

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR SESSION

Held on February 10, 2025

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7:00 pm to 7:50 pm in the Administration Building. Ed Spoor, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

James Pristov

Mickey Mihalick

Lisa Linehan

Kanda O'Dell

Edwin Spoor

Employees: Larry Lister, Frank Henry and Cody Craine

Visitors: Patrick Linehan, Landon Linehan, Rich Hanyok, Renee Hanyok, Melissa Pope, Tom Clay, Lori Clay, Scott Yamamoto, Rita Anne Linehan, John Linehan, Kim Gregory, Lorrie Scott, Jeffrey Lang and Sandra Cinkole.

The minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 13, 2025 were reviewed. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Mickey swore in new Trustee, Lisa Linehan.

Frank submitted a bill for payment of carburetor for repair of station 2 engine. He also reported that the hot water tank will be installed and urinal will be replaced because there is no hot water in the fire station. The quote is for \$1,475.00. Jim made a motion to pay the bill; Ed seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Frank reported that there were 30 calls for the month of January. He is going to talk with the fire department about ordering more equipment for the fire engine.

Frank reported that he has been doing ice training with the other fireman.

Cody reported the road crew has been busy with plowing. Ed and Jim stated that there has not been any complaints and they both praised Cody and the road crew for the outstanding job they do and also thanked them for helping out the neighboring communities during the storms.

Larry reported that he made changes to the zoning fee schedule. Jim made a motion to accept the changes to the fee schedule, Lisa seconded, the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Larry stated that he made an appointment to get the water meter upgrade on February 27th.

Larry received information from Scott Yamamoto on all the properties that have a Tiff. Scott stated that the properties will be reviewed every year.

Frank stated that bids were being submitted to tear down the Pizza Hut Building and Larry said that he heard that Chipotle will be building in that spot.

Larry stated that he received an email from the guy that did the solar panels at Spire and suggested putting solar panels behind chops. Larry said that you can't have open solar panels where there are people around.

Larry stated that Spire is still discussing building a Speedway, South of the old Chops.

Jim mentioned that people have inquired about the large black barn on 307. Larry responded that it is a Barndominium which is a place to put all of his farm equipment and for cutting grass. He has 3100 square feet of living space there. Larry said that it is okay to have living space there but if he decided to build a house he would have to split the property with at least 2 acre lots. The owner's name is Mike Evans out of Cleveland.

Larry reported that Spire is moving forward with closing off the campus and is looking to the County to take over Spire Circle. He said that anyone that wants to use the trail will have to have a background check and get a pass. Ed will call Tim Martin to discuss.

Mickey reported that she received the agreement for EMA services between the County Commissioners and Harpersfield Twp. for the urban search and rescue and bomb squad. Jim made a motion to pay the fee; Lisa seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Jim made a motion to pay the bills; Ed seconded. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Lisa reported on the zoning meeting that she attended on February 3rd. The Board is looking at regulations for short term property rentals and will continue to discuss. Much of the meeting was spent discussing shipping containers in Harpersfield and if there is a need to monitor them. Members of the Board will do more research as to what other communities have done.

Lisa attended the Ashtabula County Township Association meeting on January 16th. JP Ducro discussed the RAM Clinic taking place at Lakeside Jr. High School on March 22nd and March 23rd. JP also talked about the Ohio Public Works Commission stating that there is going to be a levy on the ballot in May for this organization. He stressed that this is not going to be an increase in taxes but a way for the communities to receive bonds and grants for infrastructure projects. Katherine Whittington reported that also on the May ballot was a critical levy for senior citizens

that provides delivered meals to seniors in our county. There was talk about the jail in Jefferson. The Commissioners are still exploring ways to mitigate the state of the current jail. They are exploring the idea of adding on to the existing jail, creating a 204-bed facility at a rough cost of \$36,000,000. They have saved \$15,000,000 and are looking at a \$15,000,000 grant which would leave an additional \$6,000,000 needed for the project.

The County Dog Warden gave a presentation. There are two Wardens for the entire county and are both on call 24/7.

Dale Arkenburg who is the Director of the County's Critical incident stress management team gave a presentation of what he and his team does to help first responders decompress after difficult calls. That team consists of all first responders who volunteer their time.

Jim reported that he attended the NAD meeting and as of January they had 31 calls in Harpersfield with a response time 6.7 minutes. Membership has gone from \$15.00 to \$20.00.

Jim stated that all the Trustees attended the Township Association Meeting and that Lisa had covered it all. He stated that they also attended the Fire banquet and that it was well attended and food was good. He also mentioned that the following Saturday was Matt Rahija's 60th birthday party and it was very nice. Jim said that the Fire business meeting is tomorrow at 7:00. He also mentioned the Fish Fry starts February 21st. Serving starts at 4:30 and suggested to get there early. Prices are the same as last year.

Ed reported on the old fire hall. Three new windows have been replaced, are weather tight and pleasing to the eye.

Ed requested that the \$200,000.00 ARPA funding be appropriated. Jim made a motion to appropriate for the funding of the Bishop Road water project; Lisa seconded; The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed talked with Tony Debevc regarding the new winery on 534. It is progressing but costlier than expected. Ed said that it's a good project and looks really nice. An asset for the community and will be the gateway to all the wineries.

Ed addressed Road Department wages. There will be a raise of \$1.00 an hour for all three road employees retroactive to the first pay of the year. Ed said that he is still looking into health insurance options for better rates.

Scott Yamamoto introduced himself as the new County Auditor. He said he would be available for any questions after the meeting. He welcomed Lisa as Trustee and Mickey as Fiscal Officer and thanked Cody and the road crew for the great work they do on the road that he lives on.

He also said that he is accessible and always available if needed. Ed complimented Scott on his credibility and said that he is looking forward to working with him.

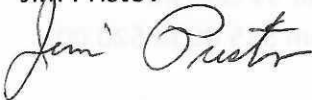
Renee Hanyok said that she has an article from Ray for the history of the township but there is not enough room for it because it is so large but will be available to check out on line.

Meeting adjourned until February 24, 2025.

Ed Spoor



Jim Pristov



Lisa Linehan



Mickey Mihalick

