

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024 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; Hiram Village Councilman Chris Szell, Hiram Fire Chief Bill Byers, Jeffrey Heinrich (NOPEC Representative), Gary Burden

This meeting is being recorded to facilitate the written minutes. The recording will be preserved until the minutes are approved.

Reading of the Minutes:

The minutes from the April 16, 2024 meeting were read. Ms. Blake motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Fiscal Officer:

- Board reviews submitted Chip & Seal bids. The following bids were submitted:
 - Geauga Highway Company \$208,682.20
 - Specialized Construction Inc. \$208,919.80
 - Ronyak Paving \$219,331.00
 - Melway Paving \$188,567.60

Ms. Blake motioned to submit bids to Portage County Engineers. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2024-08**

- ODOT Salt Resolution for 150 tons submitted and confirmed
- Dept. of Treasury SLFRF usage submitted
- Resolution for Supplemental Appropriation on both of the Road & Bridge funds. Mr. Groselle motioned to increase the appropriations on both funds by the amount of the most recent 1st Half 2023 Tax Revenue as provided by the County Auditor. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Resolution 2024-11

- Resolutions for placing the EMS 3mil and Road & Bridge 3mil levies on the November 2024 ballot as REPLACEMENT levies.

Ms. Blake motioned for the EMS 3mil levy to be placed on the November 2024 ballot as a REPLACEMENT levy. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2024-09**

Ms. Blake motioned for the Road & Bridge 3mil levy to be placed on the November 2024 ballot as a REPLACEMENT levy. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2024-10**

- Received a letter from the Ohio Department of Taxation that the Township's application for exemption on the Facility property has finally been approved and that the Township should eventually be receiving a refund.

Public Comment:

Mr. Szell invited the Trustees to walk in the Memorial Day Parade through the Village. Ms. Blake provided some information regarding specific of the reading at the cemetery.

Ms. Szell also told the Trustees that Hiram Village Council discussed that the Village will waive the “tap-in fee” for the Township to hook into the new water tower in order to resolve the issues with the new Township Facility’s water supply.

Mr. Heinrich addressed the Trustees with an introduction and some basic information about the status of the Township’s Energized Community Grant. He also noted that NOPEC requests a Resolution from the Trustees at a future meeting to allow Township Residents to Opt-In for the NOPEC Natural Gas program. This only makes it easier for residents of Hiram Township to opt into NOPEC's gas aggregation if they so choose. This does not automatically enroll anyone or change anything else with your NOPEC gas aggregation; it simply makes it easier for Township residents to opt back in to the NOPEC gas aggregation.

Old Business:

Mr. Pancost will call Mike Collins regarding some additional street signage for Buggies and how to procure electrified School Zone 20MPH signs.

Mr. Groselle asked Mr. Matota if he has submitted the request for the new truck from the State of Ohio bidding. It is in process but not yet completed.

New Business:

Ms. Blake received a Thank You letter from Windham Township for Hiram Township’s donation to Windham Township.

Mr. Pancost mentioned that Todd Peetz of County Regional Planning is offering to review the Township’s Zoning Book.

Kimble called Mr. Groselle regarding a resident on Herr Drive not paying their trash bill (the street has the dumpsters on it). Another call about a resident that has 2 free ranging chickens and the neighbor two doors down is complaining about the birds. Mr. Groselle told the resident the Township does not do anything about that and the neighbors need to work it out.

Chief Byers mentioned that the warning siren in the Village will be turned off for the foreseeable future due to multiple issues. The county has installed some reflective markers on the turn on Pioneer Trail. Also, the Fire Department is looking at a cost of around \$900,000 for a new truck.

Road:

Not much to report.

Zoning:

Ms. Blake made a motion of the following: Hiram Township shall authorize the County Prosecutor’s Office to see an administrative search warrant pursuant to health and safety concerning 6517 and 6567 Winchell Rd to include Health, Building, Zoning and Fire Departments. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Resolution 2024-11**Police:**

April 2024: No report provided

Fire:

April 2024: 31 runs for the Township, average response time is 4:53

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

Mr. Groselle adjourned the meeting. Meeting ended at 7:54pm

05-21-24 Meeting Payments and Receipts

Warrant	Payee	Description	Expenses	Received
12241	Cuyahoga Landmark		\$3,213.34	
12242	Industrial Connections, Inc		\$60.65	
12243	Gannet Ohio LocalIQ	Record Courier	\$41.75	
12244	Gledhill Road Machinery		\$208.92	
12245	Charter Communications		\$70.98	
12246	Medical Mutual of Ohio		\$81.00	
12247	Middlefield Farm & Garden		\$208.31	
12248	Bortnick Tractor Sales		\$50.62	
12249	Municipal Signs & Sales, Inc		\$51.00	
12250	Ray's Repair		\$289.00	
12251	Advance Auto Parts		\$20.69	
12252	Stamm Contracting		\$6.05	
12253	Russell Standard Equipment		\$67.80	
12254	Mantua Hardware Lawn & Garden		\$106.72	
12255	Mantua Auto Parts		\$572.00	
12256	Ohio Edison		\$1,212.83	
deposit	Portage County Clerk of Courts			\$50.00
deposit	Zoning			\$675.00
deposit	Mortgage Repayment	The Grounds Guys		\$660.80
deposit	Portage County Auditor			\$13,683.75
deposit	Portage County Auditor			\$519,827.66
electronic	Wages		\$26,617.40	
electronic	Windstream		\$106.92	
electronic	United Site Services		\$141.13	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	ACH Service Fees	\$25.00	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	Interest		\$1,370.90