

The Board of Lake Township Trustees met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. at 12360 Market Avenue North, Hartville, Ohio. The meeting was open to the public and streamed live via Facebook with the following members present:

Steve Miller, President
Jeremy Yoder, Member

Also Present:

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|--------------|---------------|
| Matt Erb | Sam Miller |
| Becky Oberg | Jim Ullom |
| Sherry Ullom | Regina Mesko |
| Mike Lorentz | Derek Shaffer |
| Seth Marana | |

Steve Miller called the regular meeting.

Trustee Steve Miller tabled the approval of the minutes of the October 9, 2023 until next meeting when Trustee Arnold is in attendance.

23-304 A resolution was made by Steve Miller authorizing payment and processing of payroll for October 27, 2023. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

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| Steve Miller | Yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

23-305 A resolution was made by Steve Miller authorizing payment and processing of payroll for October 31, 2023. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

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| Steve Miller | Yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

23-306 A resolution was made by Steve Miller authorizing payment and processing of payroll for November 10, 2023. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

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| Steve Miller | Yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

23-307 A resolution was made by Steve Miller approving Financial (Fund/Appropriation/ Revenue Status and Cash Summary by Fund) Reports as October 23, 2023 reports will be attached to the minutes and made a part thereof. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

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|--------------|-----|
| Steve Miller | yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

23-308 A resolution was made by Steve Miller authorizing all EXPENDITURES as of October 23, 2023 in the amount of \$1,144,413.71, reports will be attached to the minutes and made a part thereof. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller Yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

- Trustee Miller noted this included payment to Barbicas for the 2023 Paving Program.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. MACK Trucks, Inc. – notification of safety recall on certain 2015-2023 Mack GU and GR model vehicles
2. OhioEPA – notification of MS4 Audit
3. Dianne Kestler-Betz – question about yard waste
4. Frank LaRose/Ohio Secretary of State – information on upcoming November 7th General Election
5. Ohio Department of Administrative Services – weekly reports of Contracts and Amendments pertaining to Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program
6. Stark County Health Department – water sample notification for new water well at 1499 Midway
7. Eric Fox – streetlight not working
8. Jennifer Earles – Ohio Disc Dogs introduction and request
9. Stark Economic Development Board, Inc. – weekly legislative news
10. NEFCO – October 18th meeting packet for the “Regular Meeting of the General Policy Board”
11. Ryan Snook – questions about waterline extension project
12. FEMA – COVID-19 Public Assistance Programmatic Deadlines
13. Stark County Township Association – recap of October 2023 SCTA meeting

In reference to Correspondence No. 8 – Trustee Yoder will call her.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department

- None.

Road Department

- None

Zoning Department

- The Board acknowledged receipt of the Zoning Department Statistical Reports for July, August and September 2023.

Fire Departments/Fire Prevention Office

- None

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

23-309 A resolution was made by Steve Miller authorizing the Board to execute the following cemetery deeds:

- Mt. Peace Cemetery – Section 3, Lot 89, Graves 4 & 5
- Uniontown Greenlawn Cemetery – Section N, Lot 64, Graves 1 & 2
- Mt. Peace Cemetery – Section 3, Lot 24, Grave 3
- Mt. Peace Cemetery – Section 3, Lot 4, Graves 1 & 2
- Mt. Peace Cemetery – Section 3, Lot 82, Grave 4

Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

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|--------------|-----|
| Steve Miller | yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

23-310 A resolution was made by Steve Miller authorizing an increase in the expenditure for the 2023 Paving Contract for an amount not to exceed an additional \$31,264.58 to cover final costs for actual material placed as part of the 2023 Paving Project.

Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

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|--------------|-----|
| Steve Miller | yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

23-311 Trustee Miller moved the adoption of the following:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has been involved in collective bargaining unit negotiations with the SERB exclusively recognized bargaining agent for all full-time employees of the Lake Township Road and Bridge Department;

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees and the Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Local 578 have reached an agreement for a replacement collective bargaining agreement for the period September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees for Lake Township hereby accept, adopt, approve and are authorized to execute the negotiated

agreement between the Board of Trustees for Lake Township, Stark County and The Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Local 578, for the period September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2026 as accepted and executed by the U.W.U.A. Local 578 bargaining unit. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

- The Board noted that they try to keep in line with other townships and we are at the top. They also stated the road department does a great job and it is appreciated.

