

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on February 10, 2020

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 8:30 PM in the Harpersfield Township Administration Building. Ray Gruber Jr, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Raymond Gruber Jr	Present	Edwin Spoor	Present
James Pristov	Present	Sharon Rohrbaugh	Present

Employees: Larry Lister; Cody Craine; Frank Henry

Visitors: Jim and Peg Bunner; Dave Thomas, Ashtabula County Auditor; Sara Ackerman; Jeff Lang; Rich and Renee Hanyok; Ron Valitsky; Jackie Spoor

The minutes from the regular session held on January 27, 2020 were reviewed. Jim made a motion to accept the minutes as written; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Frank reported that he was able to purchase 12 MARKS radios; he commented that he will use \$3500 from the EMA for radios and repairs. He stated that one fireman wants to take the inspectors class at the Auburn Career center. He obtained the updated Firehouse software and has installed it on his laptop. He is not interested in the cell phone currently for the Fire Chief, Sharon will cancel it from our Verizon account.

Larry received a call from a property owner (vacant lot) that is in the process of selling the property and believes that a neighboring resident has constructed 90% of a garage structure on the vacant lot property. Larry is not sure if zoning can help with this matter and will contact Assistant County Prosecutor Colgan for legal opinion.

Larry reported that Assistant County Prosecutor Colgan sent a letter to James Yankee, Rt 534, and gave 30 days from receipt of letter to remove junk from his yard.

Cody reported that a wheel bearing went out on the backhoe and he had to rent a tool to torque the wheel. He commented that he removed a section of the Harpersfield Cemetery fence along Harper Valley Lane and will finish the driveway in the spring. This will allow a traffic flow from Harper Valley Lane. He stated that Gladstone road is 20 feet wide and ditches are set back; the resident's driveway will come off of the turn around. He informed the Board that the new Mack has arrived and he brought it with him to view after the meeting.

Cody wants to purchase a 100 gallon fuel cell with 12 volt pump and nozzle. This will be used to avoid having multiple 5 gallon gas cans and running out of gas when away from the garage working on a project. Quotes: \$1032 from NAPA and \$953.98 from Best Equipment; Jim made a motion to purchase the fuel cell from Best Equipment, Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed made a motion to pay the following bills: #11506 through #11533; totaling \$11,766.96; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #21-2020 through #32-2020; totaling \$13,961.63.

Jim made a motion to adopt:

Be it resolved by the Board of Township Trustees that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said Board of Trustees, during the fiscal year, ending December 31, 2020, the following sums be and the same hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made for and during the fiscal year, as follows:

General Fund	370,140.39
Motor Vehicle License tax	37,260.99
Gasoline Tax	165,166.75
Road & Bridge	651,709.94
Cemetery	19,806.21
Cemetery Grant	1,797.66
Zoning	13,099.23
Fire Levy	135,223.05
Permissive Motor Vehicle	30,636.37
Street Lighting Assessment	19,054.93

Fire Truck Bond Levy	90,452.41
Building Bond	22,550.72
JEDD III	61,422.75

Total appropriations for these funds for 2020: \$1,618,331.40

Ed seconded the motion; the Board voted thusly: Spoor, yes; Pristov, yes; Gruber, yes

Jim made a motion to pass a resolution authorizing all actions necessary to accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Energized Community grants. Harpersfield Township is eligible for a NOPEC community grant for 2020 and wishes to enter into a Grant Agreement with NOPEC and authorizes Trustee Ray Gruber Jr to execute the Grant Agreement with NOPEC. Ed seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

The Board agreed to hold a public hearing on March 9, 2020, at 6:30 PM to hear public comment to consider a proposed amendment to the zoning text regarding Senior Citizen Housing and Senior Dwelling units.

Ed reported that the Board held a public hearing prior to our regular session to consider a proposed verbiage amendment to the zoning text resolution that will combine the original text with the 2018 amendment. Ed made a motion to accept the proposed verbiage amendment that was recommended by the Zoning Commission and the Ashtabula County Planning Commission; Jim seconded; the Board voted thusly: Spoor, yes; Pristov, yes; Gruber, yes

Ray gave an update on the proposed agreement with the JEDD Board and Nextsite. This contract is to promote development of hotels and restaurants for the JEDD area. It will be for a three year contract at \$15,000 per year.

Ray reported that since Greg Ladd (owner of an Air BNB) has not responded to numerous letters, Ray emailed him and he responded with an apology and that he will start paying the permissive tax (bed tax) starting this January (which is due by the end of February).

Jim made a motion to approach the Ashtabula County Metro Parks Board to take over the maintenance of the bike trail; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor. Ray will contact Holly Mayernick with our request.

Ray was contacted by a resident on Beringer Place that needs to have a culvert replaced and claims that the Township put it in and is asking us to replace it. As the culvert is 45 feet outside of the right of way, Ray questioned Everett Henry (retired Road Supervisor), Everett stated that the Township did not install the culvert; Larry Lister (who also lives on Beringer Place) stated that the developer installed the culvert. Ray will contact the Ashtabula County Engineer for assistance with this matter.

Ed commented that a storage water tank at the interchange area needs to be pushed for any future growth to happen.

Renee announced that she is very close to completing the address list; therefore, the Board decided to attempt the first newsletter to go out in March.

Dave Thomas, Ashtabula County Auditor, stated that he is traveling the County attending meetings to give highlights of the functions of the Auditor's office.

Jeff Lang voiced a complaint that he was stuck in the Harpersfield Park for over an hour because of large equipment blocking the driveway; he felt that a "road closure" should have been announced or posted to prevent people being trapped in the park. Ray will contact Ron Brehm.

Meeting adjourned until February 24, 2020

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh