

Geneva Township Meeting
Wednesday, June 14, 2023

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

The pledge of Alliance was recited.

Those present were Mr. Mills, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Miller, Fire Chief Shook and Ron Cerjan.
Citizens present were Mr. & Mrs. Wood, Robert Russell, Mr. Virant and Bill Douglas,
Absent: Fiscal Officer Caya

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. Brown to approve minutes from the May 10, 2023 Meeting. All trustees present voted yes.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. Brown. All trustees present voted yes to approve bills for \$57,875.52 covered by E□payments E-103-2023 through 123-2023 and Warrants 22561 through 22592. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Public Comment:

Bill Douglass: Wanted to know what we are doing with Short Term Rentals. He wanted to know the bed tax we have received. It was guessed that it is only about \$200-300/year. Mr. Mills told Mr. Douglass that Mrs. Miller and Mr. Mills had been talking about how if there are STR there needs to be an increased bed tax for the township. Mr. Douglass asked if we are allowed to have STR in the township. Ron says yes it should be allowed, prosecutor not as sure.

Mr. Douglass brought up a three-floor rental that he isn't sure if it is short term or not, but we are going to look into it. Mr. Mills said that GOTL has been re-zoning their short-term rentals using a company that specializes in this area. We are going to contact them as well.

Al Virant: 2 things. Complimentary on the work the road crew is doing. Saw DeMarco property is for sale. Concerned about the car repair place. It's worse. More cars. Mr. Mills has also talked to him and knows it is worse. Mr. Virant has more information to share at the end of the meeting about the RR bridge, 2 lane Rt. 20, and 2 telephone poles on Maple. He has paperwork to share with us.

Mr. Wood: He and his wife emailed and wrote a letter to the Ashtabula County Health Department. No response from the health department in a month's time. Concerned about condition of neighbor's property 6592 W Maple. Grass is high, but looks better that way. Mr. Mills said he would call the Health Department.

Mr. Wood is concerned that there's a trailer on the property half way Padanarum and Maple. Mr. Mills is going to let zoning know.

Mr. Mills shared that he has been in contact with the new owners of Austin Manor about the water leak that has been ongoing for 2 years and flooding 3 other properties. County water

company will not do anything because the leak is past the meter. The new owners are selling the property and said the new owners can address the water leak.

Mr. Russell: no comment. Here for the donuts.

Fire: Chief Shook reported have had 21 incidents total. Lots of illegal burns. There's a burn ban until the end of May. First complaint is a warning, second is reported to EPA. Only 1 motor vehicle accident.

FD is going to take care of the township fire hydrants instead of the water department. This was 2 years in the making. ½ will be painted this year and the other half next year. They will be exercised twice a year, spring and fall.

Tod asked if there will be weed spray on the hydrants--no, weed whacking.

Zoning Report: Mr. Cerjan reported there will be a Public hearing at our township hall on 6/21/23 about a lot split on 6792 Lake Road W. Most likely a nonconforming lot.

Board of commissioners will add a \$5 additional tax to all license plate fees countywide.

Road Department: Corrected water p problem on Martha Ave. laid about 670' of pipe. Cleaned up 2 trees. Ordered 200 tons of #8 chip and seal due to arrive August 30.

Burmed. Mower max to ship to us 2nd week of august

Salt bin has to be a T-foundation which is more labor and material cost. Mrs. Miller questioned this and the reasoning. Engineer said this is how it has to be.

Update on how new hire Savannah is doing: She is doing good.

Mr. Mills relayed a comment from Mr. Arndt. Mr. Arndt thinks there is a clog in his ditch on his N. Ridge property. He is on the schedule to have ditching done by the county ditching program in September. Mr. Mills and the entire road department walked his entire ditch to see if there is a blockage. There is a 2% grade and it is silted in with vegetation. We have had the county engineer and our State Representative Sarah Fowler to his property about this drainage issue.

Mr. Wood: said his crick on his property was cleaned out in the 1930s by the CCP, now it's a swamp because of how a surrounding lot was cleared.

Mr. Mills gave an update on the lawsuit. There is an agreement between all parties about how to proceed, but waiting on the legal counsel to finalize the paperwork. Hoping to have it by next meeting for everyone to sign. All the township was 100% dismissed from the lawsuit.

Mr. Mills got a quote on cold mix paving Maple to Wheeler Creek. This has been a problem since it was paved in 2004. This is the best option for this road according to Mr. Mills. Cold mix can flex and self-heal/ is pliable. The county engineer gave a quote to do the project for \$52,816.97 and get it paved in August. Some discussion. With the increased issues on Rt. 20, more traffic will be using township roads like Maple.

Driftwood Point liquor license: Mrs. Miller abstained from voting, she is related to new owners and managing operators.

Fiscal Officer: No report. Tammy Caya was no present at the meeting.

New Business:

Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the liquor permit and not request a hearing. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the indigent burial application and to pay \$750. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the paving of Maple Ave. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

NAD: Mrs. Miller reported that the memberships are up. She recommends that people get memberships. They are only \$15 for the year. NAD will charge your Medicare/insurance—but you will not have any additional ambulance fees if you ride in the ambulance if you have the membership.

Cemetery: Mr. Mills said Maplewood is getting the building steel sided and the office plus a new roof on the maintenance building. New mowers are coming in after over a year of waiting. Mrs. Miller commented how nice the cemeteries are looking. During the Memorial Day service her son played taps while an airplane flew overhead and the cemetery looked very nice. She heard other comments from people about how beautiful the cemetery looked.

Public Comment:

Mr. Virant: He called Sherrod Brown and heard back within 24 hours about the RR Bridge. Then he reached out to a higher level (federal?) and waited over a month for a reply. There was a bridge inspection report. The bridge is deemed safe and the company is not going to do anything for the visuals. They told Mr. Virant that he would need to talk to CSX directly. Mr. Mills said we have. Mr. Russell (CIC President) said that he is in contact with Serge who is working on this with the Federal RR Commission.

Mr. Virant is concerned about the visibility on the Maple Ave telephone poles. He contacted ODOT then the illuminating Company. They took their stuff off the pole for visibility. Mr. Virant said now we need to contact the telephone company. Mr. Mills said we have done this previously.

Mr. Virant is concerned with Rt. 20 being a 2 lane instead of 4 lane road. He was told that we held multiple meetings at the township hall about this change before it happened. There are less accidents now than before. The Trustees thanked Mr. Virant for his efforts and time on this.

Mr. Russell said that the resident at Martha Ave is happy his issue is resolved.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. Brown, there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:06 AM. All trustee voted yes.

Documented by Tiffany Miller and Tim Mills

Fiscal Officer