

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2024 at 7:00 PM, Hiram Township Complex

Present: Trustees; Chairman Jack Groselle, Steve Pancost. Fiscal Officer Eric Hankinson. Zoning Inspector Rich Gano. Road Supervisor Tom Matota. Public; Matt Kelly (Portage County Auditor), George Firtik, Hiram Fire Chief 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:

The minutes from the November 21, 2023 meeting were read. Some corrections were noted. Mr. Pancost motioned to approve the minutes with corrections. Mr. Groselle seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

The minutes from the December 26, 2023 meeting were read. Some corrections were noted. Mr. Pancost motioned to approve the minutes with corrections. Mr. Groselle seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Fiscal Officer:

- The letter was submitted to BroadbandOhio supporting Spectrum getting grants to continue rolling out Fiber Internet in the Township.
- Resolutions were sent out to Brett Bencze for Marijuana prohibition and to the County Commissioners for large scale Solar/Wind Farm prohibition.
- Rich requested a new laser printer for Zoning related tasks. The previous printer (a retired UAN laser printer) is no longer supported in Windows. Mr. Hankinson identified a HP LaserJet Pro printer that would work for Mr. Gano. Mr. Groselle motioned to approve Rich receiving a new printer which Mr. Hankinson will order. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.
- The Portage County Engineers requested an updated Contact List for the Township and the list was submitted.

Public Comment:

Matt Kelly, the Portage County Auditor, addressed the Trustees, asking if they had any questions or concerns. Mr. Hankinson asked Mr. Kelly if he could follow up on the Storm Water Exemption request for the Township Facility building application that was sent to the State of Ohio almost a year ago. Mr. Kelly stated that he would follow up and get back to Mr. Hankinson.

Mr. Firtik asked the Trustees if the Trustees would be willing to re-hire him on the Road Crew if he took the option to take his retirement from OPERS. Mr. Groselle stated that the Board would need to think about this and have an executive session when Trustee Blake returns at an upcoming meeting before making a decision as she should return next month.

Old Business:

Mr. Pancost noted that the meeting with Spectrum in Freedom Township is still not confirmed for January 18. Possible that it could be moved to a different day.

Mr. Pancost called the County Auditor about the delinquent tax noted in the newspaper for the Hiram Rapids Church. The listing was a mistake, and it was confirmed that the Storm Water taxes are already paid by the Township because of the cemetery.

New Business:

None

Road:

Mr. Matota looked into repairing the flag at the Rapids Church. He received a quote of about \$435 for new flag, rope, weights to put it up in May when it is warmer. He also ordered a new set of tires for the backhoe as they are quite worn down.

The Township went through some salt with the recent storms but plenty is stocked if needed.

Zoning:

No further contact from Mrs. Umbaugh regarding filing for a variance or the prospective buyer of the property. The Bank that owns the property on Winchell (that was mowed per Zoning regulations) requested an invoice for the mowing. Mr. Gano requested that the Grounds Guys (who did the mowing) send a copy of the invoice to the Bank.

Residents calling about Amish barns/homes on Winchell. Mr. Gano will speak with the County Prosecutor on how to follow up on this.

Police:

December 2023: 100 patrol hours, 8 traffic stops, 1 citation issued

Fire:

December 2023: 22 runs for the Township, average response time is 5:48

Mr. Pancost motioned to pay the bills, Mr. Groselle seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Mr. Groselle adjourned the meeting. Meeting ended at 7:47pm.

01-16-24 Meeting Payments and Receipts

Warrant	Payee	Description	Expenses	Received
12172	Centerra Co-op		\$1,035.70	
12173	Mantua Hardware Lawn & Garden		\$158.32	
12174	Industrial Connections, Inc		\$45.00	
12175	Carter Lumber		\$60.42	
12176	Medical Mutual of Ohio		\$237.00	
12177	Cuyahoga Landmark		\$844.90	
12178	Cerni Motor Sales, Inc		\$2,182.30	
12179	Mantua Auto Parts		\$27.00	
12180	Village of Hiram		\$72,557.23	
12181	Village of Hiram		\$225.70	
12182	Hiram Police Dept.		\$7,305.00	
electronic	Wages		\$16,705.23	
electronic	Windstream		\$100.92	
electronic	United Site Services		\$141.13	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	ACH Service Fees	\$25.00	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	Interest		\$1,793.22