

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HARRISON TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY, OHIO
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MAY 6, 2024

The Harrison Township Trustees met in regular session on May 6, 2024 at the Township Hall. The Chairman, Mark Van Buren, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and he led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Fiscal Officer called the roll, and the following members and guests were present

Trustee	Mark Van Buren
Trustee	Eric Smith
Trustee	Ray Foor
Fiscal Officer	Carolyn Elder
Zoning Inspector	Valerie Hans
Road Superintendent	Pete Sigman
Guest	Sid Smyers
Guest	Larry Kretzmann, SWLCWSD
Guest	Linda Nicodemas, LCSWCD
Guest	Joe Jarvis, LCSWCD
Guest	Rick Ritzer, 171 Lexington Woods
Guest	Sara & Kevin McCartney, 137 Mayfield Dr.
Guest	Tom Cummins, AEP

The Chairman, Mark Van Buren announced that the JEDD public hearing scheduled for 7:00 p.m. was cancelled due to a notice issue.

From the floor – Rick Ritzer, 171 Lexington Woods

Mr. Ritzer was concerned with the recent rains and a drainage issue near his home. Trustee Van Buren responded that Outville Road is a county road and the ditches are county ditches. The township has no authority on this road. He suggested that Mr. Ritzer speak with the County Engineer or Joe Jarvis with the Licking County Soil and Water.

Mr. Ritzer stated that he was told before purchasing his home that he could build a garage. The HOA bylaws prohibit detached buildings. He would like to build an attached garage but cannot meet the setbacks for zoning. Trustee Smith responded that the township has no control over Home Owners Associations and cannot approve building without a variance.

Linda Nicodemas with the Soil and Water stated that the HOA, by ORC, trumps a zoning variance.

Mr. Ritzer is concerned with speeding in Lexington Woods and would like to have an electronic speed monitoring sign. The trustees will move one from somewhere else in the township to Lexington Woods for a short time.

Road Department Report – Pete Sigman, Road Superintendent

Pete announced that the township was awarded the H2Ohio River Initiative Chloride Reduction

Grant for equipment in the amount of \$9,405.00. The funds are for the purchase of three Live Edge Joma cutting edges for the snowplows. Pete is requesting a new estimate for the purchase since the cost has most likely went up since December. The township will have to pay the difference. The trustees agreed that Pete Sigman will sign as Grantee to accept the grant from the Ohio EPA (State funds).

Pete reported that the tornado siren at the township complex was communicating false information and needs repairs. B&C Communications will work on this problem.

-Ray Foor moved to approve a purchase order to B&C Communications for \$10,000.00 for tornado siren repair and maintenance. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Pete reported that the large stream to the west of 467 Apple Blossom has shifted since the culvert has been installed. The water now dead heads into the bank before turning and moving through the culvert. Pete believes the township needs to correct the path of the water before it becomes a larger problem. The work needed would be on private property. The trustees advised Pete to check with the Licking County Prosecutors office since the township is not allowed to go onto private property.

Pete shared the Licking County Engineers estimate for the Harrison Township Gale Road Maintenance Project with the trustees.

-Ray Foor moved to proceed with bidding the Harrison Township Gale Road Maintenance Project and open bids at the June 3, 2024 meeting at 6:00 p.m. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Zoning Report – Valerie Hans, Zoning Inspector

- The following items were reported by the Zoning Inspector
- The April zoning permit and fees total was \$2,827.20.
- Edward J. Stiles Parcels – The contempt of court hearing is scheduled for May 30, 2024.
- 5103-3 York Rd. – Patrick – Parcel #025-069354-00.004 – Junk motor vehicles were identified and certified letter sent.
- 120 Ford Ave. – Patrick – Parcel #025-069588-00.000 – Complaint received on junk motor vehicles in the backyard of this property.
- 139 Ford Ave. – Van Deest – Parcel #025-070560-00.000 – High grass on property.
- 245 Middleground Road – Dawson – Parcel #025-074814-00.000 – Visible evidence of nuisance debris and rusted containers are evident in the backyard of the property as well as high grass.
- 115 King Ave. – Countrytyme – Parcel #025-071700-00.000 – High grass and weeds on the property.
- 201 Riva Ridge Road – Humphreys – Parcel #025-068084-10.000 – Accumulation of nuisance debris on the property.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2024 05 06 01 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 139 Ford Ave., Pataskala, Ohio 43062. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2024 05 06 02 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 245 Middleground Road, Pataskala, Ohio 43062. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2024 05 06 03 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 115 King Ave., Pataskala, Ohio 43062. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2024 05 06 04 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 201 Riva Ridge Road, Pataskala, Ohio 43062. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- 920 Forward Pass – Dawson – Parcel #025-068082-85.000 – Complaint regarding high grass and weeds on the property. Violation letter sent.
- The TRC will meet on May 23rd to discuss the Dollar General Market proposal for the corner of Columbus Road and Ephriam Drive. At this time, they have only submitted a traffic study.
- The Zoning Commission met on 4/23/2024 for a public hearing on the Beechwood Trails Park and Pool rezoning request to C-1 Conservation District. They received a non-binding recommendation from LCPC against adopting these changes because the zoning was not specifically addressed in the comprehensive plan.

