

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

September 20, 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 Employee George Firtik. Public; Brant Jessel, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Huter, Stacey Turner, Hiram Fire Chief Bill Byers, Candidate for County Auditor Matt Kelly

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

Reading of the Minutes:

Minutes from 7/19/22, 7/26/22 and 8/16/22 meetings to be read.

Fiscal Officer:

- Review bids for Ryder Road Garage
- Review Alternative Formula for the distribution of Local Government Funds. Mr. Groselle motioned to accept the Alternative Formula for 10 years. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. This will become **Resolution 2022-021**.
- Received notice that Verizon to decommission the 3G CDMA network effective 12/31/2022
- Cable Internet installation from Spectrum has been completed.
 - Highspeed Internet WiFi within the main Township building is now available.
 - A new phone number for the Road Maintenance Office has been assigned: 330-977-4040.
 - Spectrum Mobile (based on Verizon Network) offers very competitive rates on 2 or more lines. Cellular Network Extender NOT required. The Trustees agreed to switch from Verizon by the end of the year to Spectrum Mobile and upgrade the Road Supervisor cell phone to a newer smart phone that is 4G LTE compatible.
- Possibility of upgrading the post holding sign for 6352 State Route 82 to allow a mailbox to be mounted. Would allow for USPS to deliver packages to the address which would include Amazon and Office Depot deliveries. Also, delivery information for UPS and FedEx would be updated to allow delivery of parts and supplies for the Road Crew directly to the main building at the Township Complex instead of using personal addresses which was done in the past. The Trustees agreed to erect a mailbox at the new property.
- Some progress with Verizon to update account information with Mr. Groselle's help, and reached out to have a sales rep assigned to the Township Wireless account. Rep responded on 9/16 that we need to purchase a Network Extender, cost is \$350 + tax, for use within the building to resolve total lack of cellular signal within the main building.
- Provided examples of low-cost sound deadening options for use in Township Meeting Room to reduce echo. Mr. Byers also recommended to the Trustees a type of exterior carpeting squares that was done at the Village. They are easily replaceable if needed and will help with the echo within the meeting room. Ms. Blake will look into getting pricing for carpeting the meeting room.

- Forms for the Opioid Settlement payout to the Township were signed and will be scanned then emailed to the respective parties involved to put the Township on a list for Settlement payout.

Public Comment:

Brant Jessel, who is the realtor selling the Ryder Rd. Garage on behalf of the Trustees, presented an offer for the purchase of the Ryder Rd. Garage to the Trustees. The offer, pending financing approval within 30 days, the Trustees will accept the offer as it is for personal use. If another offer appears that is better, then the presented offer becomes null and void. Brant also submitted an offer from David and Becky Harrington. Mr. Pancost motioned to accept the offer from Jim Shukys and allow Chairman Jack Groselle to sign for the sale if necessary. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. This will become **Resolution 2022-022**.

Paul Huter, of Washburn Rd, a neighbor has a temporary building that was allowed by the previous Zoning Inspector. However, the temporary building is not temporary and is sitting on a concrete pad. The property also has many cars and trucks parked on it, many of which were hauled in by a truck which is a nuisance. Mr. Gano has supplied information to Mr. Huter regarding the current state of the Zoning Code, as well as information provided by the County Prosecutor. Mr. Gano is not allowed to inspect the property in the way Mr. Huter would like without a Search Warrant. Ms. Blake motioned for Zoning Inspector Rich Gano to get a Search Warrant to inspect the neighbor's property in question. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. This will become **Resolution 2022-020**.

Mr. Kelly spoke to the Trustees introducing himself, and speaking to what he wants to do if elected as the new Portage County Auditor.

Old Business:

Ms. Blake will get the date of the Christmas gathering at the Rapids Church so then the Port-a-pot there can be scheduled for pickup afterwards.

Mr. Pancost is continuing talks with the RCCA regarding the flag pole lighting.

Mr. Groselle asked Mr. Firtik to call the County Engineers regarding the speed study that was done to determine next steps.

Mr. Groselle asked the Trustees regarding the Shed that is located out front of the Township Property and the walkway/trails on the Township Property. There are some ADA requirements regarding the trails, planning is needed, and then funding procured for the construction of the trail.

New Business:

The Board discussed what to do with the ARPA money the Township has received. Ms. Blake motioned to give the remaining money in that fund to the Hiram Village Fire Department to be put towards the purchase of a new squad vehicle. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. This will become **Resolution 2022-020.2**.

Road:

None to report

Zoning:

Dennis Tropp - attached Garage permit, Josh Franek - new home permit, Wendy & Michael Hickey – garage permit, Jane Durham – addition to house

Police:

August 2022: 87.5 Patrol hours, 961 miles driven, 18 traffic stops and 1 citation issued.

Fire:

August 2022: 23 runs for the Township, average response time is 4:47. Engine 2 repairs within the next month. Received VIN number for the new Squad vehicle that was ordered.

09-20-22 Meeting Payments and Receipts

Warrant	Payee	Description	Expenses
11879	Village of Hiram		\$201.31
11880	Miller and Company		\$122.00
11881	Superior Dental Care		\$137.12
11882	Copley Ohio Newspapers		\$41.00
11883	Village of Hiram Water		\$15.27
11884	OnGuard Fence Company		\$545.00
11885	Gee-Ville Auto Parts Corp		\$176.87
11886	Mantua Auto Parts		\$8.98
11887	Mantua Hardware Lawn and Garden		\$150.98
11888	Centerra Co-op		\$1,338.49
11889	Village of Hiram		\$69,286.30
11890	Charter Communications		\$59.00
11891	Hiram Police Department		\$3,682.08
11893	H. Luli Construction		\$192,631.24
11894	Ohio Edison		\$910.78
electronic	Windstream		\$84.70
electronic	Wages		\$11,699.25