

**TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

July 16, 2024

The Board of Guilford Township Trustees, Medina County, Ohio, met for a regular Trustees meeting on July 16, 2024 at 8:00 P.M. at the Guilford Township Hall. The following Trustees were present: Bob Rohrer, Gene Morris, Jerry Winkler, and Fiscal Officer, Ray Ruprecht.

Also present were Jerry Springer, Ron Scuderi, Patrick Rhonemus (Medina Gazette), Andy Liston, Chief Cyphert, and Shannon Colonna

Approval of Minutes

Gene Morris **moved** to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 2, 2024. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Department Reports

Fire-EMS Department (Brian Cyphert)

2024 INCIDENT COUNT YEAR TO DATE	
Type	# Incidents
EMS	232
Fire/Other	139
TOTAL	371

Year to date:	
FIRE INSPECTIONS	76

- There are 120 businesses in the Village and Township, and they try to inspect them all each year. They are getting more people in the department involved with the inspections so they are more familiar with the businesses.
- The annual hose testing was completed. They only lost one section of hose.
- CPR devices threw an error code, so they called the company, and they repaired it and completed preventative maintenance. He does not have the bill for this yet.
- The new ambulance should be delivered in August. They will need to figure out what to do with the old ambulance.
- Request to hire Sage Osicka and Russ Vereshack as part time employees. Sage is a Fire 2 EMT basic from Hinkley. Russ is a Fire 2 Medic who is FT at Perry Fire in the Canton area. These two will bring the roster up to twenty-five, three of which are on call only. They will help offset our recent losses and two FT starting maternity leave. They are not adding any hours, just adding to the pool of people available to work.
- EMS training with Westfield and Lafayette is coming up.
- The air conditioning is fixed.

Approval to Hire Sage Osicka and Russ Vereshack

Jerry Winkler **moved** to hire Sage Osicka, Firefighter 2 EMT at \$17.66 per hour, and Russ Vereshack, Firefighter 2 Medic at \$22.28 per hour, as part time employees on probationary status effective July 16, 2024. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Department Reports

Road Supervisor (Andy Liston)

- Did a ditch enclosure on Hubbard Valley Rd and the force account amount for \$1,743.93?
- Sprayed guardrails.
- Received new mower head. They are having trouble with a part and working on that. Ray noted that he is holding payment until that is resolved.
- Patched a few potholes.

Approval of Force Accounts Payments for Ditch Enclosure on Hubbard Valley Road

Gene Morris **moved** to approve the force account amount for \$1,743.93 for a ditch enclosure on Hubbard Valley Road. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Zoning Secretary (Shannon Colonna)

- The Zoning Commission met on Thursday, July 11. They discussed updates to Chapter 2 of the Comprehensive Development Plan. This chapter is an evaluation of existing conditions and latest trends. Currently there is some questionable information included, such as the number of farms and the fact that any lot over thirty acres was determined to be agricultural. Shannon has been working on getting information about development in the township in the past 12 years, lot sizes, and development by decade.
- Shannon reached out to Denise Testa about adding regulations for fireworks to the zoning regulations. She has not reviewed any regulations for fireworks and suggested that be posted on the website.

Zoning Inspector (Julie Carr)

- Gene noted that Julie is not attending this meeting. She has been in contact with the Prosecutor's office about the Seville Road property, and Mike Lyons is reviewing the case history before he gives them the 'go ahead' to proceed.
- Bob spoke with the guy who is going to be removing the junk, and he is getting his insurance paperwork together.
- Bob received a complaint about campers on Seville Road. He is running a camper rental business from his property.
- Bob spoke with another resident about junk in his driveway and suggested that he clean it up.

River Styx Cemetery/Mound Hill Cemetery

- Signs – Bob reported that they are still working on the sign.

Trustees Reports

Bob Rohrer

- Bob received a couple of zoning complaints.
- Bob contacted the guy who will be removing the junk.

Jerry Winkler

- Jerry has been reviewing emails.
- Jerry stopped at the Fire Department, and everything looked good.
- Jerry has been driving by the Seville Road property and has not noticed any improvement.

Gene Morris

- Julie forwarded the trustees a request to approve a replacement septic system to discharge to the road ditch. Those requests are usually only for very small lots. This one is an 18-acre lot. Gene called the excavating company to let them know they received the request.
- Gene talked to the MCHD about the request. The inspector said based on the soil that there is not any other option. She sent him the soil evaluations, and he forwarded those to the person who designed the septic system at the Township hall. He feels that there is a better option than discharging to the road ditch.
- Gene talked to Julie a couple of times and reviewed emails between her and the prosecutor's office.
- Gene followed up with Patty Martens about the Wheeler Martin gravesite. There are somewhere between 20 and 25 gravesites. The Historical Society will be meeting this week, and they will be discussing.

