

Austinburg Township Minutes
April 15, 2024

The regular meeting of the Austinburg Township Board of Trustees opened at 7:30 pm. In attendance were Rob Lapuh, Lorna Masek, Bill Wilms, Ginny Seifert, Joe Hejduk Jr., Dawn Lapuh and Nanett Grupe.

Res. 71-24 John moved to accept the minutes as written, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kuser aye.

Res. 72-24 John moved to pay the bills, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kuser, aye. Bills paid were \$32,675.37 and receipts were \$2,132.23.

In terms of correspondence we received an email from the Ashtabula County Township Assoc that their next meeting is Thursday April 18 at 6:30 pm at the Ashtabula County Engineers Office. We received an email from NOPEC that the electric rate for June to December 2024 and gas rates for May to October 2024 will either be lowered or hold at last year's pricing. We received an email from T-Mobile on internet and cell phone pricing for government agencies. We received a letter for this year's membership dues for the Ohio Township Assoc for \$240 and for the Ashtabula County Township Assoc for \$80.

The Fiscal Officer asked for approval on an invoice for the Fire Dept for new turnout gear for \$8,858.45 to Fire-Fly Fire Equipment.

Res. 73-24 John moved to pay the bill of \$8,858.45 to Fire-Fly Fire Equipment for turnout gear, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kuser aye.

The Fiscal Officer reported on starting an account with Star Ohio. Must have two signers but can be more. The Fiscal Officer suggested to move \$300,000 out of the Andover Bank Primary account and put it in Star Ohio under the General Fund so it can be used for any fund as needed. There was a lot of discussion on whether to go with Star Ohio or CD's from Andover Bank. The Trustees will investigate the percentage rate of CD's and then review it at a later meeting.

The Fiscal Officer sent in paperwork to the Ashtabula County auditors of the Resolution of Necessity in regards to going for a replacement/new Road and Bridge levy for 1 mill.

Fire Chief Bill Wilms reported that the fire hoses need tested. Bill will look at getting prices on testing. The SCBA's need tested and he will get that scheduled.

Zoning Administrator Rob Lapuh reported that he has issued a residential solar permit. Rob said there needs to be some serious thought on what the Township wants to do with zoning as far as solar power.

Road Dept no report.

John reported that John Patterson will be the Memorial Day speaker. John is still getting prices for vegetation spraying. John announced the resignation of Bill Wilms from Austinburg Township road department and cemetery sexton. Bill Wilms will stay on as the fire chief. Bill Wilms last day will be April 23, 2024. John announces with the resignation of Bill Wilms that the Trustees will go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Byron reported that there will be a special zoning meeting because of some zoning changes. The changes will be put on the website and posted on the Township Office door plus a legal notice in the paper. Byron reported on the waterline on Pelton. Byron is looking to see if there is any grants to help offset the cost of the waterline. Byron reported that they are planning on having meetings again with the Appalachian Trail committee in regards to still trying to connect Harpersfield Township with the Greenway Trail. Byron spoke with the family that has the trailer on Glenwood Dr in regards to the ditching project for Glenwood Dr. Pete said he has the paperwork for the outlet ditch near Ravinewood Dr.

Resident Joe Hejduk Jr. asked what was going on with the fire hydrants on College St. He also asked about Cleanup Day times. Joe Hejduk Jr. request the information on the zoning changes when available. Nanett Grupe asked if there was a fire down on Glenwood Dr, would the fire trucks be able to get down there. Fire Chief Wilms said yes, we can get fire trucks down there.

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Res. 74-24 John moved to go into executive session at 8:09 pm to discuss personal issues and the posting of the job, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

Res. 75-24 John moved to come out of executive session at 8:49 pm, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

Res. 76-24 John moved to run an ad in the Star Beacon and use the Star Beacons job platform. The job description will also be posted it on our webpage. The job description:

Austinburg Township, Ashtabula County

Job Posting

Maintenance/Highway

Austinburg Township Trustees seeking resumes for full time maintenance/highway technician. Accepting applications until May 17, 2024. Applications can be submitted in writing to Austinburg Township Trustees, P.O. Box 134, Austinburg, Ohio 44010.

Qualifications:

- Valid class B driver's license
- Past DOT physical/drug test
- 2 Years experience on operating equipment preferred
 - Able to lift 65 lbs unassisted
- Work well with existing maintenance team
- Able to follow oral and written instructions

Job Description:

- Plow snow, varying shifts
- General labor on township properties including roads, cemeteries and buildings
 - Perform job duties in all types of weather
 - Pay starting at \$21.25

Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

Res. 77-24 John moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm, Pete seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.



Kanda O'Dell, Fiscal Officer



Pete Haase, Chairman