Austinburg Township Meeting
September 5, 2023

The regular meeting of the Austinburg Township Board of Trustees opened at 7:30 pm. In attendance were Ginny Seifert, Ted Seifert, Brian O'Dell and Rob Lapuh.

Res. 113-23 John moved to accept the minutes as written, Pete seconded. The Roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 114-23 John moved to pay the bills; Pete seconded. The roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. Bills paid were $55,902.40 and receipts were $50,430.16.

In terms of correspondence we received an email from the Ashtabula County Dept. Environmental Services Office that a Pre-Construction Meeting Information was going to be held Thursday, August 31 at 9:00 a.m. to go over the water lines on 307 and College St. We received Harpersfield Township's newsletter for their upcoming events. We received a prepaid Ohio Electricity Litigation Mastercard.

Zoning Administrator Rob Lapuh said he spoke with Mr. C's about maintaining the weeds. He also reported there is a new residence going in at 1751 Clay St.

Chiefs no report.

R&B no report.

John reported on the discussion that happened in executive session last meeting. The question was sent to the County Prosecutor on whether we can offer different health benefits or no benefits to a new employee or new elected official. The ruling came back that the Township doesn't have to offer the same benefit package to new employees or new elected officials. There will be more discussion on this topic of benefits later. John brought up about the cost which we are inquiring because of having to rent a 1-foot bucket for the track hoe. There was lots of discussion about buying the bucket outright.

Res. 115-23 John moved to purchase a 1-foot bucket for the track hoe from Southeast Equipment for a cost of $1,750, Pete seconded. The Roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

John is planning on going over to request a public document for the records for what the County Commissioners did on the joint TIF we use. After we get the information then we will look to see where we can get legal advice/guidance before we put our TIF into place.

Byron reported that Bob Russell is one of the candidates for the open position on the Health Dept board. Byron strongly suggested we vote for him at the meeting. Byron reported on the NAD meeting. Byron asked Fire Chief Bill Wilms to take the AED's over to NAD to see if they can just be recharged and new pads put on them at this point because of the cost of new ones. Byron reported on the water line meeting. They are going to put a loop in with Route 45 and College St to help with the water supply in town. Byron wrote up a letter thanking Dee Cheney for her involvement in pushing the County to cut back the brush and to put in the new stop signs with flashing lights at the intersection of Clay St and Sexton. Byron spoke with Mandy Jackson on the ACBDD accessibility grant in regards to possibly replacing the elevator or coming up with some other way to do handicap accessibility into the Townhall. The Trustees will work on getting quotes on elevators and some measurements on what we could do outside the building for accessibility. Byron will get with the Fiscal Officer in the next few weeks to wrap up the OPWC grant Round 36 on the Forman Road dirt work.

Pete spoke with Tim Martin for the County Engineers Office in regards to purchasing used equipment. We are still waiting for the County Prosecutor's office on its

ruling on purchasing used equipment. Pete went over the 3 bids for generators for the Road and Bridge garage on Route 45.

Res. 116-23 Pete moved to purchase a 24,000 200-amp generator from Lowe's for $5,757.30. The Township will then submit the cost for reimbursement through the NOPEC Energy Grant, Byron seconded. The Roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Pete reported that the Ohio State Patrol set up a speed check monitor heading North into town. Byron thanked the Country Days committee on what an outstanding job they did this year with the festival,

Residents had no comments.

Res. 117-23 Pete moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm, John seconded. The roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Kanda O'Dell, Fiscal Officer

Pete Haase, Chairman