

GUILFORD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 18, 2022

The Board of Guilford Township Trustees, Medina County, Ohio, met for a regular Trustees meeting on October 18, 2022, 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 Michael Colonna, Jerry Springer, Ron Scuderi, Bill Shook, James Carter, Andy Liston, Tammy Johnson, and Shannon Colonna

Approval of Minutes

Gene Morris **moved** to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 4, 2022, and the special executive session meeting minutes of October 6, 2022, and October 11, 2022. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Department Reports

Fire-EMS Department (Asst. Chief Carter)

- **New Hire-** They have received applications for employment. They have interviewed Hunter Wheeland and he has done ride time for his EMT class at the department. They would like to hire Hunter as a part-time EMT. He was an Explorer with Canaan and will work part-time there as well. Hunter will begin Fire I & II class early spring and will finish in the summer. They request that his beginning pay start at \$13.25/hr., which is the current rate for single certification. He will graduate his EMT class Nov 5, 2022, and his employment would begin after he is certified.
- **New Paramedic** - Danny Loparo has completed all his requirements and is now a Paramedic. He is eligible for a raise to \$20.50/hr. He is also a training officer and gets \$.30/hr. stipend which would bring his hourly rate to \$20.80/hr. They would like this to be effective Oct. 22, 2022, which is the beginning of the next pay period.
- **Maintenance** - The aerial truck 176-1 was tested and passed with no issues. Hose and ladder testing is complete. They failed 300 feet of LDH (large diameter hose). There may be grant funding to replace this and begin replacing other sections of LDH that are the same age and condition. Due to the long wait times on ordering hose, they would like to plan ahead. They still meet ISO requirements for the trucks, but at someone point they do want to replace this.
- **Inspections** - Fire inspectors have been busy inspecting the new Sheetz store and with requests from businesses and vendors testing systems at local businesses. The inspection department is now receiving these requests most days of the week. They have been approached by some sprinkler companies with some questions about requirements for the warehouses that are going in behind Sheetz.
- **Training** - is ongoing with daily training on shift and several members traveling to offsite training. They have members going to Medina FD to participate in training with the flashover trailer. Also, members are going to Lafayette FD for a 12 Lead class with Tim Phalen. Both of these training sessions will offer great opportunities to learn and grow.
- **Fire Prevention Week** – They will be assisting Westfield FD and other local departments for Fire Prevention at Cloverleaf Elementary on Oct 21. The crew did Fire Prevention at Jerusalem Preschool as well.
- **New Squad Update** - Ford has moved the ordering date for the chassis to the end of October which means production will start January of 2023.

- **ARPA Grant** - There were two portions of the ARPA Grant that Brad had submitted. One portion is \$60,000 for recruitment and retention and the other was \$29,000 for first responder mental health. The officers would prefer not to move forward with the mental health portion of the grant as it mandates all members to go for a mental evaluation. They have many resources currently and some come with no cost. They feel that mandating members to get an evaluation would be detrimental to retention as many members would prefer not to be required to have an evaluation. All members are provided with resources and educated on mental health regularly. They provide debriefings after particularly stressful calls, which are free through the Medina County Peer Support Team. They also have Marshall as a therapy/companion dog. The recruitment and retention portion of this grant is still under review, and they are working to find out more details.
- **New Fuel Account** - They would like to switch the fuel account to Sheetz. They have a much more convenient and accessible area for larger vehicles. Also, they have air lines so that they can check tire pressure. Currently they get 80 psi at the station but at Sheetz they go to 120 psi for semis. Captain Johnson has spoken to the corporate office and the process for switching the Circle K account to Sheetz is pretty simple. Ray already has the application and paperwork.
- Bob noted that he received a call from Brad about the grants, and Asst. Chief Carter said that he also spoke with Brad. Ray would like more information about the recruitment and retention portion of the grant when they get that. This might be related to funds from the CARES act, and from his understanding, the department was not impacted that much by Covid. Captain Johnson said that she spoke with someone about this today and is waiting on more information.
- Gene asked why they do not have an air compressor at the fire station that will fill the tires. Jerry said that is the way it has always been. They might want to look into pricing for a new air compressor that will fill their tires.

Approval to Hire Hunter Wheeland Part Time EMT

Bob Rohrer **moved** to hire Hunter Wheeland as Part-time EMT at a rate of \$13.25 per hour after he completes his certification with all probationary provisions. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Approval to Promote Danny Loparo to Paramedic

Jerry Winkler **moved** to approve the pay increase for Danny Loparo to Paramedic at a rate of \$20.80 per hour, which includes a \$0.30 per hour training officer stipend. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Approval to Move Fuel Account to Sheetz

Bob Rohrer **moved** to approve to change the fuel account for the township to Sheetz. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Road Supervisor (Andy Liston)

- Finished mowing roadsides
- Still working on cleaning ditches
- Dug two graves; one at Mound Hill and one at River Styx
- Andy checked on the permitting for concrete driveways, and he said that it has been this way for years, and Guilford Township does not fill in the offset. All of the permits state that this is the responsibility of the contractor.

- Andy is waiting for some more quotes on the mower.

