


FISCAL OFFICER:


Mandie Andrews

APPROVED:


Dick Heidecker, Chairman


Tony Manning, Vice Chairman

Mark C. Cunningham, Chairman

Chairman Dick Heidecker called the January 17, 2023 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Columbia Town Hall.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Fiscal Officer Mandie Andrews took roll call attendance and Trustees Dick Heidecker, Tony Manning and Mark Cunningham were present.

Fiscal Officer Andrews sent all meeting reports to the Trustees electronically.

Minutes from the 2023 Organizational Meeting on January 3, 2023 were presented for approval.

Motion Manning to approve the minutes as written. Seconded Cunningham. Vote unanimous.

Minutes from the regular meeting on January 3, 2023 were presented for approval.

Motion Cunningham to approve the minutes as written. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous.

Bills and payroll totaling \$45,042.42 were presented for payment.

Motion Cunningham to pay bills and payroll totaling \$45,042.42. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Crossroads Asphalt Recycling announcing a price increase for cold patch material and aggregates effective January 16, 2023.

Letter from Dave Frye, chairman of the Columbia Township Zoning Commission, regarding the Zoning Commission's unanimous approval of Zoning Amendments 2022-01, 2022-02, 2022-03 and 2022-04.

Letter from Christin Brandon notifying the Trustees that David Zentkovich, MLM Land Development, has submitted a final plat of the Baker Creek Subdivision – Phase III to the Lorain County Planning Commission. It will be reviewed by the Subdivision Review Subcommittee on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 2 p.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room A.

CORRESPONDENCE RESPONSE:

There was no correspondence response.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

There was no one present from the Sheriff's Department. The December Incident Report was published in the Rural-Urban.

ZONING INSPECTOR:

Permits – For January 2 through January 13, 2022, Zoning Inspector Bob Eichenberg issued four permits for one deck, one garage addition and two single-family homes. Year-to-date, he has issued two permits for single-family homes.

Violations –

10115 Bryant Avenue

Eichenberg reported the company that owns this home brought in a dumpster and cleaned up the entire property.

Sprague Road

Eichenberg receive a complaint from a resident on Sprague Road about a neighbor who was filling his property. He did not have a fill permit and flooded all of his neighbors. Eichenberg doesn't have the property owner's name yet. He lives in Westlake and is working on the house. According to the neighbor who complained, the property owner put the fill dirt in 6 months ago.

Zoning Commission – On January 5, 2023, the Zoning Commission approved four zoning amendments. They have been sent to the Trustees to set a public hearing. Their next regular meeting is on Thursday, February 2, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals – The BZA had no cases in January. Their next meeting is on Monday, February 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. They will hear one case which is a request from Ummah Inc., 24050 Royalton Road, for a Conditional Use Permit for a private school serving Pre K to 4th grade.

New Subdivision Status – Nothing new reported.

MS4'S – No complaints or problems reported.

ROAD DEPARTMENT:

Equipment – Service Director Bob Rundle reported he is still waiting on repairs to a snowplow truck that is down. The truck needs a new manifold and turbo. The manifold is still on order.

Issue I Status – Rundle had nothing new to report concerning the status of the 2023 applications.

Subdivision Status – The developers have been putting up silt fence and doing quite a bit of catch basin cleaning.

Department Input – Rundle has verbal approval of the SWAC planning grant for the Ives Ditch. This grant is for the engineering study only.

MS4'S – No complaints or problems reported. Today, Rundle had a discussion with Don Romancak about the paperwork required for a possible Ohio EPA audit of the Lorain County Stormwater District's Phase II MS4 permit.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Personnel – Chief Anthony reported 40 members on file and 34 members on call.

Runs – To date, the Fire Department has responded to 32 runs.

Transport Billing – December receipts totaled \$10,900.52. The 2022 total is \$149,038.77.

Equipment – All equipment is up and running.

Mutual Aid – Mutual Aid has been given five times and requested once.

Station Coverage – All hours offered are being covered.

Department Input – Colleen MacKenzie has started with the Cleveland Fire Department and she won't be able to work here for one year. The two men hired by the City of Parma were hired on a Safer Grant.

Chief Anthony asked for approval to send two firemen, Gerald Peters and Mike Arena to the February Northern Ohio Arson Seminar in Ashland, Ohio. A third fireman, Jason Edmonson, may possibly attend, too.

Motion Cunningham to send Gerald Peters, Mike Arena, and Jason Edmondson, if he is able to attend, to the arson investigation seminar. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous. 1-17-2023-21

Chief Anthony reported he is working on a couple of grants including the State Fire Marshall's grant. He is also looking to see if his department qualifies for a safety grant.

Chairman Heidecker commented on the controversy over the new radio system. He said the radios not only affect the safety forces but also the hospitals in Lorain County.

CEMETERY:

Rita Plata reported the receipt of \$2,500 for four burials.

OLD BUSINESS:

NOPEC 2023 Community Event Sponsorship Grant – Chairman Heidecker noted Abiding Faith Bible Church accepted this grant for "The Night to Shine" prom for individuals with handicaps.

Land Swap on Snell Road – Cunningham reported that he has not heard back from the Lorain County Prosecutor yet. He was going to talk to the developers.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cell Tower Lease – Cunningham commented that he has a copy of the first amendment to the lease, but his copy does not have any signatures. He asked Mandie Andrews to reach out to American Tower to see if they have a copy with signatures. He said if it is signed, we are covered until 2040, and if not, we are covered until 2025. It does look like the person who has been contacting Mandie has not found anything indicating that the lease was extended.