-Eric Smith moved to hold public hearing on June 3, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Harrison Township Hall located at 6750 Outville Road, Pataskala, Ohio 43062. The public hearing will be held to consider a Zoning Amendment Application submitted by Ashley Campbell, President, Beechwood Trails Park and Pool. The applicant is requesting to rezone the 7.028 +/- acres at 248 Needles Drive SW, Pataskala, Ohio 43062 from R-15 to C-1. A copy of the application with all pertinent information will be posted at the Township Hall and on the township website. Questions can be directed to Valerie Hans, Zoning Inspector at 740-927-8277 or zoning@harrisantownship.net. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

- DOLLAR GENERAL UPDATE
CESO submitted a site plan and zoning application for the DG Market that they are

planning to construct at the corner of Ephriam Drive and Columbus Road. Valerie has informed the applicant that she cannot act on this application until they have completed TRC review/approval and completed architectural review with the township. The Zoning Commission will review their Architectural Review application at their meeting on May 7, 2024. At this point it does not comply with Architectural Standards.

- Peniel Ethiopian Evangelicals Church at 5457 York Road completed the TRC review with LCPC and is under construction to pave their parking lot. The paving of the lot will bring them into compliance with our zoning regulations. The church had to stop construction of the parking lot temporarily while they finish constructing the detention basin due to heavy rains and water runoff on the property. Construction will resume when the detention basin is completed.

From the floor – Linda Nicodemas, Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District Joe Jarvis is assigned to Harrison Township. Linda explained the services provided from Soil and Water that the township is paying for as part of the MS4 fees. Harrison Township is part of the Licking County Stormwater Program and the MS4 permit is not in compliance. The fee was increased to \$5,000.00 to cover additional staff to bring the permit into compliance. She gave the trustees a handout with additional information.

-Ray Foor moved to approve a purchase order to the Licking County Soil & Water District for \$5,000.00 to cover the 2023 MS4 Consortium Fee. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith NO and Foor YES. The motion passed.

The Chairman announced that the JEDD public hearing scheduled for 7:00 p.m. was cancelled due to a notice issue.

He explained what a JEDD was to those in attendance and where it will be located in the township, State Route 158, Kirkersville.

AEP would like the Trustees of Harrison Township to grant a “Easement” for electric and other current/future energy or communication purposes, underground, in, on, through and across the following described lands situated in Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio, being a part of the northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 17, Range 19, containing 0.28 acres, more or less, as described in Deed Records Volume 321, Pages 20 and 21 of the Licking County Recorder’s Officer (Auditor’s Parcel #026-067762-00.000).

-Ray Foor moved to sign the Easement & Right of Way paperwork with AEP Ohio (details in prior paragraph) which grants the Easement. The Licking County Prosecutors office has approved this Easement. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

From the floor – Larry Kretzmann, SWLCW&SD
Mr. Kretzmann reported on activities of the district.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2024 05 06 05 which states: A RESOLUTION SETTING A JEDD PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND AUTHORIZING ANY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE OR OTHER APPROPRIATE TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL TO PUBLISH NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING; AND OTHER RELATED AUTHORIZATIONS PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 715.72.

On the 18th day of June, 2024 at 9:00 AM, the Board of Trustees of Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio (the “Township”) will hold a public hearing to consider approving a contract to form and govern the Harrison Township Joint Economic Development District. The public hearing will be held at the Harrison Township Hall located at 6750 Outville Road, Pataskala, Ohio 43062. The public hearing shall allow for public comment and recommendations on the contract. The following documents are on file for public inspection: (1) a copy of the contract, including the economic development plan; (2) a description of the area to be included in the district, including a map in sufficient detail to denote the specific boundaries of the area; and (3) an income tax schedule. These documents may be reviewed in the office of the Zoning Inspector of the Township at the Harrison Township Hall at 6750 Outville Road, Pataskala, Ohio 43062 or on the Township Website at www.harrisontownship.net.

Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

-Eric Smith moved to approve the following:

- 1. The minutes of the April 23, 2024 Public Hearing.**
- 2. The minutes of the April 23, 2024 Special Meeting.**
- 3. Payment advice 141-2024 through 166-2024.**
- 4. Warrants 19066 through 19081.**
- 5. The April Bank Reconciliation.**

Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

The fiscal officer reviewed the results of the risk survey. Recommendations from OTARMA were discussed. The trustees would like the Zoning Inspector to work on a driving record acceptability standard in a driving policy as well as job descriptions for township employee positions.

A letter from the Licking County Board of Commissioners concerning the ability to designate exclusionary zones for large solar or wind projects was reviewed. The trustees are not ready to designate at this time.

The trustees reviewed options for placing the 1 Mill Road & Bridge Levy on the ballot in November. A renewal levy would produce \$206,888.00 in revenue.

-Eric Smith moved to have the Licking County Prosecutor prepare the necessary resolutions to place the 1 Mill Road & Bridge Levy on the ballot in November as a renewal levy. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

A letter from the District Public Works Integrating Committee, Membership Voting Form was reviewed. No further action was taken.

OTARMA requires property insurance appraisals and would like to meet on May 15th. The Road Superintendent will meet with Mark Thomson from HCA to complete the townships requirement.

-Eric Smith moved to hold a Harrison Township Public Records Commission meeting on June 3, 2024 at 5:45 p.m. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

The fiscal officer read various pieces of correspondence and passed out Financial Reports for the trustees to review. The April bank reconciliation was signed.

Being no further business, Chairman Mark Van Buren adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Minutes are unofficial until approved by the trustees.

Respectively Submitted,

Carolyn I. Elder
Harrison Township Fiscal Officer

The following resolutions are a part of the May 6, 2024 minutes.

Resolution 2024 05 06 01

Resolution 2024 05 06 02

Resolution 2024 05 06 03

Resolution 2024 05 06 04

Resolution 2024 05 06 05