

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 6, 2024

The Board of Guilford Township Trustees, Medina County, Ohio, met for a regular Trustees meeting on August 6, 2024 at 8:00 P.M. at the Guilford Township Hall. The following Trustees were present: Gene Morris, Jerry Winkler, and Fiscal Officer, Ray Ruprecht.

Also present were Andy Liston, Brian Cyphert, Ron Scuderi, Jeff Kersey, Colen Johnson (MCHD), Naomi Lee (MCHD), and Shannon Colonna

Approval of Minutes

Gene Morris **moved** to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 16, 2024. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Winkler – yes.

MCHD – Good Road Septic Discharge

- Colen Johnson and Naomi Lee from the Medina County Health Department are attending the meeting tonight to answer any questions they have about the request for a resident to discharge septic into the road ditch. It would cost the resident about an additional \$8,000 to discharge to a different location on the property.
- Gene provided some pictures of another system in the township. He has seen the progression of a lot of septic systems over the past 40 years and has seen more issues with aeration systems. He understands that they have followed procedures for soil testing, but he has a hard time believing there is not room for a spray or mound on the property.
- Mr. Johnson responded that a spray could not go on that property because of the soil per State regulations. Either way, it has to be a discharge system and it can either go to the road ditch or to a different location on the property that would be more costly.
- Gene said that there may be better systems than what they are proposing. Ms. Lee responded that they are not allowed to tell residents what type of system they have to install. They can provide recommendations, but ultimately it is up to the resident and their installer to choose which approved system they install.
- Jerry said he doesn't want to see if going into the ditch, but he also doesn't want to see a resident spending that much extra money.
- Ms. Lee added that this is also the result of a complaint filed against the resident that resulted in the Health Department getting involved.
- Gene understands what they are up against, but still has concerns. He would prefer to see it go through a swale into the ditch instead of piped in.
- Mr. Johnson said that they will get a revised plan and send it to them. He also said that if the Township is aware of any complaints like this to contact them so they can look into it. They try to work with homeowners to resolve these issues.

Department Reports

Fire-EMS Department (Brian Cyphert)

2024 INCIDENT COUNT YEAR TO DATE	
Type	# Incidents
EMS	259
Fire/Other	163
TOTAL	422

Year to date:	
FIRE INSPECTIONS	81

- The Fire Department received a \$15,530 Grant from the “Ohio Ambulance Impacted Industry Program” This program is a continuation from past programs with ARPA money given to the State for bonuses and hazard pay specifically for EMS providers who treat and transport patients. These bonuses will be distributed to qualifying employees based on hours worked in the allowable period.
- Request to hire two new paid on call/part time firefighter/EMT -Basics. These employees will fill currently open/unfilled shifts and on calls until their training period is complete. Both employees’ continued employment is conditional with passing the PRADCO assessment and certification as an Ohio EMT Basic. Starting pay will be \$16.58/hour
 - Landon Gardner Fire 2 with completion of EMT School on August 9th.
 - Jacob Langenek Fire 2 with completion of EMT School on August 9th.

Approval to Hire Landon Gardner and Jacob Langenek

Jerry Winkler **moved** to approve to hire Landon Gardner, Part Time Fire II, and Jacob Langenek, Part Time Fire II, on probationary status at a rate of \$16.58 per hour with the condition that they pass PRADCO assessment and obtain Ohio EMT certification within their introductory period, and for the rate to increase to \$17.66 if they obtain EMT certification. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Winkler – yes.

- Mrs. Widowski has graciously donated the old farmhouse at 5212 Greenwich Rd to be burned as part of an "acquired structure" training fire. If approved by the Trustees and the EPA, the training and burning of the home will be Friday Sept 27 from 8 A.M. to around 7 P.M. This training burn will be attended by our department and our neighbors. It is imperative we continue to train in controlled, realistic situations to ensure our department is firing on all cylinders. They will partner with Akron U. Below will be the requirements:
 1. Obtain all Ohio EPA permits for a structure burn for firefighting training (in progress);
 2. Ensure the home is asbestos free for the safety of our firefighters (owner already abated);
 3. Develop and follow an NFPA 1403 training plan with all required measures met.
 4. Notify impacted members of the community and coordinate with other agencies.
- The delivery date for the new ambulance should be the beginning of October.

Road Supervisor (Andy Liston)

- Had TMS trim trees on Good road.
- Has been working on leveling some crossovers.

- Started mowing roadsides. The new boom mower head is working.
- Had to put new front tires on boom mower at the cost of \$373.20.
- Started looking at new trucks to replace the F550. He has received a quote for \$75,395.
- There was a question about closing Guilford Rd for tree removal at the intersection of Seville Rd on Thursday, August 8, 2024. BOPA is paying AJ to remove the tree. They are not sure who is responsible for closing the road. Chief Cyphert will contact BOPA to make sure the Fire Department knows when the road will not be accessible. Andy can put up signs that day if they determine it is needed.

Zoning Secretary (Shannon Colonna)

- The Zoning Commission will be meeting on Thursday for their regular meeting. Shannon has been working on putting together some information on recent trends from information received from the County Auditor's Office. This includes information about lot size, building size, year built, and sale price.

Zoning Inspector (Julie Carr)

- Julie received one application for a deck. Total income for the month was \$69.20.
- Julie met with Gene to see how to view information on the county GIS.
- Julie met with the county prosecutor's office to go over some zoning questions. She believes everything is settled with the Seville Road property, and they can move forward with having the junk and junk vehicles removed.
- The resident selling the tiny homes has received a letter, and she believes they have stopped selling.
- Julie and the Prosecutor's office discussed the baseball business, and reached agreement that the business has already been denied. They will be sending a letter that is essentially a cease-and-desist letter.
- There was some discussion about making sure they find someone to work with on removing the junk at the Seville Road property, and then working with that person or business in the future.