Request from Friends of the Library for Permission to Build a Storage shed behind the Library – Representing the Friends of the Library were Ethel Schiemann, Dennis Ross, and Branch Librarian John Guscott. They requested approval to place a small shed behind the library to store books for their book sales. Ethel Schiemann said they have been storing their books in the library, but the library now wants to use that area. They proposed placing the shed on the south end of the building. John Guscott said the shed would be a simple one from Lowes in the \$1,000 to \$2,000 range.

Cunningham told them would be helpful to see where they want to locate the shed. Rundle said the last time they requested a shed, the Township's insurance company was not happy about putting a flammable building so close to the library. Cunningham asked for time to check with the Township's insurance company. Chief Anthony said they would have to tie the fire alarm into the storage building. Cunningham also asked Bob Eichenberg about the zoning for building a shed so close to a building, and Eichenberg said there is nothing in the Zoning Resolution about the distance to a building.

Chairman Heidecker said to them to mark it off and we will talk to our insurance company.

Approve 2022 ODOT Mileage – Bob Rundle reviewed ODOT'S mileage number, 46.208 miles, and said it is correct.

Motion Cunningham to approve the 2022 ODOT mileage certification. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous.
1-17-2023-22

Public Hearing for Zoning Amendments 2022-01, 2022-02, 2022-03, 2022-04 – Manning went to the Zoning Commission's public hearing and he thinks these amendments will tie in very nicely with the new Comprehensive Plan. He said the key amendment is 2022-04.

Cunningham looked at it and found 2022-04 puts a quarter of mile of Janell Drive in commercial and also on South Boone Road. Cunningham would like a map with an overlay of the proposed rezoning to review.

The Trustees agreed to set a public hearing for the four zoning amendments on February 6, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cunningham reported the Lorain County Township Association will meet on January 19th in Sheffield Township. The Rocky River Watershed Council's annual meeting is on January 25th at 6:00 p.m. Cunningham will not be able to attend because he will be in Columbus for the Ohio Township Association's Winter Conference.

The RLCWA Board meeting is at 7 p.m. on February 8th.

Heidecker had nothing new to report concerning NEORSD. He did attend a Lorain County Health Advisory meeting where he learned that SNAP benefits are being cut over 90%. The hunger pantries are concerned about having enough food to meet the

needs of those whose benefits are reduced.

Manning had nothing new to report concerning SWGH.

Manning updated the Trustees on the activities of the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. On January 10th and 12th, two companies made presentations to the Steering Committee, Envision and Mackin Engineers and Consultants. Envision is located in Cleveland and Mackin Engineers and Consultants is a Pittsburgh company.

The Steering Committee unanimously chose Envision. Cunningham and Heidecker also attended the presentations and also liked Envision best. Envision proposed a cost not to exceed \$81,300 for the Comprehensive Plan Update and Zoning Map and Zoning Resolution changes. Chairman Heidecker suggested Manning go forward with asking the county for money.

Manning already met with Don Romancak of the Lorain County Community Development Department about obtaining partial funding of the cost from the Lorain County Commissioners for this project.

Manning said the 2-year moratorium on single-family homes expires in July of 2024, and we need to step it up and get a plan in place.

There was some discussion about possible litigation with Manning noting nothing is guaranteed with the law. Cunningham said, of the two companies, he agreed with Envision. Cunningham noted if there is litigation, the Township won't be represented by the Lorain County Prosecutor. The attorney will be whoever our insurance company provides. He said the Lorain County Prosecutor is the backup attorney with the insurance company.

Cunningham said the problem with the last Land Use Plan was that the map did not mirror the map in the Zoning Resolution. Heidecker agreed that the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Resolution have to mirror each other if the township ends up in a lawsuit. Heidecker said that is why we dropped that last Comprehensive Plan. Cunningham said the Zoning Map and the map in the Comprehensive Plan have to match exactly.

Resident Dennis Ross asked if the Trustees could go to OTARMA to see about raising the \$50,000 they will pay for litigation. Manning does not like the \$50,000 cap. Manning said the Lorain County Prosecutor doesn't cost anything. He commented that Granger Township used their county prosecutor to go all the way to the Supreme Court.

Heidecker and Cunningham were okay with Manning contacting Envision to let them know they were selected. Manning will forward Envision's contract to Lorain County Prosecutor Greg Peltz for review. He will also talk to Peltz about the resolution needed to approve Envision. Manning hopes to have the resolution ready for approval by February 6th.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

The Trustees gave everyone present the opportunity to ask question and/or offer comments.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion Cunningham to adjourn the meeting. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous.

RECEIPTS

LC SOLID WASTE RECYCLING INCENTIVE GRANT (USED FOR PICNIC TABLES)	\$ 6,927.66
REFUND FOR AMAZONG RETURN FOR FAULTY SPEAKER (HEIDECKER'S TWP CREDIT CARD)	\$1,299.00
LC AUDITOR (JANUARY LOCAL GOV)	8,592.55
LC AUDITOR (JANUARY HB LOCAL GOV)	756.21
HUNTING MEADOWS HYDRANT MAINTENANCE REIMBURSEMENT	1,264.60
OHIO BWC REFUND	207.22
ZONING INSPECTOR	9,451.30
RECREATION FEE (GARLAND HOMES)	1,800.00
RECREATION FEE	1,800.00
CEMETERY	2,500.00
FIRE RUNS	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 34,648.54</u>