

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM, Hiram Township Complex

Present: Trustees; Chairman Jack Groselle, Steve Pancost, and Debra Blake. Fiscal Officer Eric Hankinson. Zoning Inspector Rich Gano. Road Supervisor: Tom Matota. Public; Bill Byers

This meeting is being recorded to facilitate the written minutes. The tape will be preserved until the minutes are approved.

Reading of the Minutes:

January 25, 2022 minutes were read by Fiscal Officer Eric Hankinson. Some corrections were given to Mr. Hankinson. Mr. Pancost motioned to accept the minutes with the corrections provided. Ms. Blake seconded. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Fiscal Officer:

- W2s and 1099s were sent out
- Bank Reconciliation for December 2021 not finished due to still making payments from 2021 budget. Expect to have both December 2021, January 2022 & February 2022 bank reconciliations at the March Board meeting.
- Diane's VISA no longer has a balance on her VISA but still unable to access her online account
- Diane's Ohio Township Association membership was transferred to Mr. Hankinson
- Update on NOPEC Community Event 2022 Sponsorship program, and the NOPEC Energized Community Grant for 2022
- **Resolution 2022-002:** Accept the NOPEC Energized Community Grant for 2022. Motion to accept from Ms. Blake, Mr. Pancost seconded. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.
- **Resolution 2022-003:** Mr. Groselle motioned to accept the NOPEC Community Event 2022 Sponsorship for 2022, Ms. Blake seconded. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.
- Portman Electric in Newbury provided a quote for a Propane powered Generator for the main building at the new Complex with two different options (24Kw air cooled generator and a 22Kw liquid cooled generator). Mr. Groselle asked if the NOPEC Community Grant could be used for this. Mr. Hankinson said that it could be, and use ARPA money to also fund the purchase. Possible that an upgraded Propane tank, or secondary Propane tank may be necessary to support the generator.
- **Resolution 2022-004:** Mr. Pancost motioned to purchase the 22Kw liquid cooled generator, with the winterizing option but without extended warranty, Mr. Groselle seconded. Roll Call Vote on

the Motion: All Ayes. Mr. Hankinson will notify Portman Electric of the decision and start the process.

Public Comment:

Bill Byers expressed concern over the lack of coverage from the County Sherriff's Department within Hiram Township. He noted that Deputy vehicles appear frequently in Aurora and other municipalities that already have a dedicated police department instead of better serving areas that do not have a dedicated Police force. Mr. Byers wanted to make the Board aware of this. Mr. Groselle mentioned that the Township did increase funding by 50% to the Hiram Village Police Department to increase coverage within the Township.

Old Business:

Mr. Pancost talked to Todd Peetz (Portage County Regional Planning) about contacting Google regarding the residents on Cadek Road that attended a previous meeting, so it is in progress. Mr. Groselle still receiving calls about Kimble Recycling fees.

New Business:

Mr. Pancost received a letter from Mrs. Havener regarding the exemplary service from the Township Road Crew (specifically George Firtik). A county street plow moved a large rock into her driveway, blocking it. Mr. Firtik later was passing by, noticed the large rock blocking her driveway. He stopped and moved the rock out of her driveway so it was no longer blocking it. No new news regarding Regional Planning.

Mr. Groselle had updated appointment news for the Zoning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals members. Norm Webb and Clyde Faust will stay on the Zoning Board. Gary Bott and Tom Franek will stay on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Don Prall of the Zoning Board has passed away. John Groselle is the alternate for Board of Zoning Appeals and Jason Groselle is the alternate for the Zoning Board.

Resolution 2022-005: Mr. Groselle motioned to accept the Zoning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals appointments, Ms. Blake seconded. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Zoning:

Mr. Gano attended a quarterly Zoning Inspector meeting. One of the discussions was regarding measuring setback of a building from the Road Right of Way. There is ongoing discussion with Regional Planning regarding wording differences between the footprint of a building and the footprint of the roof (lean-to, porch roofs, etc) with respect to setback from Road Right of Way. Mr. Gano also mentioned that right now building permits are slow but he expects that to pick up.

Police Report:

A Police report for January 2022 was submitted. 93 patrol hours, 31 traffic stops, and 3 citations issued.

Fire Report:

Chief Byers reported high call volumes following a recent storm due to may downed trees that needed removed from the roadway or leaning on power lines. He then reviewed last year’s highlights for the Fire Department. He also discussed purchasing a new squad vehicle in 2022 for \$270,251.00.

Road Report:

Mr. Matota suggested that the Road Right of Way be surveyed at the end of Cadek Road regarding the residents that attended previously. This would allow decisions to be made to remove additional trees. Mr. Hankinson was requested to write a letter to the Portage County Engineers to request this. Mr. Matota reminded Mr. Hankinson regarding the upcoming ODOT Salt quote participation as well as let the Board know about an upcoming expenditure for purchase of a new mower in the near future.

03-15-22 Meeting Payments and Receipts

| Warrant | Payee | Description | Expenses |
|------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 11701 | Bica's Lock Shop | | \$101.13 |
| 11702 | Village of Hiram Water | | \$15.27 |
| 11703 | Thomas W. Matota | | \$904.25 |
| 11704 | Mars Electric Co. | | \$42.46 |
| 11705 | Hiram Fire Association | Donation in Diane Rodhe's name | \$1,000.00 |
| 11706 | Jill Corbett | | \$560.00 |
| 11707 | Blazek Pump & Well Co. | | \$11,204.00 |
| 11708 | Copley Ohio Newspapers, Inc. | | \$19.75 |
| 11709 | Mantua Hardware Lawn And Garden | | \$143.97 |
| 11710 | Verizon Wireless | | \$92.94 |
| 11711 | Cerni Motor Sales, Inc. | | \$69.28 |
| 11712 | Cuyahoga Landmark | | \$1,638.66 |
| 11713 | UHC Premium Billing | | \$10,500.96 |
| 11714 | Ohio Edison | | \$1,274.82 |
| electronic | Wages | | \$11,544.48 |
| electronic | Windstream | | 76.00 |
| electronic | IRS | | \$2,291.72 |
| electronic | Ohio School District | | \$119.92 |
| electronic | Ohio State Tax | | \$438.51 |
| electronic | Dominion East Ohio | | \$328.37 |
| electronic | Ohio BWC | | \$1,060.00 |
| | | | |
| | | | \$43,426.49 |