

**GUILFORD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 18, 2023**

The Board of Guilford Township Trustees, Medina County, Ohio, met for a regular Trustees meeting on July 18, 2023 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 Rory Zito, Jansen Wehrley, Ron Scuderi, Jerry Springer, Martha Springer, Jim Krahl, Mayor Carol Carter, Michael Colonna, Bill Shook, Curt Lauer, Andy Liston, Roger Srail, Mark Nida, Randy Pollock, and Shannon Colonna

Approval of Minutes

Bob Rohrer moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 5, 2023. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Executive Session

Jerry Winkler moved to go into an executive session at 8:02 P.M. to discuss the employment of a public employee and invited Ray Ruprecht. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Jerry Winkler moved to come out of the Executive Session at 8:07 PM. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Department Reports

Fire-EMS Department

2023 INCIDENT COUNT YEAR TO DATE	
Type	# Incidents
EMS	259
Fire/Other	151
TOTAL	410

Brian Cyphert was absent. Jerry Winkler read the Fire Report.

- **Fire Inspections:** 7 Inspections, two plan review, total of sixty-five completed this year.
- **Operations:**
 - Hydrant flow is ongoing. Average turnout time is 2 minutes with an average response time of 4:28 for first our responding apparatus. This is part of the ISO rating.
- **Announcements:**
 - Zachary Smith successfully passed all his pre-employment testing and will start the first week in August.
 - Ray noted that Brian has completed his probationary period, and his annual salary increases to \$76,090.00 per year. Mayor Carter added kudos to the entire department for their coverage and response.

Road Supervisor (Andy Liston)

- Bret helped Mark backfill and finish the septic system.
- The South Guilford project is scheduled to start on the 26th of July.
- Would like to close north Guilford August 7-11 for culvert replacement.
- The new mower is at Akron tractor getting set up.

Approval to Close Guilford Road August 7 to 11, 2023

Bob Rohrer **moved** to approve to close Guilford Road between Blake and Good from August 7 to 11, 2023. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Zoning Secretary (Shannon Colonna)

- The BZA met on July 6th, 2023 on an application for a Conditional Permit for a home occupation. The application was denied.
- The Zoning Commission met on July 13, 2023 and discussed changes to Goal # 2 of the Comprehensive Development Plan. Their next meeting will be August 10, and they plan to discuss Goal # 3.

Zoning Inspector (Curt Lauer)

- Curt sent Ray a couple permits.
- Curt followed up with the Prosecutor's office on the properties on Seville and Acme.
- Curt spoke with the person with campers on Seville and is speaking with the Prosecutor's office about if that qualifies as a home occupation.
- The property with the garage on Rohrer sold, so it should have a house soon.

River Styx Cemetery/Mound Hill Cemetery

- Jerry reported that there have been a couple of burials.
- Bob reported that John is in the hospital. Bob spoke with his assistant, Jeff, to find out if he could handle everything. He is going to be out of town, and Bob offered to help if needed.

Trustees Reports

Bob Rohrer

- Bob spoke with Jeff about the cemetery.
- Bob helped determine where to put some drainage at the Township Hall.
- Bob has not heard any updates on the doors. He will follow up.

Jerry Winkler

- Jerry met with Chief Cyphert.
- Jerry received a call about something that is happening on Blake Road and invited the resident to attend the meeting tonight to voice their concerns.

Gene Morris

- Gene checked on the progress with Thompson Excavating, and they now have a new, approved septic system at the Township Hall. This was paid for with ARPA funds.

Comments from the Public

- Mayor Carter reported that the Village did pass the updated EMA language.
- Jansen Wehrley, who lives at 4660 Blake, received a letter this week. The letter stated that the park was going to be doing a land survey, which concerned him because that generally means they are selling land or building something. He reached out to the park district and found out that they are considering a land swap that includes twelve acres of parkland. It has been used as a hay field for many years. His concern is that they want to do this to build an office. He specifically purchased his property because of the vicinity to parkland. He assumes they will need to come to the Zoning Board to request a variance because it would be a commercial structure. He is also planning to attend a park meeting tomorrow at 8:30 AM at the park headquarters. He is hoping this can be stopped by getting residents involved. He does not know if the Trustees could pass a resolution objecting to this. Bob responded that in the past, the park district seems to do whatever they want, and he does not agree with that. He is willing to try as hard as they can.
- Ron Scuderi received a call about a township hall rental. The person sounded young, but he wondered what the age requirement was to rent the hall. They can set the rental age. There is an agreement to make the minimum age 21.

