

**GUILFORD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

November 2, 2021

The Board of Guilford Township Trustees, Medina County, Ohio, met for a regular Trustees meeting on November 2, 2021 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: Chief Brad Winter, Andy Liston, Michael Colonna, Sheriff Terry Grice (MCSO), Curt Lauer, Jerry Springer, Martha Springer, Jonathan Strong, Ron Scuderi, Bill Shook, David Houk, Keith Beetler, Mayor Carter, and Shannon Colonna.

Approval of Minutes

Gene Morris moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 19, 2021. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Department Reports

Medina County Sheriff's Office

- Terry Grice from the Medina County Sheriff's Office is attending tonight's meeting to introduce himself and provide some updates about what is going on at the county level.
- He noted that they are actively hiring and are down to 54 deputies for the whole county. Medina County is the 15th largest county in the state of Ohio at 425 square miles. Employees are now part of the interview process. They are making a number of improvements, including body cameras for all deputies.
- They received the EPA grant to do the litter pickup that could be used for Townships.
- He welcomes suggestions or ideas from the Township.
- One thing that has come up is the sign on Greenwich Road, and they are working on addressing one of the phrases with the Secret Service. He said some of the signage is protected by free speech.
- Gene noted that from his perspective there is a good police presence in the county.
- Ray Ruprecht asked if they have a number that they are trying to reach with their staffing. Sheriff Grice responded that they want to get 28 for road patrol, and they currently have 23.
- Bob asked if there are any updates in the trailer park. Sheriff Grice responded that calls are decreasing and said that Chief Winter has been instrumental in addressing those concerns.
- Michael Colonna asked how overall morale is with the department. Sheriff Grice responded that it is good for road patrol, but there is a lot of overtime for the corrections officers and that is a difficult job.

Fire-EMS Department (Chief Brad Winter)

OCTOBER 2021 Monthly Report		
INCIDENT TYPE	OCTOBER # INCIDENTS	2021 INCIDENT COUNT TO DATE
EMS	56	423
FIRE	22	227
TOTAL	78	650

	OCTOBER #	2021 COUNT TO DATE
FIRE INSPECTIONS	5	39

Fire Inspections were completed at Dollar General, Atlantic Tool and Die, Superior Diesel, Seville Business Park and El Patron.

Building/Grounds/Maintenance

- Everything is in good order.
- Invisible Fence for Marshall was installed, and it is working great!

Apparatus/Equipment

- 176-1 (ladder truck) is at Fallsway. Pump test passed and annual PM is complete on chassis and ladder. Still waiting on the replacement window. Unit will hopefully be in-service by the end of the week.
- Tanker is scheduled for service first week of November at Firovac in Applecreek tomorrow.
- 177-3 (old Squad) has a cracked windshield. Waiting for a new windshield to arrive. Estimate is less than \$500.00.

Significant Calls of Interest

- Mutual Aid house fire to Lafayette on 10/02/2021

Training

- Fire: Auto extrication and stabilization, large area search and rescue
- EMS: Hypothermia
- SGFD had five firefighters participate in the Medina County LEPC full scale exercise on Saturday, October 16th at the Lodi Outlet Mall

Announcements

- The fire department received 60 smoke alarms from Lodi Fire Department. These can be installed for residents that request them.

Funding Requests

- Lt. Kantorik is enrolling in paramedic school which begins in January 2022. He is applying to utilize the GI Bill to pay the cost of tuition. Request Board of Trustees approval to pay cost of tuition of \$6,000.00 for Lt. Steve Kantorik to attend CCF Akron General Medical Center Paramedic Program if the GI Bill funding falls through.
- Chief Winter just received an update that Shannon Zimmerly and Donavan Nichols passed their Firefighter II test, and requests to increase in their pay by one dollar (\$1.00) per hour effective 11/3/2021.

Approval of Paramedic School for Steve Kantorik

Bob Rohrer **moved** to approve the cost of tuition of CCF Akron General Medical Center Paramedic Program for Steve Kantorik for \$6,000.00. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Approval of Pay Increase for Shannon Zimmerly and Donavan Nichols

Gene Morris **moved** to approve the Firefighter II pay increase of one dollar (\$1.00) per hour for Shannon Zimmerly and Donavan Nichols effective 11/3/2021. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Road Supervisor (Andy Liston)

- The Road Department fixed the brakes on 550.
- They used berm machine to fix some berms.
- They mowed River Styx cemetery.
- There was one burial.
- They have started to trim trees back from the roadsides.
- Ray asked about advertising the 2012 truck and the salt spreader. He noticed that there have not been many classified ads for heavy equipment lately and wondered if they wanted to do any additional advertisements. Since it is already advertised for a sealed bid, they can put it on govdeals if they do not accept any of those bids. The sealed bids are due by December 7, 2021. They could also put it on the township website or put the truck out at the town hall or at the fire station.

Zoning Secretary (Shannon Colonna)

- The next Zoning Commission meeting will be next Thursday, November 11. The Zoning Commission has been discussing regulations for solar power and they were going to be reviewing the regulations for Mobile Home Parks. They were also planning to start reviewing the survey feedback this month.
- Shannon has been working on getting the survey responses entered and preparing to post results on the website.

Zoning Inspector (Curt Lauer)

- Curt sent Ray a couple permits for accessory buildings.
- Curt followed up on the complaint about the home occupation on Guilford and has not seen any vehicles

that do not belong to the resident at the property.

