

Clinton Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
December 4, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

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

Guests: Steve Welter, Chris Hafley, Dennis Wilkinson, Ben Bishop, and Ray Bishop.

Correspondence: Grassroots Clippings – Newsletter, OTARMA – faithful performance coverage info

The minutes of the regular meeting held November 20, 2023 were read and approved.

At the Fiscal Officer's request, Trustee Distel made a motion to request an Amended Certificate from the Seneca County Budget Commission to receive, appropriate, and expend \$25,000 (Fund 4401) from the Ohio Public Works Commission. This was seconded by Trustee Schmitz. Mr. Schmitz – yes, Mr. Distel – yes, Mr. Baugher – yes.

Fiscal Officer Bates provided information about our fire levies. Chief Hafley has been asked by Eden Township if we would be willing to provide fire coverage to all or part of Eden Township and he believes they should pay the same equivalent that our residents pay. Chief Hafley says they will probably use Sycamore Fire this year but want to look at other options for next year.

Zoning Inspector Steve Welter reports that he issued permits for a deck addition and an accessory building. He had numerous phone calls about Ron Fry's property and his conditional use permit meeting. Also, Mrs. Kagy text him about a car turning around in her driveway for an event at Tilly's. Trustee Distel asked if Ron Fry was given a 6-month conditional use permit, and Mr. Welter says there was a lot of confusion about where the noise has been coming from so they agreed to a 6-month permit initially. The conditional use permit allows the tree service to continue to operate Monday through Friday from 8am to 4:30pm but excludes running the wood chipper. Eric Zeigler says he may be looking for somewhere else to operate.

Fire Chief Chris Hafley reports they have had 401 runs year-to-date compared to 388 runs last year. In November they had 47 emergency responses and had 100% response from manpower. Chief Hafley has been working on information needed for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant contract. He also says we were assessed another \$150 for the Ohio Firefighters Dependents Fund. He contacted them to find out why we were assessed another payment this year and they said they had another payout and the fund was getting low so all departments received another assessment.

Chief Hafley says at the last trustee meeting a comment was made that Clinton Township firefighters were not allowed to respond in their personal vehicles with their state-authorized emergency lights on within City of Tiffin limits. Chief Hafley says this is not true and that nothing in their policy and procedure manual prohibits this. He also contacted Chief Dave Pauly and Chief Hafley read his reply in which he says they have recorded no issues with Clinton volunteer firefighters using their emergency lights on their personal vehicles. He also says anytime he has observed Clinton firefighters responding to emergencies in their personal vehicles they have been professional and considerate of other drivers and obeyed traffic laws. He gives Clinton firefighters clearance to continue to use their emergency lights on their personal vehicles within the city limits as long as they remain considerate of other drivers and continue to obey all traffic laws.

Assistant Fire Chief Denny Wilkinson says we should consider renewing the fire levies to bring them up to current values. Our three levies totaling 1.75 mills are only bringing in \$120,000/year and have not been updated since the 1980s. Trustee Schmitz says a new levy will be a tough-sell since we just built a new building and Trustee Distel says we looked into it 10 years ago when we started talking about a new building and decided against it, but it is something that has been on their mind for the future.

Resident Ray Bishop asked what the budget for the new fire station was and Trustee Distel says it came in at around \$1.3 million. Mr. Bishop asked how the budget went from \$800,000 to \$1.3 million. Trustee Distel says the \$800,000 was just the butler building and did not include the township offices. Trustee Baugher says the wood structure was \$461,000 and the steel structure was \$492,970.

Trustee Baugher says a company called Starlight is sending information to Clinton Township residents that they are looking for 15-30 acre parcels for solar field development. Zoning Inspector Welter says they are still working on zoning codes for solar so we cannot issue permits for it at this time. Seneca County prohibits solar farms larger than 50 megawatts.

Trustee Distel reports that the propane tanks were filled today and we are on automatic replenish so they will be back in 45 days to top them off.

Trustee Distel asks if we have anyone in mind to replace Mr. Welter as zoning inspector. Mr. Welter says Jim Lang told him he knew someone who may interested but has not heard anything else since then. We also need to find a replacement for Kenny Estep on the Zoning Commission. Trustee Distel has a list of people who were interested in the past but does not know if any of them are still interested. The Board will start asking around for interested parties.

Trustee Schmitz asks how we are going to get a newsletter together. Trustee Distel suggests coming up with topics by the next meeting and says we can have Diversified Graphics do the layout, printing, and mailing.

Bills were presented to be paid:

13051	Jennifer Bates	wages	\$1055.52
13052	Dennis Baugher	wages	\$971.88
13053	James Distel	wages	\$4.16
13054	Andrew Kimmet	wages	\$1295.43
13055	Daniel Schmitz	wages	\$923.32
13056	AT&T	township house phone	\$115.62
13057	AEP Ohio	township house, station #2, road lights	\$1275.84
13058	Bright Wireless	internet	\$97.67
13059	Delta Dental Plan of Ohio	road worker dental premiums	\$27.14
13060	Loyal American Life Insurance	cancer insurance policies	\$66.40
13061	Auditor of State of Ohio	UAN fees – 1Q 2024	\$876.00
13062	John Deere Financial	supplies	\$35.89
13063	Elan Financial Services	postage	\$71.01
13064	John's Welding & Towing	service on fire trucks	\$2022.66
13065	Column Software PBC	zoning ads	\$62.48
13066	Adams Tree Service	tree removal- TR 122 and TR 201	\$700.00
13067	Kalida Truck Equipment	parts	\$238.75
13068	Seneca County Treasurer	Issue 1, Round 37 paving of TR 122	\$10481.72
13069	Lucius Door Co., Inc.	photo eye sensor	\$40.00
13070	Treasurer State of Ohio	Volunteer Firefighters Dependents Fund	\$150.00

13071	Benjamin Bishop	wages	\$1004.61
13072	James Black	wages	\$198.09
13073	Eric Cook	wages	\$149.25
13074	Brock Ekleberry	wages	\$110.22
13075	Noah Faber	wages	\$6.88
13076	Thomas Frederick	wages	\$240.11
13077	Matt Gray	wages	\$168.53
13078	Christopher Hafley	wages	\$643.90
13079	Donald Henney	wages	\$1014.94
13080	Kevin Hoover	wages	\$633.76
13081	Craig Lucius	wages	\$300.80
13082	John Meisner	wages	\$1493.50
13083	Brian Myers	wages	\$486.23
13084	Daniel Raufer	wages	\$13.77
13085	Dustin Waters	wages	\$229.85
13086	Hanna Welter	wages	\$185.99
13087	Dennis Wilkinson	wages	\$952.36
13088	Van Williams	wages	\$192.88
78-2023	Treasurer of State of Ohio	November withholding	\$144.99
79-2023	Ohio Deferred Compensation	November withholding	\$1000.00
80-2023	EFTPS	November withholding	\$1304.92

There being no other business to come before the Board at this time, Trustee Distel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Trustee Schmitz. Mr. Schmitz – yes, Mr. Distel – yes, Mr. Baugher – yes.

Dan Schmitz, Ch., Trustee

Dennis Baugher, Trustee

Jim Distel, Trustee

Jennifer Bates, Fiscal Officer