

# Hiram Township Trustees

## Regular Meeting Minutes

April 16, 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; Aline Koptis, Devin Wilfong, Tom Franek

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

### Reading of the Minutes:

Minutes from the March 19, 2024 meeting were read. A few corrections were noted. Mr. Pancost motioned to accept the minutes with corrections. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

### Fiscal Officer:

- ODOT Salt Contract for 2024-2025 was presented to the Trustees. Mr. Matota is asking for 150 tons. Mr. Pancost motioned to participate in the ODOT Salt Contract for 150 tons. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2024-07**

### Public Comment:

The RCCA was approached by the company putting in the new natural gas line if the church would like to have the gas run to the church since it currently doesn't have it. Ms. Koptis asked the Trustees if that would be OK as the Township owns the property. The Trustees agreed that the RCCA should indeed run a Natural Gas line to the church for future use.

Mr. Franek provided an update on the Buckeye Trail, possible re-routing as an improvement. He also noted that Mike & Diane Bess (Winchell Rd) have an issue with a neighbor's guinea hens & chickens always crossing the road, in their yard, then coming into their garage and on their porch. The garage & porch is a nuisance. He also mentioned about the recent BZA meeting regarding items that don't fit within the Zoning. Mr. Pancost mentioned he would like to see the Township's Zoning laws a little more accommodating of the Amish way of life. Mr. Groselle asked about the "Share the Road" signs and Mr. Matota stated that the Township would need to contact the county regarding those signs to be put up on Abbott Rd. Mr. Pancost will contact Mike Collins on this. The Zoning does allow in-law suits which is conditional in our Zoning thus requiring a variance from the BZA. Mr. Gano mentioned that the Zoning Board will be meeting soon.

### Old Business:

Mr. Pancost discussed the Mumford Rd Speed Study with Mike Collins at the Portage County Engineers. Mr. Pancost also met about creating a Veterans Memorial on the Facility property. He is gathering costs to eventually apply for a grant to build out.

Mr. Groselle asked about the Dept. of Treasury SLFRF. Mr. Hankinson will submit the necessary paperwork as to the usage of the Township's ARP/Covid funds.

**New Business:**

Mr. Groselle mentioned that a resident of Thrasher Rd is upset about a neighbor not taking care of this property. However, the resident is mowing the lawn and Mr. Groselle stated that the resident has to NOT maintain the neighbor's lawn if the Township is ever to do something about the issue. Also, a camper is in the backyard of the property that may be an issue.

Mr. Groselle asked Mr. Hankinson regarding putting the EMS and the Road & Bridge 3 mil levies on the November 24 ballot. Mr. Hankinson will confirm if both can be put onto the ballot.

**Road:**

Mr. Matota asked about funding for a new truck (replace the F-150) and also getting city water from the Village's Water Tower next door. Mr. Hankinson stated that the funding is in the appropriations for these items. There was also some discussion around the Chip & Seal bidding. Mr. Pancost noted that the county has been out to Winchell Rd (between Rapids and Sheldon) so hopefully that road surface will be repaired this year. The water line will need to wait pending removal of the older water tower. Mr. Matota asked the Trustees if they can allow him to purchase the replacement truck via State bidding which is around \$55,000. Mr. Pancost motioned to allow Mr. Matota to be an agent in the purchase of a new truck to replace the F-150. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. Resolution 2024-08

Mr. Matota reminded Mr. Hankinson to place a newspaper Public Notice regarding the selling of equipment no longer needed by the Township Road Crew.

Mr. Matota mentioned to the Trustees that the tired on the F-150 need replaced.

**Zoning:**

More permits, mylar signing & accessory building permit Robby Burrows. K Dickinson accessory building permit. More follow ups with residents. New BZA variance application will be coming soon for a resident on Abbott Rd.

**Police:**

March 2024: 99 Patrol Hours, 16 traffic Stops, 4 Citations issued

**Fire:**

March 2024: 22 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 7:55pm

**04-16-24 Meeting Payments and Receipts**

<b>Warrant</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Received</b>
12214	George Firtik		\$352.45	
12215	Thomas Matota		\$477.42	
12216	Thomas Matota		\$3,337.73	
12217	Portage County USAR Team		\$551.08	
12218	Sedwick		\$660.00	
12219	Airgas USA, LLC		\$21.81	
12220	Medical Mutual Ohio		\$81.00	
12221	Charter Communications		\$196.94	
12222	Carter Lumber		\$4.19	
12223	Ray's Repair		\$59.55	
12224	UH Occupational Health		\$158.00	
12225	Mantua Auto Parts		\$14.00	
12226	Preston Ford		\$144.59	
12227	Gee-Ville Auto Parts		\$48.98	
12228	Mantua Hardware Lawn & Garden		\$58.92	
12229	Akron Canton Waste Oil		\$111.70	
12230	Cleveland Plumbing Supply		\$163.97	
12231	Centerra Co-Op		666..41	
12232	Village of Hiram		\$389.40	
12233	Village of Hiram		\$76,620.03	
12234	Ohio Edison		\$319.53	
12235	CCM Rental		\$157.55	
12236	Mars Electric		\$37.75	
12237	Power Tool & Supply Co		\$62.53	
12238	Morton Salt		\$13,927.91	
12239	Charles Harris & Associates		\$500.00	
electronic	Wages		\$15,178.94	
electronic	Windstream		\$106.92	
electronic	United Site Services		\$141.13	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	ACH Service Fees	\$25.00	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	Interest		\$1,485.20