

Austinburg Township Mins
October 2, 2023

The regular meeting of the Austinburg Township Board of Trustees opened at 7:30 pm. In attendance were Bill Wilms, Brian O'Dell, Lorna Masek and Rob Lapuh.

Res. 122-23 John moved to accept the minutes as written, Pete seconded. The Roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 123-23 John moved to pay the bills; Pete seconded. The roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. Bills paid were \$16,767.33 and receipts were \$19,501.81.

In terms of correspondence we received an email from the Ashtabula County Auditor's Office about Townhall meetings to discuss the tax increase for next year on CAUV and value changes. The Ohio Township Association is offering a new feature next year for classes. The fee is \$250 for a year and gives you the availability to see current class and archive past classes and trainings. We received the information from Medical Mutual in regards to medical insurance and there will be a 19.69% increase this year. Since we are grandfathered in no changes can be made to this plan.

The Fiscal Officer asked for a discussion on what account/branch of the Township should use the two credit cards that came from the Ohio Electricity Litigation settlement. One card is for \$29.38 and the seconded card is for \$58.39.

Res. 124-23 John moved to have the Fire Dept use the \$29.38 credit card and Road Dept use the \$58.39 credit card which are from the Ohio Electricity Litigation settlement, Pete seconded. The Roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye

The Fiscal Officer reported that we did receive our check from the Solid Waste Management District Community Grant of \$2,257. The Fiscal Officer reported that we have been approved for the NOPEC Energy Grant for \$5,757.30 which will cover the cost of the new back up generator for the Road Department garage.

Zoning Administrator Rob Lapuh reported on a new home being built on Woodside Dr.

Fire Chief Bill Wilms reported that he needs to purchase at least 3 sets of new Turnout Gear and the cost will be around \$10,000. He has also applied for a grant to try and help with the cost.

R&B no report.

John reported on the purchase order form from the County.

Res. 125-23 John moved to go with the purchase agreement with the County as of today Oct. 2, 2023, Pete seconded. The Roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. John went over the cost of the medical insurance going up. After lots of discussion it was decided that the Fiscal Officer will reach out to the current carrier, the county and another carrier to see what other options are out there for medical insurance. John said that he would like to have the three roadmen come to the next Township meeting and after the regular meeting we will go into executive session with the employees to discuss what we found and what our options are. John also reported that we can purchase used equipment up to \$75,000. Byron reported on the elevator. Byron also reported on the possible grant we can go with to help with the cost.

Res. 126-23 John moved to have Ohio Home Elevator and Lift Co out of Twinsburg to come out to the Townhall to evaluate our current elevator at \$165 trip charge and \$200 per hour, Pete seconded. The Roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. Byron reported that there will be a NAD meeting Tuesday Oct. 3 and a Zoning meeting Wednesday Oct. 4. Byron reported that to finish the Forman Road project they need to rent a Hydra Seeder and purchase seed, fertilizer and mulch.

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Res. 127-23 Byron moved to rent the Hyra Seeder unit at \$22 per hour from the County and supplies of seed, fertilizer and mulch which will be around \$3,246.50, Pete seconded. The Roll; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Byron reported on OPWC Round 38 which will be for the paving of Forman Road in 2025. Pete will be the contact person for this OPWC grant. John wants to make sure we have this in place so we can bid it out on the first of February 2025 and work completed by June 1, 2025. Pete had nothing to report on.

Residents had no comments.

Res. 128-23 Pete moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm, Byron seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.



Kanda O'Dell, Fiscal Officer



Pete Haase, Chairman