

Geneva Township
Regular Meeting
July 10, 2024

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

The pledge of Alliance was recited.

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

Others present were Fire Chief Shook, Fiscal Officer Caya and Road Workers Ray Dresnek Savannah Workman. Citizens present were Jim Hockaday, Gazette Newspaper – Erin Hrin, Herb Krihwan, Lisa Larbig, Al Virant, Matt Sands, Jim & Barb Wood, Drew Raymond, Bob Russell and Bill Douglas.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. Mills to approve minutes from the June 12, 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 \$89,397.95 covered by E□payments E-133-2024 through 172-2024 and Warrants 22958 through 22983. Roll Call, all trustees present voted yes.

Fire: Chief Shook reported there was 25 incidents in the Township in June. Half of the calls were weather related. Some of those incidents being from the storm on the 29th with the heavy rain. There were also 3 mva's during the month. There was a discussion about setting up meetings for the Fire Levy. Tiffany Miller and Chief Shook will work on organizing the public meetings.

Public Comment:

Lisa commented that she is very upset about the campgrounds going on around the neighborhood. There is currently one set up on Wheeler Creek on the lots that sold while they are building. Mr. Mills commented that that particular property owner asked Township for permission to put a camper while they were building. She commented that there is also one on 534 that has been there year-round. She asked where all the waste is going? Dave McGrath commented that they have sent stuff to the Health Dept and Prosecutors office and don't get a response. The Heath Department will deal with the campers if there waste is not going into an existing septic tank. Bob Russell commented that the judge ruled they campers can be up through the camping season.

Tim Mills commented that the Township can only go after them through their zoning and the Township has hired their own legal counsel but he retired for a little while so we are on hold. The Township has also hired a company to review the current zoning in the Township.

Dave McGrath commented that the Township needs to figure out how to enforce these issues if there is going to be any change.

Tiffany Miller stated that the Township has been working with a company on zoning changes and short-term rental issues. She talked to the Sheriff and they are unable to support enforcement issues.

Bill Douglas commented that the issues are not unique to Geneva Township, they are going on everywhere throughout Ohio and there is no support from the Prosecutors office. Mr. Douglas commented on the good job the Road Crew has been doing.

Mr. Woods commented that they sent a letter to the Health Department 18 months ago and never heard anything. Geneva Township recommended to send it again and they said there is no reason to condemn the place. The Assistant Fire Chief is still working on this issue and Terry from the Health Department is writing the property owners a letter to address the issues.

Al Virant commented that unless there are the tools to enforce, nothing is ever going to change. He thanked the Township Road Crew on the good job they do on the ditching.

Zoning Report: Ron Cerjan reported that there were 4 permits issued this past month and he will be meeting with one more today. He commented that he received a complaint about a new camper. He also walked 2/3 properties last week for people who are wanting to build houses. He also met with people on Lake Road about a cottage and what they can and can't do.

Road Department: Savannah Workman reported that the road crew is working on finalizing the road side mowing. The rain and flooding had put them behind. Once that is caught up they will be working on pipe projects.

Fiscal Officer: Mrs. Caya went over the June month end reports. The year to date revenues are over what was budgeted and the expenses are still below what was budgeted. Ms. Caya also reported that she provided the 2025 Tax Budget for the Trustees for consideration. If approved at the meeting, she will send it to the County for the Budget Commission approval. Mrs. Caya also reported that the State of Ohio issued a notice of required Fraud training for all Employees and Board members. She sent the information out to everyone and will follow up to make sure everyone completes it in the 90-day required time frame.

New business:

Resolution 2024-008 - A Resolution of The Township of Geneva, Commonwealth of Ohio, Supporting the Ohio Commission for The United States Semiquincentennial (America250-Oh). Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. McGrath to approve Resolution 2024-08. Roll Call, all trustees present voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. McGrath to approve 2025 Tax Budget as presented and send to the Ashtabula County Budget Commission. Roll Call on passage, all trustees present voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Hockaday from CT Consultants was present at the meeting to discuss the proposal given to Geneva Township to complete a Comprehensive Plan. It will be a 9-month project. The

proposal was to do the Comprehensive Plan jointly with Saybrook Township which reduces the cost significantly. It has been 40 years since Geneva Township did a Comprehensive Plan. He commented that the Comprehensive Plan should be completed before any zoning changes. Jim Hockaday also commented that zoning must be based on land use which the Plan will help determine.

Tiffany Miller stated that she loves how the residents of the Township come to the meetings to discuss their issues and she believes there isn't a problem with usage but enforcement. She would like to use this plan to apply for grants in the future.

Bob Russell commented that Geneva Township used the Ashtabula County's Comprehensive Plan for years.

The Trustees said they will review the proposal and get back to CT Consultants.

Herb Krihwan asked the Trustees about holding evening meetings for people who work during the day. He also commented that the signs that say "Welcome to Geneva Township" have faded.

Committee Reports: None

Public Comment: None.

Executive Session:

Mr. McGrath made a motion to go into Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing by division (G)(1) of section 121.22 of the Revised Code and included all three Trustees and Fiscal Officer Caya and then reconvene into regular meeting to conduct business. Motion seconded by Mrs. Miller. Roll call on passage, all three trustees voted yes. Motion passed unanimously and they adjourned into Executive session at 10:05 AM.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session back into regular meeting, seconded by Mr. McGrath. Roll call on passage. All three Trustees voted yes. Reconvened from Executive Session at 10:23 AM.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to move Tod Young from Road Supervisor to Road Worker at a pay rate of \$26.50 and promote Savannah Workman as Interim Road Superintendent at a pay rate of \$22.00. Mr. McGrath seconded the motion. Roll call on passage, all three Trustees voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Miller made the motion and a second by Mr. McGrath, there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:23 AM. All trustees voted yes.

Recorded and documented by Tammy Caya. Fiscal Officer
