

# HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

## REGULAR SESSION

Held on September 14, 2020

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7 PM to 8:45 PM in the Harpersfield Township Administration Building. Raymond 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, Frank Henry

Visitors: Jeff Lang, Andy Kirk, Denise Curtis

The minutes from the regular session held on July 13, 2020 and August 17, 2020 and special session held on August 10, 2020 and September 2, 2020 were reviewed. Jim made a motion to accept the minutes as written (exceptional two typos in the August 17, 2020 session) for both regular sessions and both of the special sessions; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Frank informed the Board that BWC approved an application for the Firefighter Exposure to Environmental Elements Grant project in the amount of \$11,400. Frank commented that they are approved to purchase one EW22 gear extractor; 30 FireDex G2L DexPro structural fire gloves; 30 FireDex H41 interceptor barrier hoods.

Ray reported that Tim has contacted Haines Memorial, Jefferson, OH, to use a crane to lift headstones so that the footers can be repaired. The cost of this project will be paid from the cemetery grant.

Ed made a motion to pay the following bills: #11835 through #11871; totaling \$165,495.49; Jim seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sharon reported the following receipts: #174-2020 through #203-2020; totaling \$312,353.96.

Jim moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees of Harpersfield Township, in accordance with the provisions of law has adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing January 2021.

Whereas, the Budget Commission of Ashtabula County, has certified its action thereon to the Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board and what part thereof is without and what part within the ten mill limitation;

Therefore, be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees that the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted.

Ed seconded the Resolution and the roll call vote was as follows: Spoor, yes; Pristov, yes; Gruber, yes

All three Board members commented and complimented on the clean-up day event held this year at Doherty's. Ed and Jackie made entrance and exit signs and the residents brought items in and it was self dump. Jim praised Ed for making the arrangements with Doherty and to Ray for getting a grant to help with the expenses.

Ed stated that he took a tour of the Spire facility and is very impressed with the improvements and updates that have occurred. The school rooms have been built in the unfinished section of the aquatic building and five of the ten dorm buildings are there.

Jim commented that he attended a virtual meeting explaining the repairs to the Harpersfield bridge. Plans are to take the bridge down in sections, refurbish, reconstruct, new metal roof, repair the existing walking lane and adding a walking lane on the side that faces the new dam. Construction is planned to start mid-summer 2021 with hope of completion in 2022. Both parks will remain open during this time.

The Board members were contacted by Nancy Gottram, Food Addicts, that would like to use the old town hall building again for their meetings. The Board agreed to allow this but instructed her to contact the individual that is currently holding meetings in the building to avoid a conflict.

Ray explained the process to move forward to create a TIF district: write a letter to Geneva Schools and A-Tech; pass a resolution; then send to Columbus to get approval. The letters went out to schools and

Ray has spoken with Kevin Lillie and explained the revenue that will happen if the Township is approved for the TIF district.

In an attempt to assist Spire, the County has plans to create a 30 year TIF for a parcel of property that a hotel will be built on. This TIF will fund the schools 100% but no other entity (county, township, NAD, library, etc) will get any revenue for the 30 year period. The Township is planning to request that the TIF district pay the increase that the Township will incur once the hotel is built and the property value increases the amount the Township will have to pay to the health department.

Jim made a motion to move forward with the TIF on one parcel of land for the hotel for 30 years with the stipulation of the Township receiving revenue to offset the new health department increase; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Andy Kirk attended the meeting to inform the Board of the vandalism that is occurring on his property (Rt. 84 and Van Pelt).

Denise Curtiss attended to complain about the people living in the "old grange" building which is located behind a house she owns. Ray will talk with Ray Sapirito, Ashtabula County Health Dept, to see what can be done as there are no facilities or water in the building.

Larry informed the Board that the Zoning Commission received approval from the Ashtabula County Planning Commission and are now giving their recommendation for approval to the Board; the Board agreed to hold a public hearing on September 28, 2020, at 6:45 PM. The recommendation is for the proposed amendment to Article 8, Schedule 804.1 to add "P" (permitted) for heliport under the RAD district.

Larry commented that the vacant house on Bishop Road has been sold and the new owner will demolish the dilapidated structure next year.

Larry spoke about the Zoning Commission meeting that changes are requested by Spire for newly purchased land on Clay Street; they would like to make this their entrance instead of Rt. 534; two individuals are in objection of this. The Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on October 5, 2020 to approve this property to be included in the RAD district.

Richard Leskovic attended the meeting to voice his objections to the newly purchased land being allowed to be included in the RAD district.

Meeting adjourned until September 28, 2020

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh