

Clinton Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
February 13, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

All Board members answered roll call – Trustee Dennis Baugher, Trustee Jim Distel, Trustee Dan Schmitz, and Fiscal Officer Jennifer Bates.

Guests: Steve Welter, Ben Bishop, Doug Wilhelm, Chris Hafley, Sharon R., Kevin Hoover, Craig Lucius.

Correspondence: Seneca County Prosecutor – deed for property from ODOT, Seneca County Budget Commission – Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources

The minutes of the regular meeting held January 30, 2023 were read and approved.

Fiscal Officer Bates reports that she filed the township’s 2022 Annual Financial Report with the Ohio Auditor of State’s office and advertised that it is available for public inspection.

Resident Doug Wilhelm says he came for an update on the Kingseed property and Trustee Baugher says the ground is too soft to get a wrecker in so they are waiting for the ground to freeze. Mr. Wilhelm thanked the Board for their help.

Fire Chief Chris Hafley says he and Denny Wilkinson have been busy applying for grants. They applied for the Ohio Department of Public Safety EMS equipment grant and were reimbursed \$500 for safety vests they purchased. He also says they applied to the State Fire Marshall’s office to be reimbursed for Micah Kirchner and Hanna Welter’s volunteer firefighter training class for \$575 each and also applied for an equipment grant of up to \$15,000 through the Ohio State Fire Marshall for a list of equipment he put together totaling \$15,066. He and Denny Wilkinson also applied for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant and requested \$43,488 for equipment. We will be responsible for 5% of whatever they appropriate, which would be around \$2,000 if they appropriate the full request. They hope to be able to replace all the hose and have everything color-coded so the engine operators and other firefighters know what hoses go where. They are also working on some other grants. Chief Hafley says as of today they have 60 runs and last year they had 57 runs.

Chief Hafley also says he received a phone call from a resident complaining about open burning at 375 Huron St. He is looking into how many times they have responded to that address for open burning in the last year but thinks it was at least 2 or 3 other times. He says he will write a letter to the resident, Walter Fitch, advising that he is violating Ohio’s open burning law and that he cannot burn within 1,000 feet of a building structure. Resident Sharon R. says his backyard is adjacent to her apartment’s front yard and the cinderblock fire pit is right next to the mobile home on his property. There were many days in October that he had large bonfires and she called the sheriff, who came out and talked to him. Sharon says he seemed to comply until it warmed up again, and yesterday he had another fire from around 2pm to 8pm that she called and spoke to Chief Hafley about. She is worried that the fires will become a frequent occurrence again and is worried about her and her neighbors’ safety. Trustee Baugher suggests that Chief Hafley talks to him in person and follow up with a letter. Chief Hafley advised Sharon to call the sheriff’s office and have the fire department dispatched if there are any more fires.

Zoning Inspector Steve Welter says he spoke to Sharon R. about the letter that he sent to Walter Fitch regarding her complaints about the noise and possible recording studio. She provided pictures of the CD she received from the band and information about their website that states they have a recording

studio in Tiffin, OH. Zoning Inspector Welter did contact the prosecutor's office and Assistant Prosecutor Ellie Anderson says it is a matter for the sheriff's office.

Zoning Inspector Welter also reports that he issued a permit for an accessory building at Deer Ridge and received some inquiries about building additions. He also received a call from Herb Faber about his neighbor's house on TR 73 at the end of TR 122 who wants to build an attached garage. Zoning Inspector Welter told him the setback is required to be 50 feet from the road so they would have to apply for a variance. Trustee Distel says he thought that was a floodplain or a waterway and asks if we can issue a permit even with a variance. Zoning Inspector Welter says not if it is in a floodplain. Trustee Baugher says he may want to check with the Corps of Engineers who were involved in this.

Resident Doug Wilhelm asks if he can fill in another 15 or 20 feet of his ditch. Trustee Baugher advises him to call the County Engineer and get a permit for it. Then he can buy the tile and the township will install it for him.

Trustee Baugher reports that Truck #32 is ready to go back to John's Welding tomorrow. They brought it here to unload the hose. The hose now needs to be removed from the new building for the inspection.

Trustee Distel says he has not received any update on the OSS grant. He also says we may want to start thinking about what road striping we want to do so we can work with the county on getting it bid.