23-312 A resolution was made by Steve Miller accepting the October 17, 2023, Quote as received from Wells Quality Excavating, and authorizing an expenditure, for the cemeteries, in the amount of \$1,500.00 to remove a large tree stump at Mt. Peace Cemetery. Cost includes grinding stump, remove excess grindings, level to grade, topsoil & seed. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

23-313 A resolution was made by Steve Miller authorizing an expenditure for registration and costs associated for the elected officials and certain township employees to attend the 2024 Ohio Township Association Winter Conference in Columbus. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

23-314 A resolution was made by Steve Miller accepting the October 19, 2023, Estimate No. 1377 from Bio-Scene Recovery, Inc. for the cleanup of property located at 3750 Carl Street NW, Uniontown, if the owner fails to abate said nuisance as determined pursuant to Resolution No. 23-299. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

- The Board noted the Zoning Administrator will be out there this week to check if it's been cleaned up. If it has not then we will step in and take care of it.

23-315 A resolution was made by Steve Miller Resolution in accordance with Section 5501.03(A)(3) of the Ohio Revised Code, authorizing the Board to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement between the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Lake Township Board of Trustees for the purposes of coordinating efforts for snow and ice control. It is in the interest and safety of the traveling public for the STATE to permit LAKE TOWNSHIP to acquire brine solution from the STATE at a cost of \$0.065 per gallon. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

23-316 Trustee Miller moved the adoption of the following:

WHEREAS, the Township has received a distribution of monies (the “ARPA Funds”) from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA” or the “Act”); and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Act effective March 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Section 603 created the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund which, among other things, appropriated money to cities, nonentitlement units of local government, and counties to mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19); and

WHEREAS, Department of Treasury Final Rule, published on January 6, 2022, and effective April 1, 2022, provides in part that:

Treasury presumes that up to \$10 million in revenue has been lost due to the public health emergency and recipients are permitted to use that amount (not to exceed the award amount) to fund “government services.” [The “standard allowance”].

WHEREAS, some common examples of “government services” expressly recognized by Treasury include provision of fire and other safety services; and

WHEREAS, the Township receives Fire Protection Services through contracts with the Greentown Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., the Hartville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., and the Uniontown Fire Department, Inc. by way of contracts executed in 2010, Resolution 2010-073, which remain binding; and

WHEREAS, following the onset of the COVID-19 public health emergency and its subsequent adverse economic effects, all three Fire Departments have experienced difficulty in retaining employees as well as recruiting new employees; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to ensure the Fire Departments continue to have optimum staffing levels for continued fire protection services in the Township, the Fire Departments have each requested \$100,000 to be used toward employee retention programs, which including improving or expanding recruitment efforts, training, as well as improving existing employee compensation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined it is in the best interest of the Township to grant this request and execute an Addendum to the existing Fire Protection Contracts to ensure the continued provision of optimal emergency safety services.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board that:

1. The Township elected to use the standard allowance by way of Resolution 22-138 and its presumption of revenue loss due to the public health emergency and to use the amount authorized herein to fund government services.
2. The Township hereby authorizes the attached Second Addendum to the Fire Protection Contracts between the Township and Greentown Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., the Hartville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., and the Uniontown Fire Department, Inc. which includes the provision of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to each of the Departments, for a total of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000).
3. Accordingly, the Project is in the best interests of the Township and is deemed a priority for the community.
4. No obligations paid under the authority of this Resolution were incurred prior to March 3, 2021.

Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

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| Steve Miller | yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

- The Board noted that \$10 million is a blanket statement, we did not receive that amount. We received approximately \$2.4 million. Hartville, Greentown and Uniontown Fire Departments presented a plan to the township on how they would use the money. The primary goal is for employee retention through engagement and training.

