

RAVENNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 27, 2021

The Ravenna Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Session at the Ravenna Township Trustee's Meeting Room, 6115 Spring Street, Ravenna, Ohio, on July 27, 2021. Trustee Hank Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

Roll call showed the following present: Trustees Vince Coia, Pat Artz and Hank Gibson; Fiscal Officer Gail Pittman; Fire Chief Mark Kozak, Zoning Inspector Jim DiPaola and Assistant Fiscal Officer Jon Summers. Road Superintendent Ray Taylor was absent. There were many residents from the Fairhill/Hodgson neighborhood.

AUDIENCE

Michael Canan spoke about water problems in his basement when it rains. It is not a new problem and the situation was much better when they used to have open ditches.

Greg Karasek was not a resident there but was speaking for his mother-in-law. He made a map of work that has been done in the neighborhood since 1993 and discussed what he has documented. Many people have had to put in B-Dry systems in their basements.

Sandra Alger moved to her Hodgson address in 1989 and is down lower from the cemetery. She believes that every time a grave is dug and a cement vault is placed, it makes the flooding in her yard worse. Professionals (one from Soil and Water) have told her that is not the case.

Tim Craft said Rhinehart talked to a neighbor and put in a swale. He said the yards didn't start flooding until Rhinehart had cut in the hill in the back part of the cemetery.

Matthew Clites spoke about the improvements in their yards as a result of their mitigation efforts. He put a large pipe that is not tied into the culvert because the culvert doesn't work. He believes that when the culverts used to work, they were probably tied into a retention pond. He inquired as to where Ray would start looking with a camera.

Kim said one of the catch basins is higher than the surrounding pavement.

Tim said that Ray did come out and look at the pipes a couple of years ago. There was a collapse and they fixed it, but the problem is back again, so the problem must exist in a different place.

Another resident complained that back in 2003 water was coming in from Summit Road and the County said there was nothing they could do about it.

Vince spoke how in the past, in areas that were flooding, we were able to borrow the City's sewer jet camera. He said we possibly might be able to do that again and will get Ray out to inspect.

Vince and Hank both stated that we may be able to use the ARPA funds to mitigate the problem. Mark Kozak told the group that this type of problem needs to connect with EMA to get this issue on their radar. Randi Clites said she contacted them already and they said this does not qualify because they see it as a backup issue, not a flooding issue. Many residents shared pictures and videos of their problems. Vince Labbe volunteered to be the contact for the group for future communications.

REGULAR BUSINESS

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Pat Artz to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2021. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Pat Artz to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 19, 2021. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, abstain. Motion Passed.

Hank announced the correspondence book was available in the Fiscal Office for public viewing during normal business hours.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Pat Artz to approve payroll warrants for July 30, 2021 in the amount of \$34,082.35 and other warrants in the amount of \$22,844.62 with warrants over \$1,000.00 being read aloud for approval. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES # 21-104 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Pat Artz to approve the resolution of necessity for levying an EMS renewal tax exceeding the ten-mil limitation. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

OLD BUSINESS: **TRUSTEES**

Hank said he had received the copy of the grievance settlement agreement and asked for clarification on the language and the effective dates. He said that the attorney misconstrued what the language in the agreement actually said.

FISCAL OFFICER

Gail gave an update on the new building. CTMS has installed the new Fiscal Officer PC as provided by UAN and now appears to be working fine. The old PC is no longer in service and the State Auditor has donated it to the township. It will be cleared and will be used in the new building.

RES # 21-105 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to accept the donation of the old Fiscal Officer PC from the State Auditor for use in the new building. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Ray was absent and Vince reported the following:

The contractor repairs to Hidden Brook have been completed and the new paving will begin tomorrow (Wednesday).

Lang Automotive has completed the frontend work on one of the road trucks

The curb repairs on Pineridge are done.

GRANDVIEW CEMETERY

Two spots in the Columbariums have been sold. Someone is interested in purchasing a 12 plot area in one of the cemetery sections.

Pat inquired as to whether any of the Covid money could be used to put in a bathroom in the building out on Cleveland Road. Gail said the sewer lines there were capped years ago.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

Zoning Inspector Jim DiPaola was present and reported the following:

The Zoning Commission will meet August 18, 2021 to discuss Zoning Code updates.

The BZA met July 14, 2021 to hear a variance request from William Hopkins, 4964 Woodview Rd. to build an accessory building in the front yard area of his property. The variance request was denied.