Zoning Secretary (Shannon Colonna)

- Shannon attended the Medina County Planning Commission meeting on October 5, 2022. They recommended a few minor changes for clarity, and the changes were approved with those modifications.
- The Zoning Commission met on October 13, 2022. They had the public meeting on text changes for Junk and Junk Vehicles and organizational changes. The Zoning Commission approved the modifications from the Planning Commission, and these changes have been sent to the Trustees.
- The Zoning Commission also started to discuss the Comprehensive Development Plan. In Shannon's opinion, it was clear that most of the members were not prepared. This has been on the agenda since at least March. Shannon has some concerns because some of the decisions seemed rushed and there was more to discuss, such as removing Open Space Development Plans from one of the policies. She had spent a significant amount of time getting information about current land use and trends over the past ten years, and it did not seem like that was being considered. It also seemed like no one had any ideas for new policies they might want to consider adding to support the goals, so Shannon has been spending some time reviewing Comprehensive Development Plans for other Township that are nearby or have similar goals and putting those in a list to be used as a reference.
- Bob said that he thinks they need to have a talk with members of the Zoning Board and tell them that they need to do more preparation for meetings.
- Gene said that he attended the meeting last week, and he challenged members of the Zoning Commission to get out more, change their routes and do more to understand what is going on in the Township.
- Jerry agreed that it is hard to find people but thinks that it is better to have fewer engaged, prepared members.
- Gene said if Shannon had not kept the conversation going in the last meeting, it would have ended after ten minutes.
- Bob suggested that at least one of the Trustees try to attend the Zoning Commission meetings. It is okay for more than one of them to attend another meeting as members of the public, they just cannot conduct Trustee business.

Approval to Hold Public Hearing on Text Changes

Gene Morris **moved** to hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 1st at 7:30 PM to review proposed text changes. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Zoning Inspector (Curt Lauer)

- Curt is absent and did not provide a report.
- Bob reported that Curt followed up on voice mails that came in while he was on vacation.
- Gene said that he reported something to Curt and Scott in September and has not received any updates.
- Gene said that Curt is also supposed to be following up with the Prosecutor's Office on a couple of things, and they have not received any updates.

River Styx Cemetery/Mound Hill Cemetery

- Jerry met with one of the individuals for the outstanding payments. There is still one outstanding.

Cemetery lot payments/letter to individuals to either begin payments or funds returned?

- (\$790 paid, \$560 outstanding), (\$550 paid, \$1100 outstanding)
- Jerry spoke with Scott, and he can return to working on November 1. He is limited with how much money he can make a year with his retirement. There was some discussion about what to pay him.

Approval to Purchase

Jerry Winkler **moved** to hire Scott Oring as Assistant Cemetery Sexton for Mound Hill and River Styx Cemetery at the pay rate of \$15.00 an hour beginning November 1, 2022. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

- Bob reporting that AJ Tree Service completed some of the tree work with the crane. There is still some more work to do.

Trustees Reports

Bob Rohrer

- Bob received a question about a driveway offset this week.
- Bob received a report that someone was going to have an ‘oil party’ at his house and reported that to Curt. There was something like sixty people that were going to be going to his house to have oil sprayed on their cars. Curt notified the person that this was not allowed in residential areas.
- Bob attended the October 6th and October 11th special Trustee meetings.

Gene Morris

- Gene met with Greg Piatt, and they were able to locate both South property line pins. These were needed to complete the septic paperwork to send to MCHD.
- Gene attended the October 6th and October 11th special Trustee meetings.
- Gene attended the October 20th Zoning Commission meeting.
- Gene reviewed the proposed text changes.

Jerry Winkler

- Jerry assisted with a burial.
- Jerry contacted candidates about the second interview for Fire Chief.
- Jerry received a call about concerns about the zoning commission.
- Jerry drove by the old Turnea property, and there is a new house there now.
- Jerry met with Nexxus and the Fire Department about a grant. They mentioned that they could provide tours of the facility.
- Jerry attended the October 6th and October 11th special Trustee meetings.

Comments from the Public

- There are no comments from the public

Old Business

- Employee handbook – No updates
- The ARPA funds projects selected to further look into were assigned to begin getting input from different sources.
 - River Styx and Mound Hill Cemetery tree removal (Bob Rohrer) in progress
 - Township hall/garage parking lot (Andy Liston) on hold until septic system completed
 - Township hall doors, foundation, and any other improvements (Bob Rohrer & Gene Morris)
 - Bob received an email from Asst. Chief Carter asking if they were interested in another quote. He knows someone that might be interested. Bob will follow up on that.
 - Gene provided contact information for someone else.
 - There was some discussion about if panic hardware was required.
 - Work on the foundation may be starting next week.
 - Township hall septic system (Gene Morris)
 - Fire station renovations – on hold

New Business

- Frank Harmon (Ohio Insurance Services) will be at the November 1st meeting and Joel Bender (Ohio Plan) will attend November 15th meeting.
- Medina County Stormwater Commission is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. Thursday November 3, 2022. Andy is planning to attend.

Signing of the Warrants

Jerry Winkler **moved** to pay PO 28-2022, the warrants, payroll/accounting EFTs of \$41,748.84. Bob Rohrer seconded the motion. Roll call: Morris – yes, Rohrer – yes, Winkler – yes.

Executive Session

Bob Rohrer **moved** to go into executive session at 9:00 P.M. to discuss the employment of public employees and invited 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 9:24 P.M. Jerry Winkler seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Morris - yes, Winkler - yes.

There was no additional business discussed by the trustees.

Adjournment

Bob Rohrer **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Gene Morris seconded the motion. Roll call: Rohrer - yes, Morris - yes, Winkler - yes. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Bob Rohrer

Gene Morris

Jerry Winkler

Ray Ruprecht