorney Lucas that states the Board of Tax Appeals has denied the motion filed by the Ohio Attorney General's office regarding the TIF request for the Dollar General property. Jim or Ed will have to attend the trial on January 15, 2024 in Columbus.

Ray said his "good-bye" to the Township as his last day as Trustee is September 30, 2023!!!

The meeting adjourned until October 9, 2023

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh