

**RAVENNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 2, 2024**

The Ravenna Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Session at the Ravenna Township Trustee's Meeting Room, 6145 Spring Street, Ravenna, Ohio, on April 2, 2024. Trustee Jim DiPaola called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Roll call showed the following present: Trustees Vince Coia, Jim DiPaola and Hank Gibson, Fire Chief Dave Moore, Zoning Inspector Lori Rotondo, Road Superintendent Ray Taylor and Assistant Fiscal Officer Jon Summers. Fiscal Officer Gail Pittman was absent.

AUDIENCE

None

REGULAR BUSINESS

The motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2024 was tabled until the next meeting.

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

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to approve payroll warrants for April 5, 2024 in the amount of \$51,823.29 and other warrants in the amount of \$119,189.13 with warrants over \$1,000.00 being read aloud for approval. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

**OLD BUSINESS
TRUSTEES**

Vince asked Dave whether bills had been received for the recent exposure in his department. Dave said he had not heard anyone mention it, but will check.

Jim said Regional Planning is looking for people for the Steering Committee for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan update and asked the other trustees to come up with several names each.

Vince said the Department of Health is having a meeting on April 21, 2024. There is good info online about it.

Jim said the county architect still has not reviewed our building plans for the new garage.

The 2024 Community Development Implementation Strategy done by Regional Planning was discussed. The trustees would like to see the flooding issues in the trailer park in Black Horse be addressed by dredging that stream. Vince said he would talk with PCE Jenkins about it. The trustees also thought a tornado shelter for the trailer park area would be good. If not a shelter, maybe see about getting Brown Middle School designated as a spot for that area to go in case of tornado emergency. Jim said he would talk with Ryan at the EMA about it.

FISCAL OFFICER

None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Ray was present and reported the following:

Ray said it was time for the spring clothing allowance for the road crew.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve the annual clothing reimbursement allowance of \$150.00/each road crew member. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Ray requested the purchase of safety shirts for the crew.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve the purchase of 2 safety shirts for each worker through HiVis.com at the cost of \$388.36. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Ray received quotes for tree removal and trimming at the park which should get done before the sidewalk replacement takes place. Cline Tree Service came in at \$4,200.00 and Mike Soboro quoted \$3,500.00.

RES #24-031 A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Jim DiPaola to approve having Mike Soboro trim the trees, remove two trees and grind the stumps of the removed trees at the Township Park at the cost of \$3,500.00. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

The road crew used the sewer jet for cleaning the culverts at the corner of Ferndale and Gladys. The water was backed up there and over the roadway. It is cleared and running fine now.

GRANDVIEW CEMETERY

There were three very muddy burials and one niche sale in the past two weeks.

The new propane tank at the cemetery needs filled. Acorn Propane will fill the 120 gal. tank for \$304.95.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve the purchase 120 gallons of propane from Acorn Propane at the cost of \$304.95 for the tank at Grandview. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

A family has asked to trade two lots purchased back in the 1970s for a spot in one of the columbarium's.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Jim DiPaola to offer to sell one of the columbarium spots to the Ohman family for \$450 with the understanding that the family relinquishes the two plots and will be required to pay the opening and closing fee for the columbarium. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Ray has not been able to get a response from Kozma Electric yet for the installation of the generator.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to declare the old air compressor as surplus and sell it on GovDeals.com. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

Lori Rotondo was present and reported the following:

Lori has mailed out flyers for the spring clean up to all the addresses with trash violations.

Lori reviewed the permits and violations issued recently and gave updates on older ones. She asked the trustees for a motion to dismiss one of the court cases since the owner was cleaning things up. The trustees said they will wait until the property cleanup was complete before taking further action.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Dave Moore was present and reported the following:

The Chief discussed the preparations being done for the solar eclipse next week. He has additional people working and will station a truck and ambulance over on the east end of the township from noon until 5:00 PM or so.

One of the new part time firefighters started his EMT school without notifying the chief, so Dave asked that the trustees approve the class retroactively. The Chief will make sure future people will know not to sign up without prior approval.

RES #24-032 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to approve and authorize sending Mason Phillips to EMT-Basic school at UH for \$1,535.00 retroactive to when the class started. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

The Chief has a paramedic candidate and a recruit that he wants to hire.

RES #24-033 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to approve hiring Martin Rehor as a paramedic/firefighter at the rate of \$18.30/hr. per cba pending the passing of the physical, drug test and background check. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES #24-034 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to approve hiring Aaron Gissinger as a Recruit at the rate of \$12.00/hr. pending the passing of the physical, drug test and background check. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Dave requested an executive session at the end of the meeting for a matter of employee compensation.

Hank asked Dave to make sure he hits all the job fairs at the schools to try to get more interest in working as firefighters and paramedics.

Squad #2411 went to Sarchione Ford for its preventative maintenance. Squad #2412 is scheduled for its PM.

