

Regular Hiram Township Meeting minutes for  
August 20, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Hiram Township Hall

Present: Chairman Kathy Schulda, Steve Pancost and Jack Groselle

This meeting is being taped to facilitate the written minutes. Once the minutes are approved, the tape will be reused.

The minutes for the August 6, 2013 meeting were read. After a short discussion, Jack motioned to approve the minutes as corrected. Steve seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Kathy AYE, Steve AYE and Jack AYE. The motion to approve the minutes as corrected was approved.

**Fiscal Officer:** The Portage Soil and Water Conservation District is having elections on September 12, 2013 from 8:30 to 9:45 AM. A breakfast for \$4.00 will be offered and all Portage County Residents are invited.

A letter will be sent to Dom Gualtieri concerning work on the Indian Maiden and the Mausoleum. He has agreed to work on this project of making the Indian Maiden part of the Mausoleum and repairing the doorway. He was asking for something in writing from Hiram Township.

The Portage County Emergency Management Agency wanted a letter to request funds to help repair storm damage from the July 10, 2013 storm. A letter has been drafted and sent to the County EMA who will send it on to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency along with other letters from other county entities.

A letter stating that Tom Matota will be acting as the agent for the Hiram Township Trustees was drafted. Corrections will be made to it and presented at the next Trustee's meeting. Tom is planning to have the truck in the October Auction.

A letter, along with the resolution about putting engine brake sign up will be drafted and sent to the District 4 office of the Ohio Department of Transportation asking that they put the engine brake signs up in accordance with the resolution. It is our expense to pay for the signs and the State will put them up.

Stan has also talked with people from the Ohio Historical Society about how records are to be kept. She sent some examples from other communities. Kathy will share this information with the person who is going to do this for us.

**Guest:** Ron Thompson, a resident of Hiram Township was present and spoke about the new changes to the Hiram Zoning Code. He is upset that the wording "will be harmonious and appropriate in appearance with the existing character of the immediate area in which it is located, and will not be hazardous or disturbing to the existing or future neighboring uses." His neighbor is telling him he wants

to put up a chain link fence on the property line within 25 feet of his home. Discussion continued for some time. The Zoning Board will be contacted concerning this issue and Stan will report back. Ron did show interest in becoming a zoning board member. Stan will contact him concerning this issue.

**Old Business:** Steve has not talked to anyone concerning any land for sale. He hopes to contact them soon.

Steve also said the Portage County Park Board is still working on repairing the bike trails. They will be having a levy on the ballot in May.

Kathy asked that the "Hold Harmless" cause be given to Roberta Zuver as soon as possible. Stan will take care of this.

Kathy has asked Stan for records of the paint contract, tax bills, account balances, the Middlefield condemnation file and to get minutes posted sooner. Stan will continue to work on getting this information to Kathy and to post the minutes much sooner. Stan is still getting help from Marie Stehli, the UAN Representative for our area, in order to get some of this information.

Kathy asked about the information concerning our tax issue with Hiram Village. Stan said that Chris Merduri has been given it and that he says Mr. Thomas Reitz, Hiram Village Solicitor, has not been given any direction about working out a deal with Hiram Township. Jack will call the Mayor about this issue.

Kathy also talked with Mark Finamore concerning her tax hearing in Columbus. He does not represent individuals and he gave Kathy some people to contact to help her with this. She is filing for an extension in hopes that an arrangement is worked out between the Village and the Township soon.

Discussion about speed limits followed. A traffic count and a speed study is needed by the Portage County Engineer's Office before any changes can take place. The Trustees have no jurisdiction over speed control.

**New Business:** Kathy shared with the group letters from two Hiram Township Residents. They are asking for support of H. B. 148 which opposes injection wells. No action was taken.

Jack motioned to add a fence fee of \$50.00 to our zoning code. Steve seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Kathy AYE, Steve AYE and Jack AYE. The motion to add a fence fee of \$50.00 to the zoning code was approved.

Jack also attended the Stormwater Task Force Meeting. He said that they are asking for the Road Supervisor and Trustees attend the November meeting. The Task Force gets about \$900,000.00 a year from fees on the property tax bills. He shared that the Soil and Water Conservation for educational programs (Crestwood, Waterloo and Field Schools), the Portage County Health Department for enforcement and the Portage County Engineer's Office also gets part of this money.

Jack and Steve went to the quarterly Township dinner. The presentation was given by the Portage County Park Board. They enjoyed it and mentioned that they will have a levy on the May ballot.

**Zoning Report:** Rich had a variance request concerning frontage. Stan will review it and set up a Board of Zoning Appeals as soon as possible. Rich also talked about some concerns he has with the zoning code. He was asked to write them down and set a time to meet with the Zoning Board to review them. Resolution 1997-4 was discussed. Rich has found some paperwork in the zoning files with this resolution listed concerning the removal of motor vehicles. Stan will look for this resolution.

**Road Report:** Tom said that the crew will continue with some chip and seal and will be paving part of Allyn Road as soon as he can. Tom also shared some numbers showing the cost of road work being done by the road crew and the cost of someone else doing the work. The cost of our road crew doing the work is a huge savings to the residents of Hiram Township. He has ordered the engine brake signs and hopes to have ODOT put them up as soon as possible.

Discussion continued concerning using equipment and who would owe if the piece of equipment broke.

Rolling Meadows did pay to have some work done on some drainage ways. They will be having more work done to replace a private gas line. Tom told us that any private gas line cannot run in the right of way. It can go under. Kathy will take that information back to Rolling Meadows.

Jack motioned to pay the following bills. Steve seconded the motion. By voice vote, the motion was approved. The following bills were paid.

August 20, 2013 bills			
Electronic	Ohio Public Employees Retirement Fund	July payment	4281.44
Electronic	Wages	8/22/2013	5006.15
8323	Stan Carlisle	UAN training mileage & ink	249.83
8324	Tom Matota	salt, wood, title & parts	108.11
8325	Oscar Brugmann	Material	2093.52
8326	Medical Mutual	9/1-10/1/13	4127.84
8327	Ohio Edison	5 bills	743.70
8328	Roberta Zuver	June/July	60.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			16670.59

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.