

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 20, 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; Walt McKinnon

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 05/16/2023 meeting were read. A few corrections were noted. Ms. Blake motioned to accept the minutes with corrections. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Fiscal Officer:

- Emailed Brett Bencze about cutoff for bidding vs just a quote for projects under \$50k. No response yet.
- Emailed County Commissioners about the Township Trustees being against Solar Farms located within the Township.
- The proposed tax estimates for the Township for FY 2024 as calculated by the County Auditor was presented to the Board. Ms. Blake motioned to accept the tax estimates for FY 2024. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2023-22**
- Reviewed with Board potential for Fund Supplemental Adjustments at the next meeting to cover Chip & Seal bid as well as city water hookup for Main Township building.
- Salt bid from ODOT was awarded to Morton Salt for \$51.61 per ton for the Township for the Winter 2023-2024 season.

Public Comment:

Mr. McKinnon presented the Board with a letter of his concerns on Thrasher Rd where his residence is located. Mr. McKinnon's concerns include: sometimes drivers are confused that Thrasher is Pope (Rapids Rd in Geauga County), River Access via some residents' yards, no Speed Limit posted, and No Outlet not posted. Mr. Groselle asked Mr. Matota if a No Outlet sign could be erected at the entrance of Thrasher Rd. Speed Limit sign would require a speed study from the County Engineers. Ms. Blake motioned for the Portage County Engineers to do a speed study on Thrasher Rd. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2023-21**

Old Business:

Mr. Groselle mentioned that the Chip & Seal bids were reviewed by the Portage County Engineers. Ms. Blake motioned to accept the bid from Geauga Highway Company \$196,687.80. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2023-23** Mr. Hankinson will proceed with processing the paperwork to eventually return to Geauga Highway so that work can commence.

Mr. Hankinson submitted the OTARMA Insurance Renewal application for the Township.

New Business:

Ms. Blake received a phone call from a resident regarding the dog noise on Winchell from Excel K9. The K9 facility is agricultural exempt as confirmed by Mr. Gano.

Mr. Groselle received a call from Brenda Hrubik of Winchell Rd regarding a building constructed without a permit from the Township. Mr. Gano already following up on the issue.

Mr. Groselle mentioned that July 22, 2023 in Hiram Village for Automobile Tire Pickup and Computer Pickup. Mr. Matota will be there on behalf of the Township. Cost of tire recycling will be \$0.50 per tire.

Mr. Groselle was contacted by Elizabeth Simon regarding her daughter's property on Hankee Rd as the driveway of the Hankee Rd property is very close to the bridge that will eventually have guard rails erected next to it. Mr. Matota noted that the driveway could present a safety issue due to its proximity to the bridge. It is up to Ms. Simon's daughter to determine if she would like something done with the driveway.

Mr. Groselle attended a State of Ohio meeting in Columbus for Agriculture. A commissioner from Western County noted that Spectrum is putting Fiber into certain areas. However, Spectrum appears to not be running fiber internet within the Township.

Road:

The ODOT Sign Grant has been submitted.

Zoning:

Junk vehicle issue on Washburn Rd still in process. Questions about possible in-law suite on Mumford. Fielding phone calls about what can be built.

4 Permits: SR 88 for a Deck, Mumford Rd swimming pool, Allyn Rd accessory building, Hidden Hills new home.

Police:

May 2023: 100 Patrol hours, 1002 miles driven, 17 traffic stops and 7 citations issued.

Fire:

May 2023: 26 runs for the Township, average response time is 5:41.

Mr. Pancost motioned to Pay the Bills, Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. Meeting ended at 8:00pm

06-20-23 Meeting Payments and Receipts

Warrant	Payee	Description	Expenses	Received
12034	Ohio Township Association		\$264.00	
12037	DJM Sales		\$703.90	
12038	Cleveland Plumbing Supply		\$70.07	
12039	Cuyahoga Landmark		\$54.50	
12040	Centerra Co-op		\$592.94	
12041	Carter Lumber		\$24.55	
12042	Emmett Equipment Company		\$309.55	
12043	Copley Ohio Newspapers		\$245.00	
12044	Industrial Connections Inc.		\$80.92	
12045	Quick Service Welding & Machine		\$216.00	
12046	Charter Communications		\$87.97	
12047	Village of Hiram		\$72,557.23	
12048	Trivista (Cerni Motor Sales)		\$661.38	
12049	Mantua Hardware Lawn & Garden		\$173.60	
12050	Powerplan (Murphy Equipment)		\$58.04	
12051	Hiram Fire Association		\$1,000.00	
12052	Ohio Edison		\$1,062.36	
12053	Medical Mutual of Ohio		\$4,532.29	
12059	Gee-Ville Auto Parts		\$156.36	
12060	Mantua Auto Parts			
electronic	Wages		\$15,700.68	
electronic	Windstream		\$100.92	
electronic	Treasurer of State		\$876.00	
electronic	United Site Services		\$141.13	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	ACH Service Fees	\$25.00	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	Interest		\$1,864.32