

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2023 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; Hiram Fire Department personnel, Stacy Turner

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 the 03/21/2023 meetings were read. A few corrections were noted by the Trustees. Ms. Blake motioned to accept the minutes with corrections. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Fiscal Officer:

- NOPEC Community Event 2023 application and NOPEC Community Sponsorship 2023 application submitted.
- ODOT Salt Contract for Winter 2023-2024 reviewed. Mr. Matota said that for 2023, 300 tons would be plenty enough. Mr. Groselle motioned to participate in the ODOT Salt Purchase Program for Winter 2023-2024. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2023-15**
- Sept 2022 -> Feb 2023 Trustees minutes sent to Josh Johnston. Mr. Groselle mentioned to Mr. Hankinson that Josh would be able to provide access to post the minutes and PDF documents. Mr. Groselle motioned for JWJ Web Design to allow Mr. Hankinson access to uploading documents to the Township website. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.
- Resolution sent to Mike Collins @ Portage County Engineers for Chip & Seal bid specs prep. The Chip & Seal bids are due at the next meeting on May 16th, 2023 at 7:00pm.

Public Comment:

None

Old Business:

Mr. Pancost asked the Board if Fire Chief Byers was asked at the previous meeting if a 2" water line was large enough for a fire hydrant. The Board did not. What is needed is an 8" water line in order to supply a hydrant. Mr. Pancost suggested exploring the costs of running an 8" line to the front of the 6352 SR 82 property, terminating it into a hydrant. Then from the hydrant run a 2" line to the main building.

Mr. Pancost printed an email from First Energy's Engineering Report regarding installation of a light pole at the Rapids Cemetery. The report noted a few issues with placement of a pole as requested.

The Portage Regional Planning Commission will hold an Open House for the Comprehensive Plan on April 20th at 5:30pm at the NEW Center at NEO-MED.

Mr. Groselle asked about the Storm Water exemption for the new building. Mr. Hankinson will need to visit the County Auditor and apply for exemption.

Mr. Groselle & Mr. Pancost, along with Mr. Matota, visited the Hankee bridge along with the Portage County Engineers. The PCE rep suggested putting guard rails up leaving it a 1 lane bridge, but otherwise the bridge is very solid. The PCE will also evaluate the bridge for feasibility of the bridge getting a cement deck.

Mr. Pancost noted that the Rapids Church does have electricity again (it was temporarily turned off). Mr. Matota confirmed and will then go back to the putting together a lighting setup for the flag at the Rapids Cemetery.

New Business:

Mr. Groselle received an email regarding an ODOT grant for signs in the Township. Mr. Matota provided a list to the Board for signs that could be updated. Mr. Groselle asked about possible replacement of street signs under the grant. Mr. Matota noted that in the past, street signs weren't included in the grant. Mr. Groselle provided a copy of the email to Mr. Matota to look into further and contact the Portage County Engineers (Larry Jenkins) with any questions he has. Mr. Pancost motioned to apply for the ODOT Sign grant. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Mr. Groselle received a call about Amish wanting to construct a school on Mumford Rd. Mr. Gano has not yet been contacted regarding any questions about zoning regulations for the school.

Mr. Groselle noted that the Township is now being sued by Brian Ames of Randolph Township regarding wording of the meeting minutes when documenting entering and exiting Executive Sessions. Mr. Hankinson will be sure to include the proper wording in future minutes where an Executive Session happens.

Road:

The Board reviewed the roads listed in the initial estimate request for Chip & Seal bidding. Due to the initial estimate, Mr. Matota suggested that some non-thru roads could be left out for this year to help lower the cost some. If roughly 2 miles of road (Washburn, Thrasher, Cadek, ½ mile of Hankee, Allyn between Abbott and Winchell) were trimmed from the request, about \$60,000 would be saved. Mr. Pancost motioned that the Chip & Seal request be amended to no longer include the non-thru roads originally listed in the bid request to the Portage County Engineers. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. Mr. Matota will follow up with Mike Collins for the change.

Mr. Matota noted that Wrenwood Drive needs to be ground down and repaved. It has been quite some time since the cement was removed and at that time the asphalt was put down in sections. Mr. Matota will get a quote to give the Trustees an idea of the possible cost of grinding and repaving Wrenwood Drive.

Mr. Matota spoke with Mays Plumbing regarding installation of a 2" water line from the Village Water Tower to the Township complex. It's about 1,200ft of distance and the cost would be about \$28,200 (2" pipe, trenching, water meter). Connection at the water tower would have a variable cost of between \$7,000 – 10,000 additional. Mr. Matota explained to the Trustees the current status of the incredibly rusty water coming from the well on the 6352 SR 82 property. An iron remover won't correct the slug of rust present in the well. Could possibly drill deeper but that can create other larger problems. Mr. Matota will follow up with CT Consulting regarding running an 8" line to the front of the property (as a public line with a hydrant) then a 2" line to the 6352 SR 82 main building.

Zoning:

Permits this meeting: Tommy Green 12385 Mumford Rd - Ag building, J Osborne 11405 SR 82 – Addition, Rolling Meadows – Accessory Building. Mr. Gano following up with the County Prosecutor regarding Thomas Mihelick of Washburn Rd. Car sitting out by the road on Winchell.

Police:

March 2023: 101.5 Patrol hours, 1071 miles driven, 14 traffic stops and 7 citations issued.

Fire:

March 2023: 20 runs for the Township, average response time is 4:52.

Ms. Blake motioned to Pay the Bills, Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. Meeting ended at 7:55pm.

04-11-23 Meeting Payments and Receipts

Warrant	Payee	Description	Expenses	Received
11998	Morton Salt Inc.		\$5,553.36	
11999	Cuyahoga Landmark		\$749.00	
12000	Southeastern Equipment Co		\$34,055.00	
12001	Hanley Printing & Promotions		\$269.52	
12002	Cerni Motor Sales		\$7,499.43	
12003	JwJ Web Design		\$900.00	
12004	Mars Electric Co		\$199.36	
12005	Mantua Auto Parts		\$43.99	
12006	Gee-Ville Auto Parts		\$46.92	
12007	Portage County USAR Team		\$551.08	
12008	Ohio Edison		\$355.77	
12009	Thomas Matota		\$1,279.50	
12010	Preston		\$69.57	
12011	Carter Lumber		\$60.78	
12012	Centerra Co-op		\$445.19	
12013	Charles Auto Family		\$74.17	
12014	Mantua Hardware Lawn & Garden		\$190.39	
12015	Mars Electric Co		\$22.50	
electronic	Wages		\$10,814.17	
electronic	Windstream		\$100.92	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	ACH Service Fees	\$25.00	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	Interest		\$1,441.06
electronic	Portage County Auditor			\$522,161.37
electronic	Portage County Clerk of Courts			\$169.50
electronic	Zoning Fees			\$50.00