- Some vehicles that were in front of a house have been moved.
- Curt will be following up on a complaint that was submitted about an unlicensed vehicle in a front yard.
- Curt received some inquiries on a property that was going up for auction.
- Bob asked about a garage that was built at Bear Swamp and S.R. 57. It looks like someone may be running a business with trucks, and he is not sure if anyone is living at the property. Curt said he has noticed that too, and he will follow up on that.
- Bob read the survey responses and noted that there was a comment about the barn and house next to the compressor station was supposed to be torn down. He thinks it is condemned. Curt said that was before his time and he was not sure. There was some discussion about if this would fall under commercial or agricultural regulations. Gene said they have talked about old agricultural buildings that are no longer safe and would probably not be used for agriculture again. Bob said that if the farm is not being farmed anymore, he was not sure if it would fall under agricultural. Chief Winter has a contact number for Adam Parker at Nexxus. Ray suggested they may also be able to address this as an unsafe structure.
- Ray asked about the status of following up on variances. Curt responded that he needs to know how far they back they want him to go, and he will look up the information on the variances that have been issued. Jerry suggested that Curt start with the most recent variance and home occupation permits and work his way back.
- Bob said that a few people mentioned in the survey responses that they had trouble contacting Curt and that he did not return calls. Curt said that he responded to all of the voice mails.

River Styx Cemetery/Mound Hill Cemetery

- Jerry said that a few foundations have been marked and poured over the past couple weeks.
- Bob followed up with AJ on the tree service, and Ray confirmed that he received the bill.
- Jerry is still working on sending letters to individuals who have only made partial payments.

Trustees Reports

Bob Rohrer

- Bob reviewed the zoning survey comments. He would like to contact some of the people to explain some of the things that they have no control over and make sure people know they are reading the comments.
- Bob spoke with someone who wanted to split a four-acre lot, and he did not think that would be approved.
- Bob received an email from Nexxus said that there was a maintenance issue and it had to be shut down. There was reportedly a big boom when that happened, which was expected.
- Bob contacted the Sheriff again about the sign on Greenwich.

Jerry Winkler

- Jerry helped mark Mound Hill Cemetery foundations.
- Jerry received a call from Mayor Carter about the sign on Greenwich, and he contacted Sheriff Grice about that.
- Jerry can help set up accounts for govdeals for anyone in the township that may need an account.

Gene Morris

- Gene does not have any updates to report.

Comments from the Public

- Jerry Springer asked if Zoning Regulations can be enforced when the ownership changes for the Trailer Park. The property is now up for auction, so ownership will likely be changing in the next month. Gene responded that the process to update regulations is at least 90 days, so they probably do not have time to change the regulations before the sale. The Zoning Commission is going to be reviewing those regulations. The Department of Commerce is supposed to be regulating the trailers. Jerry noted that they are trying to figure out the best way to approach it with the resources they have. Curt thought it would be grandfathered in because they were not changing how the property is being used. Shannon suggested that even if it were grandfathered in, they could communicate current regulations to a new owner and request that they work on complying.
- David Houk wanted to thank the Fire & EMS for their good response. He also wanted to know if the township meeting minutes could be posted online. Bob responded that the minutes are now online.

Old Business

- Ray has been speaking with Ohio Insurance Services Agency, Inc. of Dublin, Ohio about them becoming insurance agency to handle Guilford Township's group Medical Mutual, Delta Dental, VSP and life insurance renewal effective 12/01/2021. This would put them on a composite rate, and premiums would be on the composite rate scale. They will be able to continue grandfathering in the current plan. Ray would only need to submit one check per month, and there are some options for requesting reimbursements. This would end our working relationship with Burnham & Flowers. Gene noted that there will be a savings of about \$20,000 to the Township's General Fund based on how this is structured. In order to make this change, they should set a cut off date for requesting reimbursements claims. Consumer Driven, the current policy administrator, is charging a fee of \$450 to close out the account.

Approval of Ohio Insurance Services Agency Insurance Plans

Gene Morris **moved** to approve to go with Ohio Insurance Services Agency to handle Guilford Township's group Medical Mutual, Delta Dental, CSP and life insurance policies effective 12/01/2021. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

- Shannon has been updating the website with township policies and a request form to comply with the open records/records request policy and guidelines.
- Shannon and Chief Winter are going to be reviewing some of the employee handbook policies.
- Reminder that the Township will need to start thinking about American Rescue Plan funding plans.
- Ray received a voice mail from a potential buyer for J & M Trailer Park and he would like to talk to a Trustee. He does not know what the questions are, but it may be questions for the Zoning Inspector or the Fire Chief. There is a suggestion that they could ask this person to attend a meeting, or they could

have a Zoom call. Bob will call him to find out what he wants.

New Business

- Joel Bender will be attending the November 16th meeting to discuss Ohio Plan Policy.
- The township has received a letter from the Medina County SPCA suggesting a donation of \$13,541.00 for services they provide for animals in the Township.

Approval to Donate \$500 to Medina County SPCA

Jerry Winkler **moved** to donate \$500 to the Medina County SPCA for services that they provide to Guilford Township. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Signing of the Warrants

Gene Morris **moved** to pay the warrants, payroll/accounting EFTs of \$63,559.20. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Executive Session

Gene Morris **moved** to go into executive session at 9:09 P.M. to consider the employment and compensation of public employees and invited Ray Ruprecht. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Winkler - yes, Morris - yes.

Gene Morris **moved** to come out of the executive session at 9:15 P.M. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Winkler - yes Morris - yes.

After coming out of the executive session the trustees had no other business to conduct.

Adjournment

Gene Morris **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Winkler - yes Morris - yes. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 P.M.

Bob Rohrer

Gene Morris

Jerry Winkler

Ray Ruprecht