Approval of Age to Rent Township Hall

Bob Rohrer **moved** to set the age to 21 years or older to rent the township Hall. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

- Bill Shook said that the Township can request a visit from the Muskingum Watershed District to get more information if they are interested.
- Rory Zito said that he is attending the meeting tonight to speak about the park land. The land is currently farmed by the Fulton's, who have donated a lot of land to the park. The land that they are planning to include in the land swap is a swamp that would likely never have any value to the public.

Old Business

- Employee handbook
- The ARPA fund projects:
 - Township hall/garage, parking lot (Andy Liston) on hold until septic system completed.
 - Township hall doors and any other improvements (Bob Rohrer & Gene Morris)
 - Township hall septic system (Gene Morris)
 - This work is in progress. There was some discussion about fixing the sidewalk since that is a safety concern. Bob suggested that they ask Jim Venus if he could do this work.
 - Ambulance

Approval of Sidewalk Repair

Bob Rohrer moved to have Jim Venus fix the sidewalk at the Township Hall. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

- Resolution 2023-09 Approving an Amended Agreement to Establish a Countywide Emergency Management Agency. Gene said that Brian attended the meeting and feels this will be good. Jerry spoke to a few people who were also in favor.

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

RESOLUTION 2023-09
Approving an Amended Agreement to
Establish a Countywide Emergency Management Agency

WHEREAS, the Medina County Emergency Management agency was originally organized on January 6, 1990 under Ohio Revised Code 5915; and

WHEREAS, all political subdivisions of Medina County have participated in the establishment of a countywide all-hazard emergency operation plan for the benefit of all residents of Medina County; and

WHEREAS, the Guilford Township Trustees desire to continue the coordination of emergency services through a countywide emergency management agency, in the manner provide by ORC 5502.

THEREFORE, the Guilford Township Trustees support the creation of a countywide emergency management agency to be known as the “Medina County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security” hereinafter referred to as MCEMA to perform the services of coordinating the emergency management activities between political subdivisions within Medina County.

Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

- Bob received a call from Kevin Bittaker asking if they had plans to trim some trees at the cemetery that are close to the power lines. Jerry suggested that they contact AJ Tree Service to get a quote, and he can see if they can get a grant to help cover some of the cost.
- Gene said that he also spoke with Kevin Bittaker and noted that if anyone is considering solar panels, they will not be able to sell surplus to BOPA.
- August 15, 2023 meeting will start earlier at 7:00 p.m. to allow time for Road and Fire & EMS planning.

New Business

- Ray Ruprecht requested approval of Supplemental Appropriation transfer in Fund 2282 of \$1,500.00 to (2282-220-319-2850) Other - Professional and Technical Services (Software/Internet) from (2282-760-750) Motor Vehicles.

Approval of Supplemental Appropriation Transfer

Jerry Winkler **moved** to approve the purchase of Supplemental Appropriation transfer in Fund 2282 of \$1,500.00 to (2282-220-319-2850) Other-Professional and Technical Services (Software/Internet) from (2282-760-750) Motor Vehicles. Bob Rohrer 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 \$84,056.05. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Executive Session

Bob Rohrer **moved** to go into executive session at 8:59 P.M. to discuss the employment of public employees and invited Curt Lauer and Ray Ruprecht. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Morris – yes, Winkler - yes.

Bob Rohrer **moved** to come out of the executive session at 9:35 P.M. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Morris - yes, Winkler - yes.

There was no additional business discussed by the trustees.

Adjournment

Jerry Winkler **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Morris - yes, Winkler - yes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Bob Rohrer

Gene Morris

Jerry Winkler

Ray Ruprecht