

Geneva Township
Regular Meeting
April 13, 2022

Chairman Mills called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

The pledge of Alliance was recited.

Those present were Mr. Mills, Mr. Russell, Mr. Brown, Fiscal Officer Caya, Fire Chief Shook. Citizens present were Bill Douglas, Ed Andrus, Robert Rosebrugh, Greg and Barb Koren and Amanda Briggs de Lavini.

Mr. Brown made the motion and a second by Mr. Russell to approve minutes from the March 9, 2022 meeting. All trustees present voted aye.

Mr. Brown made the motion and a second by Mr. Russell. All trustees present voted yes to, approve bills for \$ 69,717.75 covered by e□payments E-35-2022 through 58-2022 and Warrants 21996-22046. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Public Comment:

Mr. Douglas asked about the short-term rentals and how the Township is going to handle them now that the County Prosecutor has given her opinion that they are not allowed? Mr. Russell commented that Sarah Fowler has a bill at the State that will limit the Township's on rentals. Mr. Russell stated he tried to get a hold of her but was unsuccessful. Mr. Douglas gave an example of a short-term rental at 6740 Lake Road West – 8 beds. There was a discussion on who sets the regulations? No occupancy loads, no safety inspection, no inspections by the Health Department, no fire exits. The Cities and Villages have rental housing but no the Townships. How is the bed tax getting handled as well as Federal/State and local incomes taxes? Do neighbor's property values get affected? Mr. Russell stated that the Township needs to hire outside Counsel for this issue. The Prosecutor stated it is not allowed so zoning will need to issue a violation once they know about it then send it to the Prosecutor. Tim Mills stated he talked to Chris Newsome and Nick Brown and they are not able to do it. Dennis Brown commented that the Township needs a professional that is willing to work and spend time to solve this issue for the citizens. Denny Brown also stated he hasn't been asked to do any of the work. Tim Mills will get a proposal from Gary Pasqualone.

Mr. Douglas made a comment that Eric Frantz the manager of the RV Park in the Township stated that no officials have visited the park yet. Mr. Russell said he has drove through and Tim Mills stated he was there for the CVB meeting in the club house last year. Mr. Douglas will arrange a meeting.

There was a discussion on where the water line project for New London is at. Mr. Russell stated he talked to Doug Starkey and the engineering is done. They don't have an estimate for the project yet. Mr. Russell also state that no one has been able to determine is the Township can use their ARPA funds for the project since they don't own the waterline. The Township can use the Fire fund for the hydrants which are \$5,000 - \$6,000 each. The question will have to be answered by the Prosecutors office and the County will have to figure out the process. This project started out that the residents were going to fund the project themselves. The Township Trustees will be discussing what the best use of the ARPA funds will be to benefit the most residents. There was a question asked from a resident that the Township Trustees stated at a previous meeting their funding would go to the waterline why has their stance changed? Mr. Russell commented that the original rules were very strict when the funding first came out but the final ruling allows for more uses. There were never any promises made, but the Trustees always said they would consider using it for the project and their intentions were pure.

Mr. Brown stated he understands the resident's frustration but Mr. Mills and Mr. Russell work very hard to address the residents' concerns. The Township wants to stay rural but will probably end up in the City.

There was a question asked by a resident on who gets to decide what the money is spent on? The Trustees approve all expenditures. Mr. Russell stated he would want a letter from the Prosecutor stating it is an allowable expense.

Fire: Chief Shook reported that this past month was a light month. There were 11 calls and 5 of them were motor vehicle accidents.

Zoning Report: Mr. Cerjan was not present. There was a question about the two trailers that are on the property across from North Center Tavern. They are two job trailers that will be used for a workshop. He will have to meet zoning requirements on setbacks and get the approval from Building Department.

There was a comment that the telephone pole blocks the view at the intersection of Route 534 and Maple Street. The previous Fire Chief was working on getting that moved for years with no success.

Road Department: Mr. Young reported that the new bed swap for the F550 is almost done. Brobst is working on the tree list. The plow damage repairs are almost complete. There is a sink hole on Woodside Drive that they are working on. They are looking at a snow pusher which will cost about \$4,300. Mr. Russell made a motion to purchase the snow pusher for the quote of \$4,300. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. There was a discussion about the property on South Spencer that will be logging out their wood. They want the Township to provide a driveway to the property for the logging. Tim Martin has advised against it.

Fiscal Officer: Mrs. Caya reported that the 2020 and 2021 audit has been completed by the State of Ohio auditor.

RESOLUTION 2022-05 - Resolution authorizing participation in the ODOT Road salt contracts awarded in 2022. Mr. Russell made a to approve Resolution 2202-05. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Roll call on passage, Brown - yes, Mills - yes, Russell - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2022-06 – Adopting Geneva Township Federal Procurement Policy. Mr. Russell made the motion and a second by Mr. Brown to approve Resolution 2022-06. Roll call on passage, Brown - yes, Mills - yes, Russell - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2022-07 - Authorizing Expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Mr. Russell made the motion and a second by Mr. Brown to approve Resolution 2207-07. Roll call on passage, Brown - yes, Mills - yes, Russell - yes. The motion passed unanimously. The Township will be using the Revenue recap for Road and Fiscal Officer wages.

New Business: There was a discussion on the process to replace Trustee Russell. Mr. Mills stated he would like to come up with a plan for replacing Mr. Brown made a motion to appoint Fiscal Officer Caya, Mr. Brown, Mr. Mills and Fire Chief Shook to interview committee for the open Trustee position. Motion seconded by Mills. Roll Call on Passage: Mills – yes, Brown – yes Russell – yes. The motion passed unanimously. Tim and Denny will make final decision. The Township will run an ad in the paper and their website advertising for Letters of Interest with a deadline of May 6th. There was a suggestion to have a special meeting on June 1st to make the appointment. You have 30 days after Mr. Russell's last day to appointment someone. If the Trustees cannot agree, the Court's will make the appointment. The person appointment will have to run at the next election for the remainder of Mr. Russell's term.

Committee: Denny Brown reported that the plan phase of the bike extension has begun. The state is working on the plan development. City Council Jeff Griffiths has asked the Township to participate and help provide safe walking paths to school. Denny Brown reported he has met several times with Mr. Griffiths at the school as well as his house. Tim Mills asked if they know who will maintain the paths once they are done? No one can answer that question yet.

Public Comment: One of the residents complimented the Road Department on the condition of the roads during the snow events.

Mr. Brown made the motion and a second by Mr. Russell, there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:19 AM. All trustee voted yes.

Fiscal Officer