

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 18, 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; Denise Smith, Hiram Fire Chief Bill Byers, Gary Burden

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 06/20/2023 meeting were read. Ms. Blake motioned to accept the minutes. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Fiscal Officer:

- Mr. Hankinson met with Brett Bencze about cutoff for bidding vs just a quote for projects up to \$50k? His suggestion was to put it out for bid if it's close to \$50K. No specific laws/rules around this.
- Brett Bencze provided the legal wording for the "Resolution of Necessity" for 2mil Fire Levy. Ms. Blake motioned to approve the necessity of the Fire replacement levy. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2023-024**
- Brett Bencze provided the legal wording for the "Resolution of Necessity" for 2mil Road & Bridge Levy. Ms. Blake motioned to approve the necessity of the Road & Bridge levy. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2023-025**
- Mr. Hankinson asked the Trustees for a Fund Supplemental to increase Road & Bridge Fund (2031) by \$60,000 for City Water hookup. Ms. Blake motioned to approve the Fund Supplemental Appropriation for the Road & Bridge Fund by \$60,000. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2023-26**. Ms. Blake motioned to approve the Fund Supplemental Appropriation by \$20,000 from Motor Vehicle License Tax (2011) to provide additional funds for road maintenance. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2023-27**.

Public Comment:

Denise Smith from the Board of Elections spoke to the Trustees about the special Ohio Election on August 8th, 2023.

Gary Burden provided the Trustees with an article regarding his concerns about local government.

Old Business:

Mr. Pancost spoke with Mike Collins at the Portage County Engineers. Mike is processing the request for a speed study of Thrasher Rd. Mr. Pancost also spoke to Chris Craycroft regarding river access on Thrasher Rd. A link will eventually be added to the Township web site to show public access locations along the Cuyahoga River.

Mr. Groselle has been in contact with the owner of the 3 lots on Hankee near the bridge. Nothing to be done as of yet as the Township is waiting for more news from the Portage County Engineers.

New Business:

None

Road:

Chip and Seal is underway. The Township will participate in the tire recycling happening soon. Mr. Matota will regrade the area where the shed previously stood.

Zoning:

Winchell Rd residents filed an agricultural permit with Mr. Gano but no other paperwork from the County. Permit for accessory building at 11153 SR 88. Mr. Gano asked Brett Bencze for another letter to Mr. Mihelick of Washburn Rd. Mr. Gano sent a letter to Excel K9 regarding complaints from neighbors of dog noise.

Police:

June 2023: 100 Patrol hours, 1122 miles driven, 15 traffic stops and 5 citations issued.

Fire:

June 2023: 18 runs for the Township, average response time is 6:49. Chief Byers will schedule a meeting between the Township and Village regarding the Fire Departments funding & budget. Mr. Groselle requested a change to the Fire Report provided to the Trustees. Mr. Byers informed the Trustees that the department will need to upgrade their software, that is no longer supported, which will incur a new yearly subscription. The radios used by the department will possibly be paid for by the State of Ohio next year but not yet confirmed. A new radio tower will be constructed in Garrettsville and should address some issues the department has had with their radios in that area.

Mr. Pancost motioned to Pay the Bills, Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. Meeting ended at 7:50pm

07-18-23 Meeting Payments and Receipts

Warrant	Payee	Description	Expenses	Received
12061	Mantua Auto Parts		\$89.00	
12062	Gee-Ville Auto Parts		\$8.94	
12063	Mantua Hardware Lawn & Garden		\$298.43	
12064	Preston		\$842.45	
12065	Carter Lumber		\$65.66	
12066	Hiram Police Department		\$3,581.16	
12067	Village of Hiram		\$52.79	
12068	Centerra Co-op		\$1,080.91	
12069	Cleveland Plumbing Supply		\$31.67	
12070	Charter Communications		\$87.97	
12071	Medical Mutual of Ohio		\$8,871.70	
12072	George Firtik		\$88.00	
12073	Thomas Matota		\$1,596.37	
12074	Power Tool & Supply		\$53.16	
12075	Portage County Treasurer		\$4,431.55	
12076	Cuyahoga Asphalt Material		\$175.82	
12077	Ohio Edison		\$397.82	
electronic	Wages		\$14,500.50	
electronic	Windstream		\$100.92	
electronic	Ohio BWC		\$325.20	
electronic	Treasurer of State		\$876.00	
electronic	United Site Services		\$141.13	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	ACH Service Fees	\$25.00	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	Interest		\$1,718.89