The UTV #2417 has been fixed and is operational. Procedures are being developed to ensure that it is run frequently and is being maintained.

Dave summarized the March activity report.

NEW BUSINESS**TRUSTEES**

The sewer meeting for the Chinn Development area has been scheduled the same day and time as the Trustees' meeting (April 30th). We will need to move our meeting.

A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Jim DiPaola to move the April 30, 2024 Trustee meeting to 7:00 PM on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

There will be an open house at the Health Department tomorrow from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm.

Vince said he distributed flyers about the spring clean up to the King Kennedy and Skeels community buildings.

The trustees discussed the NOPEC grant that needs approval.

RES #24-035 A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank Gibson to authorize ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2024 ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT

WHEREAS, the Township of Ravenna, Ohio (the “GRANTEE”) is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (“NOPEC”) and is eligible for one or more NOPEC Energized Community Grant(s) for 2024 (“NEC Grant(s)”) as provided for in the NEC Grant Program guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the GRANTEE wishes to enter into a Grant Agreement with NOPEC, Inc. in substantially the form presented to this Board of Trustees to receive one or more NEC Grant(s); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF RAVENNA TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF PORTAGE AND STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

SECTION 1. This Board of Trustees of the GRANTEE (the “Board”) finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the GRANTEE to enter into the Grant Agreement to accept the NEC Grant(s) for 2024 and authorizes the President of the Board to execute the Grant Agreement to accept the NEC Grant(s) funds.

SECTION 2. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board and that all deliberations of this Board and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

SECTION 3. This Resolution is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the GRANTEE; wherefore, this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the President of the Board of Trustees of the GRANTEE.

R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

FISCAL OFFICER

RES #24-036 A motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Jim DiPaola to approve POs as listed:

Item	PO#	Amount	Vendor	Purpose	Fund
A	11-2024	\$3,000.00		BZA & Zoning Commission meetings	Zoning
B	205-2024	\$325.00	Villager Business Solutions	Uniform allowance, Jim Collins	Fire
C	206-2024	\$19.50	Port Co Clerk of Courts	Court fees case 2023CV00489	Zoning
D	207-2024	\$800.00	Port Co Clerk of Courts	Court filing fees	Zoning
E	208-2024	\$2,700.00	AT&T Mobility Nat'l	Cell phone fees	Fire
F	209-2024	\$30.00	Jeff Gaynor	BZA	Zoning
G	210-2024	\$30.00	Remy Arness	BZA	Zoning
H	211-2024	\$30.00	Joann McEwen	BZA	Zoning
I	212-2024	\$30.00	Gary Long	BZA	Zoning
J	213-2024	\$30.00	Claire Moore	BZA	Zoning
K	214-2024	\$30.00	Kerry Hollender	BZA	Zoning
L	215-2024	\$60.00	Bev Kibler	Zoning Commission	Zoning

M	216-2024	\$60.00	Kristi Blazek-Hack	Zoning Commission	Zoning
N	217-2024	\$60.00	Eric Courtney	Zoning Commission	Zoning
O	218-2024	\$60.00	Linda Faltisco	Zoning Commission	Zoning
P	219-2024	\$60.00	Robert Vair	Zoning Commission	Zoning
Q	220-2024	\$30.00	Diane Lee	Zoning Commission	Zoning
R	221-2024	\$1,535.00	UH EMS Institute	EMT Course Mason Phillips	Fire
S	222-2024	\$450.00	HiVisSupply.com	Safety shirts for Road Dept	Road
T	223-2024	\$150.00	Ray Taylor	Clothing Allowance	Road
U	224-2024	\$150.00	Doug Dillon	Clothing allowance	Road
V	225-2024	\$150.00	Nathan Holt	Clothing allowance	Road
W	226-2024	\$150.00	Hunter Grimes	Clothing allowance	Road
X	227-2024	\$400.00	Acorn LPG	Propane	Grandview
Y	228-2024	\$3,500.00	Mike Sorboro	Tree work in the park	General
Z	229-2024	\$948.00	Treasurer of Ohio	UAN fees 2 nd Qtr 2024	General
AA	230-2024	\$3,000.00	Treasurer of Ohio	UAN fees balance of 2024	General

R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Financial reports were distributed to the Trustees and department heads in Excel format. Gail moved \$245,000 back to the Star Ohio account today.

Pursuant to R.C 121.22(g) Executive Session was requested for the purpose of discussing employment compensation.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to suspend Regular session at 8:40 pm. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to enter Executive session at 8:40 pm. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Attendance: Vince Coia, Jim DiPaola, Hank Gibson, Jon Summers, Dave Moore.

Returned to open session at 9:10 pm. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Vince Coia to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

ATTEST:

CHAIR

TRUSTEE

FISCAL OFFICER

TRUSTEE