Regarding the job description for the volunteer fire department, Trustee Distel says it states that they must maintain a valid driver's license but asks if they need to stay under a certain number of points on their license. Chief Hafley says the State of Ohio says firefighters do not need to maintain a driver's license so there is no state guideline. Trustee Distel says for insurance purposes they may need to stay under 5 points. Trustee Distel made a motion to approve the volunteer firefighter job description, seconded by Trustee Baugher. Mr. Schmitz – yes, Mr. Distel – yes, Mr. Baugher – yes.

Trustee Distel reports that the joint EMS meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the Civil Defense building. He also says there was an email about the solar eclipse in 2024 and they are holding a meeting on February 27th at 9:00 am at NCOESC to begin planning preparation for the high number of tourists it may bring to the county.

Trustee Schmitz says he checked with Brian at the county ODOT garage about signs for the fire station on SR 101 and he does not know anything about them yet.

Trustee Baugher says the simulators are damaged on one of Truck #32's wheels, and Jim Keller mentioned that it would look better if we put polished aluminum rims on it. Insurance will pay for the simulators and we could just pay the difference. Chief Hafley also says they will have to replace that ladder and the Board says to talk to Joe Worland about an insurance claim for it. They are also checking to see if any other contents were damaged. Chief Hafley says they did a short pump test on it and Ben Bishop says everything looked good.

Resident Sharon R. asks for clarification on the loud music and says the prosecutor's office says to call the sheriff's office but they say there is no noise ordinance. She says when she has asked them personally to turn down the music she was told that they were recording and could not be interrupted in the middle of a song. She asks if they were able to prove that the recording studio was at that address, would the prosecutor's office charge them with violating the zoning code. Trustee Distel says there are no law or rules against running a home business on a residential property. They just cannot have signs up advertising on their property. The sheriff's office may respond to noise complaints after a certain time at night. Other than that, not much can be done.

Zoning Inspector Welter also reports that there is a Zoning Board meeting on March 20th to finish determining the last conditional use permit for Tilly's.

Bills were presented to be paid:

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| 12650 | Jennifer Bates | wages | \$1055.52 |
| 12651 | Dennis Baugher | wages | \$971.88 |
| 12652 | James Distel | wages | \$94.16 |
| 12653 | Andrew Kimmet | wages | \$1329.29 |
| 12654 | James Lang | wages | \$812.78 |
| 12655 | Daniel Schmitz | wages | \$923.32 |
| 12656 | AEP Ohio | township house, station #2 | \$1073.79 |
| 12657 | Aqua OH | station #2 | \$40.84 |
| 12658 | Bright Wireless | internet | \$86.91 |
| 12659 | North Central Electric Co-op | road lights | \$8.13 |
| 12660 | Loyal American Life Insurance Co. | cancer insurance policies | \$66.40 |
| 12661 | Rumpke of Ohio Inc. | monthly trash service | \$51.98 |
| 12662 | Lowe's | supplies | \$116.22 |
| 12663 | Central Ohio Farmer's Co-op | fuel | \$592.28 |
| 12664 | Ehove Adult Career Center | fire training | \$1400.00 |
| 12665 | Concordance Healthcare Solutions | medical supplies | \$500.55 |
| 12666 | Firelands Regional Medical Center | H. Welter pulmonary function test | \$42.00 |
| 12667 | Tiffin Farmers Co-op | parts and supplies | \$42.87 |
| 12668 | Adams Tree Service | tree removal Greenfield and Briarwood | \$900.00 |
| 12669 | Treasurer State of Ohio | Volunteer Firefighters' Dependents Fund | \$150.00 |
| 12670 | Column SoftwarePBC | legal notices | \$85.20 |
| 12671 | Carquest Auto Parts Store | brake cleaner | \$10.64 |
| 12672 | Seneca County Treasurer | Regional Planning 2023 assessments | \$3078.75 |
| 12673 | Ag-Pro Ohio LLC | parts | \$85.69 |
| 12674 | Auditor of State of Ohio | Agreed Upon Procedures audit 2022-2021 | \$307.50 |
| 12-2023 | EFTPS | January withholding | \$1302.77 |
| 13-2023 | Treasurer of State of Ohio | January withholding | \$188.85 |
| 14-2023 | Ohio Deferred Compensation | January withholding | \$910.00 |

There being no other business to come before the Board at this time, Trustee Distel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m., seconded by Trustee Baugher. Mr. Schmitz –yes, Mr. Distel – yes, Mr. Baugher – yes.

Dan Schmitz, Ch., Trustee

Dennis Baugher, Trustee

Jim Distel, Trustee

Jennifer Bates, Fiscal Officer