A violation letter was sent to the owner of 6148 Spring St. The property owner contacted the Zoning Inspector on July 27, 2021. The chickens and most of the junk and trash has been removed and the owner has been given until August 6, 2021 to complete the clean-up.

A violation letter was sent to 3392 SR 59. The owner contacted the Zoning Inspector on July 27, 2021 to state the tenant had been put on notice and the full dumpster is to be picked up by Friday, July 30, 2021. The owner was given until August 6, 2021 to correct all violations.

The property owner at 6437 Woodlawn called to complain about a street light that is located on her property that shines on the yard and not the road. Jim investigated and found that the street light does shine on the yard and not the road. There is another street light approximately 50 feet away that does light up the intersection of Woodlawn and Plainview. The street light in the yard is being paid for by Ravenna Township. Jim requested a motion to have the street light disconnected and removed from the pole by First Energy. A discussion ensued about how and when a yard light would have been put in by the township. The Trustees asked Jim to find out the expense of removing the streetlight.

LIAISON

The Building Committee met on July 21, 2021 and reviewed the new building specifications.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Mark Kozak was present and reported the following:

The items to be purchased from the FEMA Public Assistance Program have been ordered.

The Ohio EMS Reimbursement Grant items have also been ordered.

The FEMA AFG 2018 and 2019 Grants are waiting to be closed out.

Mark has reapplied for the Firehouse Subs Grant.

Firefighter Patton is requesting a leave of absence until January 27, 2022.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia approve a leave of absence request for Firefighter Patton until January 27, 2022. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Mark is working with Jim and Matt on a fee schedule for plan reviews for new commercial construction.

Mark requested an executive session regarding employee discipline.

NEW BUSINESS

TRUSTEES

The city sent the new salt agreement for the 2021-22 season. The trustees said they would like to have Ray review it before they discuss and sign it.

Vince said he has received a call from Bill Steiner about renegotiating the recycling contract. He is proposing to increase the charge with no additional services, even though the price is locked in for several more years. The trustees said they would be happy to talk with Mr. Steiner.

A motion by Pat Artz, seconded by Hank Gibson to not renegotiate the curbside recycling contract with the Portage County Recycling District prior to its expiration date. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

FISCAL OFFICER

RES # 21-106 A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Pat Artz to approve BC's as listed:

- a. BC#10-2021 in the amount of \$500.00 for misc. small repairs and maintenance from the Fire fund.
- b. BC #11-2021 in the amount of \$500.00 for misc. supplies from the Fire fund
R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Financial reports were sent to the Trustees and department heads in Excel format.

The Trustees reviewed accounts submitted by Life Force for disposition.

RES # 21-107 A motion by Pat Artz, seconded by Hank Gibson to send all accounts listed in group 1 to Capital Recovery for collection. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES # 21-108 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to send all accounts listed in group 2, with the exception of line #2, to the Attorney General for collection. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES # 21-109 A motion by Pat Artz, seconded by Hank Gibson to accept the amount paid on line 2 in group 3 as paid in full. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES # 21-110 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Pat Artz to write off line 1 in group 3. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES # 21-111 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Pat Artz to send all accounts listed in line 3 though line 6 in group 3 to the Attorney General for collection. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Budgetary items presented for discussion.

RES # 21-112 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to authorize the addition of a new Fund #2273 to be titled ARPA American Rescue Plan Act Funds for the purpose of accounting for Federal grant monies to be received. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES # 21-113 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to increase the revenue budget in the new Fund #2273 from \$0.00 to \$481,959.63. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Pursuant to R.C 121.22(g) Executive Session was requested to discuss employee discipline matters.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to suspend Regular session at 9:00 pm. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to enter into Executive session at 9:00 pm. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Roll call showed the following present: Trustees Vince Coia, Pat Artz, Hank Gibson, Fiscal Officer Gail Pittman, and Mark Kozak.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to close Executive session at 9:05 pm.
R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Pat Artz to re-enter into Regular session at 9:10 pm.
R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Roll call showed the following present: Trustees Vince Coia, Pat Artz, Hank Gibson, Fiscal Officer Gail Pittman.

The purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss employee discipline matters.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to approve the Leave of Absence for Patrick Tippen. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 pm.
R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mrs. Artz, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

ATTEST:

CHAIR

TRUSTEE

FISCAL OFFICER

TRUSTEE