

Geneva Township
Regular Meeting
April 10, 2024

Chairman Mills called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

The pledge of Alliance was recited.

Roll Call: Mr. Mills, Mrs. Miller and Mr. McGrath were present.

Others present were Fire Chief Shook, Fiscal Officer Caya and Road Supervisor Tod Young. Citizens present were Gazette Newspaper – Erin Hrin, Jessi Spurlock, Mr. & Mrs. Woods, Steve Gala, Drew Raymond, Bill Douglas, Dan Stincomb, Bob Rosebrugh, Bob Russell, Rhonda Webb and Dawn Perry.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. McGrath to approve minutes from the March 13, 2024 Regular Meeting. Roll Call, all trustees present voted yes.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. McGrath to approve bills for \$113,859.86 covered by E□payments E-50-2024 through 85-2024 and Warrants 22866 through 22912. Roll Call, all trustees present voted yes.

Public Comment:

Rhonda Webb and Dawn Perry talked about their mobile tent business and the zoning requirements for it. They stated they called zoning before they bought the property to check on the requirements and there was a complaint filed after their first event. Tim Mills stated that all campgrounds require 50 acres. Ron Cerjan stated the zoning requirements are pretty specific. If it was an Air B n B for a house that wouldn't be a problem but the tents would make it a campground. There was discussion about the possibility of permits for each event or a conditional use permit. There was a suggestion to meet and discuss this issue further. Tim Mills also suggested talking to the Health Department about requirements for facilities. Tiffany Miller stated that she looked at that property previously and the septic tank was failing on that property.

Mr. & Mrs. Woods – expressed concerns about the huge explosions that have been happening throughout the township. It is shaking their house. The Fire Chief stated he can only enforce fireworks but will look into where these Tannerite explosives are regulated.

Andrew Raymond asked if the Township will be putting back up the zoning map. They are looking at updating zoning and will look into getting a map once completed but they can put back up current one in the meantime.

Fire: Chief Shook reported there was 12 incidents in the Township in March. Most of those incidents were open burns. There is currently no burning between the hours of 6 am and 6 pm, through May 31st. There was only one accident in March. The Chief also provided the annual

report that breaks down the annual incidents for the Township. There were 183 incidents in 2023, mostly accidents.

There was a brief discussion on the Fire Levy and the importance of it. Mrs. Miller made a motion to move forward with putting the new Fire Levy back on the ballot for the General election in November. Mr. McGrath seconded the motion, roll call on passage. All three trustees voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Zoning Report: Ron Cerjan reported that he got a hold of the property with the camper on Maple/534 in reference to the complaint. Terri Palmer also got back to him and he wants to go out there together to address the issue. Ron stated he went out a couple times in the winter as well. Mr. Cerjan also reported that the lot split on Wheeler Creek/Maple met the zoning requirements so they are talking to the Planning Commission to complete the rest of the process. 4270 Lake Rd West wants to put up a fence but there is a dispute with the neighbors about the house potentially being built on his property. They will need to get a survey. There is a pole barn permit for 6121 N Ridge W but he needs to meet with the builders. There is also another pole barn on Maple that he will be meeting with them tonight.

Mr. Woods commented that you can now buy a tiny home on Amazon and the Township might have to deal with this in the future. Ron Cerjan stated that as of now the zoning requires 1100 sq. feet for home.

Tim Mills commented that he met with Saybrook to apply for a joint grant for a zoning re-write.

Road Department: Tod Young reported that completed the plow damage repairs, picked up the plow markers, worked on ditching for future pipe project installs on W. Maple and New London, pushed back the tree lawn at Maplewood Cemetery, completed the first half of the wall disassembly in the pole barn in preparation for insulation install and had three trees removed on Lake Road. Davey resource Group will be in the area clearing limbs from the power lines. Tod young reported that he got a quote to replace the low on the 2016 Truck. It was \$9,000. He would like to move forward with the new plow. The trustees will review the quote and discuss it at a later time. Tim Mills also reported that he had a complaint about the recycling bins being put too close together and people cannot get into the side doors. They have also been getting a lot of garbage dropped in the recycling bins. Mr. Mills got a quote to put up cameras for \$3,195.00. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the quote and move forward with installing cameras to help deter the dumping of garbage. Mr. Mills second the motion. Roll Call on passage, Mrs. Miller and Mr. Mills voted yes, Mr. McGrath abstained. The motion passed. There was a suggestion to put a live feed on the website.

Fiscal Officer: Mrs. Caya went over the March month end reports. The year to date revenues and over what was budgeted and the expenses are below what was budgeted. She also reported that the Township received the first half property tax settlement.

New business:

Tim Mills reported that the stone bids were opened before the regular meeting. Simak trucking had the lowest bid. Mrs. Miller made a motion to accept the low bidder of Simak Trucking for the annual stone. Mr. McGrath seconded the motion. Roll call on passage, all Trustees voted yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 2024-03 - A Resolution in The Matter of The Approval of The Solid Waste Management Plan for The Ashtabula Solid Waste Management District. Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-03, seconded by Mr. McGrath. Roll call on passage, all trustees voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

There was further discussion on the Fire Levy. It was suggested to have a planning meeting and send out mailers again. There also needs to be discussion on a backup plan if the Levy does not pass. The Trustees have been working on different options. The biggest concern if they had to go to a Volunteer Fire Department would be the response time.

Tim Mills reported that he attended a meeting about a grant through the Secretary of Transportation for Safe Streets. They are working with other communities to submit a joint grant. The planning portion of the grant would be around \$5,000 that could be split with other entities. They could do a joint grant with Harpersfield, the JEDD's and City of Geneva. Route 534 is one of the highest for fatalities in the state. Mrs. Miller made a motion to move forward with the planning grant with the Township's cost not to exceed \$1,000. Mr. McGrath seconded the motion. Roll call on passage, all three trustees voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Tiffany Miller reached out to the company who was hired to review the Township's zoning and they have not started yet. She will keep everyone informed of the progress.

Committee Reports:

None

Public Comment:

There was a comment that it is a great idea to put up cameras to keep the garbage from being dropped off. They really like the recycling bins and don't want to have them removed. The Township's clean up date is May 4th at the landfill from 8-12. They have it twice a year for the residents. Ashtabula County will have their Annual Tire Amnesty day on May 11th.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. McGrath, there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:59 AM. All trustees voted yes.

Recorded and documented by Tammy Caya

Fiscal Officer