23-317 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing the Board and Fiscal Officer to execute the following Road Open Permits:

- D-23-24: Dominion Energy, Lee Street (replace gas distribution main)

Seconded by Steve Miller. Roll call votes were:

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| Steve Miller | yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

23-318 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder re-hiring Andrew Gleespen as a part-time reserve officer for the Uniontown Police Department, at an hourly rate of \$20.00 per hour which is in-line with the part-time officer pay scale. Said employment is pursuant to the provisions contained in Resolution No. 23-037, adopted January 3, 2023, and subject to all provisions of the Lake Township Trustees and the Lake Township Employee handbook. Employment is contingent upon successful completion of a drug test, polygraph exam and psychological exam. Seconded by Steve Miller. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

- The Board welcomed Andrew back to the township.

23-319 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder accepting the resignation of full-time Uniontown Police Officer, Cody Dumont, effective October 23, 2023. Seconded by Steve Miller. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

- The Board thanked Officer Dumont for his service.

23-320 Trustee Miller moved the adoption of the following:

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Lake Township Board of Trustees that the Stark County Engineer's *Pittsburg Avenue / Mt. Pleasant Street Roundabout Project* may take longer than anticipated. While they are making every effort to have the project fully open to traffic by the last week of November 2023, they are putting provisions in place should any unforeseen delays occur, which could leave a portion of Mt. Pleasant Street closed through the winter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees for Lake Township does hereby authorize the Lake Township Road Department, if needed, to perform snow/ice removal on an area of Mt. Pleasant Street outside of Lake Township. This area consists of both the eastbound and westbound lanes of Mt. Pleasant Street from the Lake Township boundary line west for an approximate distance of .13 miles. Both parties agree that should such services be needed, payment-in-kind, as determined by the Lake Township Road Superintendent, will be accepted for these services.

Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

MEETING REPORTS/MISCELLANEOUS

- Trustee Yoder met with a few people who are interested in parks within Lake Township and how ARPA funds could be used. Additional money may be needed from sources outside of the township.
- The Board noted the upcoming Tax Incentive Review Council meetings scheduled for November 13, 2023, at 4:55 p.m. and November 27, 2023, at 4:55 p.m.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

23-321 A resolution was made by Steve Miller authorizing the Board and Fiscal Officer to sign all Purchase Orders, Vouchers, and Reconciliations Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

23-322 A resolution was made by Steve Miller accepting the 2024 Amounts and Rates as determined by the Stark County Budget Commission and authorize the Fiscal Officer to certify them to the County Auditor, a copy of which will be attached to these Minutes and made a part thereof. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Steve Miller yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

PUBLIC SPEAKS

Derek Shaffer, Uniontown Fire Department: Chief Shaffer thanked the Board for their support and presented them with challenge coins celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Uniontown Fire Department.

Regina Mesko, 3720 Carl St, Uniontown: Ms. Mesko addressed the Board regarding the nuisance at 3750 Carl St. She wanted to know if the trailer on blocks would be allowed to stay and how the mess can be stopped from happening repeatedly? The Zoning Administrator is working with the Township Legal Counsel on what the township can legally do to address this situation.

Sherry Ullom, 13030 Sunset, Uniontown: Ms. Ullom expressed her frustration to the Board regarding the nuisance situation at 3750 Carl St.

Sam Miller, 10368 Sudbury Cir, N. Canton: Mr. Miller addressed the Board about the collective bargaining agreement with the road department. He asked what the percentages were for raises per year? The Board responded 4% in the first year, 3% the second year and 3% the third year. They noted there has not been a 4% increase before, but the cost of living has increased. The Board also noted that non-bargaining employees received a 5% increase last year due to inflation.

23-323 A resolution was made by Steve Miller to adjourn the meeting at 5:33 p.m.
Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

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| Steve Miller | yes |
| Jeremy Yoder | yes |

Matt Erb, Fiscal Officer

Steve Miller, President

-absent-

John Arnold, Vice President

Jeremy Yoder, Member