River Styx Cemetery/Mound Hill Cemetery

- Jeff reported that the new hire is working out great. They have been working on painting some doors and windows, and they now have a locked cabinet. They have also been catching up on the weed eating. There is a large branch down that they will be cleaning up this week.
- Gene said that the Akron Community Foundation-Virginia Wheeler Martin gravesite has been turned over to Patty Martin with the Historic Society.
- Update Indigent policy- Resolution 2011-04 and approval to pay Hilliard-Rospert \$750.00 for indigent burial. Jerry started looking into this, and the process for determining a person is indigent is fairly involved. He thinks they will need to look into this more to update the Resolution. He also noted that one plot has been donated back to use for indigent burials.
- Approval to pay rental fee of \$20.00 per hour for use of Jeff Kersey's tractor for Mound Hill Cemetery work.

Approval to Pay Hilliard-Rospert \$750 for Indigent Burial

Jerry Winkler **moved** to approve to pay Hilliard-Rospert \$750.00 for an indigent burial. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Winkler – yes.

Approval to Pay \$20/Hour for Use of Jeff Kersey's Tractor

Jerry Winkler **moved** to pay rental fee of \$20.00 per hour for use of Jeff Kersey's tractor for Mound Hill Cemetery work. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Winkler – yes.

Township Hall (Ron Scuderi)

- No updates

Trustees Reports

Jerry Winkler

- Jerry spoke with Dan Rospert and Ray about the indigent burial.
- Jerry received a call from a resident about the fence on the corner of Rawiga and Greenwich. The complaint was from someone that said it was on her property and close to her propane tank. Julie said she approved the fence to be two feet in from the property line. The resident is going to be hiring a surveyor, and Jerry suggested that she also contact her propane company about the placement.
- Jerry stopped at the Fire Department.
- Jerry spoke with Chief Cyphert about a couple issues.

Gene Morris

- Gene had a conference call with the MCHD about the discharge request for a septic replacement on Good Road and referred them to the Aug.6 meeting.
- Gene asked for opinions from 3 different septic installers about a Good Road NPDES request.
- Gene attended the Fire/EMS planning meeting
- Gene met with the Zoning Inspector to show her how to work the GIS site.
- Gene received a call about a tree down at Mound Hill.
- Gene reviewed the July 16 minutes.
- Gene took the newly required Ohio Auditor's Office fraud training and sent Ray the certificate.
- Gene talked to the Zoning Inspector and the Zoning Secretary about a letter to new homeowners. Both liked the idea. He would like to suggest that they send a letter to new residents letting them know they are a zoned community and let them know how to find information and ask questions. Jerry agrees that this is a good idea and can draft a letter.

Old Business

- Reminder about the OTA Township Education Subscription
- Township website: Jerry said that the contacts need to be updated. There is also a page with old FD contact information.
- Health Department-Septic discharge into Good Rd. ditch

New Business

- State Auditor Bulletin 2024-005 Required Fraud Reporting and Training. The deadline is September 28, 2024 for all employees of the township.
- RESOLUTION 2024-13 Participation in the ARPA Ohio Ambulance Transportation Impacted Industry Program to Workforce Relief Pay to Eligible Workers

Gene Morris offered the following resolution and moved the adoption of same which was seconded by Jerry Winkler.

**RESOLUTION 2024-13
Participation in the ARPA Ohio Ambulance
Transportation Impacted Industry Program to Workforce Relief Pay to Eligible Workers**

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed by Congress into law on March 11, 2021;

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through Ohio Office of Budget and Management (OBM) was directly allocated and accepted 5.3 billion in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) from the United States Department of Treasury; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 280.10 of H.B. 45, the State of Ohio appropriated \$20 million in SLFRF funds to OBM for the Ohio Ambulance Transportation Program; and

THEREFORE, the Ohio Ambulance Transportation Program shall be used by OBM to administer grants to any public, not-for-profit, or private ground transportation provider, who submitted claims to the Ohio Department of Medicaid during the current fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the ambulance transportation providers shall use the funds to provide premium pay to eligible workers, support workforce relief, or provide reimbursement for COVID-19 mitigation and prevention costs incurred during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Township has received a distribution of \$15,530.00 from the Ohio Ambulance Transportation Impacted Industry Program to support the impacts on the essential frontline workers; and

THEREFORE, the Guilford Township Trustees agree to use the Ohio Ambulance Transportation Program funds for “Workforce Relief” to eligible workers that performed essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Roll call vote: Winkler – yes, Morris - Yes.

- Approval to create a new appropriation account 9001-781-599-1503 Other-Other Expenses (Indigent Burials) and reallocate as a Supplemental Appropriation \$2,500 to 9001-781-599-1503 Other-Other Expenses (Indigent Burials) from 9001-781-710 (Land).

Approval of New Appropriation Account

Gene Morris **moved** to approve to create a new appropriation account 9001-781-599-1503 Other-Other Expenses (Indigent Burials) and reallocate as a Supplemental Appropriation \$2,500 to 9001-781-599-1503 Other-Other Expenses (Indigent Burials) from 9001-781-710 (Land). Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Signing of the Warrants

Jerry Winkler **moved** to pay the warrants, payroll/accounting EFTs of \$48,496.65. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris –yes, Winkler – yes.

Cancellation of August 20, 2024 Meeting

Gene Morris **moved** to cancel the August 20, 2024 Regular Trustee meeting. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris –yes, Winkler – yes.

Adjournment

Jerry Winkler **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Winkler – yes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 P.M.

Bob Rohrer

Gene Morris

Jerry Winkler

Ray Ruprecht