Action Items:

- Fire & EMS planning July 18th at 5:30 PM – Gene will attend.
- Township garage addition – Waiting on Mike Lyons.
- Employee handbook – Jerry may have time to work on this coming up and wondered what they wanted to start with. Ray said they just need to make sure that current policies reflect where they stand. He provided a copy of Montville's for comparison.

Comments from the Public

- Ron Scuderi said they have signed another long-term contract with a church from August through December.

Old Business

- Reminder that the OTA Township Education Subscription has training available to members.
- Shannon will be looking into options for the township website.

New Business

- The Prosecutor has prepared Resolution 2024-12 A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE KROGER SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE ONE OHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THE MARCH 22, 2024 NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

Jerry Winkler moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE KROGER SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE ONE OHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND

CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THE MARCH 22, 2024 NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, Guilford Township is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio formed and organized pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Ohio and its communities have been harmed by misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance committed by certain entities within the Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through its Attorney General, and certain Local Governments, through their elected representatives and counsel, are separately engaged in litigation seeking to hold Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants accountable for the damage caused by their misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through its Governor and Attorney General, and its Local Governments share a common desire to abate and alleviate the impacts of that misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance throughout the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Guilford Township approved of the One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) relating to the allocation and the use of the proceeds of any potential settlements described; and

WHEREAS a settlement proposal is being presented to the State of Ohio and Local Governments by supermarket pharmacy Kroger (“Kroger”) pursuant to the Settlement Agreement dated March 22, 2024 (“Kroger Settlement”); and

WHEREAS, the Guilford Township Board of Trustee (“Board”), approves the township’s participation in the March 22, 2024, Kroger Settlement and hereby authorizes the Medina County Prosecutor’s Office to execute the attached Subdivision Participation and Release Form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Guilford Township, Medina County, Ohio, that:

Section 1. The Medina County Prosecutor’s Office is hereby authorized to indicate Guilford Township’s consent to participation in the March 22, 2024 Kroger Settlement, by executing the attached Subdivision Participation and Release Form - Exhibit A.

Section 2. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board and of any of its committees concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board or committees, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with the law.

Section 3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately after its adoption.

Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

- Township Hall contact persons for the General Election on November 5, 2024. Ron (primary) and Andy (secondary) will be the contacts.
- Supplemental Appropriation transfer of \$5,000.00 to 2111-220-323 (Repairs & Maintenance) from 2111-760-750 (Motor Vehicles) and \$6,000.00 to 2282-220-319-2850 (Other-Professional and Technical Services-Software/Internet) from 2282-760-750 (Motor Vehicles) for the air conditioner repair and software services.

Approval to Supplemental Appropriation Transfer

Gene Morris **moved** to approve the Supplemental Appropriation transfer of \$5,000.00 to 2111-220-323 (Repairs & Maintenance) from 2111-760-750 (Motor Vehicles) and \$6,000.00 to 2282-220-319-2850 (Other-Professional and Technical Services-Software/Internet) from 2282-760-750 (Motor Vehicles). Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

- Health Department-Septic discharge into Good Rd. ditch. They are being asked for a letter to allow this. It seems like they are looking for the easiest option, but Gene thinks there are other options. There is consensus to send this back to them to see if they can produce a different option. Gene will let them know.
- Ray reached out to Trina Devanney and Bill Thorne to ask them if they would be interested in providing legal counsel. Bill provided his rate (\$200.00/hour). Bob will contact him to let him know what help they need and find out if he is interested.

Signing of the Warrants

Jerry Winkler **moved** to pay the warrants, payroll/accounting EFTs of \$108,916.26. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris –yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Executive Session

Jerry Winkler **moved** to go into executive session at 8:52 P.M. to discuss the employment of a public employee and invite Shannon Colonna, Ray Ruprecht, Tammy Johnson, and Brian Cyphert. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Morris - yes, Winkler - yes.

Bob Rohrer **moved** to come out of the executive session at 9:45 P.M. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Morris - yes, Winkler - yes.

After coming out of executive session, no additional business was discussed.

Adjournment

Jerry Winkler **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 P.M.

Bob Rohrer

Gene Morris

Jerry Winkler

Ray Ruprecht