

**Middlefield Township  
April 8, 2024  
Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

**Meeting Called to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Paul Porter.

Present were Trustees Paul Porter, Mervin Miller, Sophia Porter, Fiscal Officer Mary Ann Pierce, Secretary Heidi Snyder, Tony Hylton, Scott Klein, Jodi Noll (and Pete), James McDonald, Architect Sean Thompson, Paul C. Miller (N.O.A.H.), Mayor Ben Garlich and Melissa Channell.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Additions and or Deletions for the Agenda**

None.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Merv Miller to accept the drafted minutes of the March 11, 2024 meeting after review. Seconded by Sophia Porter. All in favor, minutes approved.

Floor was given to Paul C. Miller, Honest Scales, coordinating assistant for N.O.A.H. (assisting hands) regarding roads cleanup. Brief recap provided regarding April 2023 pickup, with 95 volunteers and 700 bags of garbage collected and, in September 2023, with 138 volunteers, 500 bags of roadside garbage collected. NOAH received approval from ODOT to also do State roads. Collection dates will be last Saturday in April and last Saturday in September. Will have people assist to pick up the bags on same day. Mayor Garlich inquired if they could also include the bike path. Paul Miller will check but believes another group is doing the bike path and asked if there are any volunteer drivers to help collect the bags, they could use drivers. [This is Agenda item "E" under Old Business].

**Old Business**

**A. Bus Stop Signs:** Letter was drafted – will be sent from office Township email.

**B. April 10 GCTA Meeting:** Claridon Township hosting.

[Old Business paused to permit remaining guests to speak and be addressed prior to resuming with the evening agenda.]

Floor was given to residents, Scott Klein, Pete and Jodi Noll, Mayor Garlich who are present concerning abandoned property located at 16216 Kinsman Road. Residents state it is in bad shape. Concerned may have asbestos. Mayor conquers. They would like it condemned. It is a potential hazard. After their prior inquiry, Paul Porter had contacted the County and been advised of the process of providing written notice to the property owner, Deanna Ness (out of state). If no response, next steps will be to go through County. Pete and Jodi Noll live next door and state there are cameras on the property. Scott Klein advised "the brother" gets the feed from the cameras. After further discussion, a strong letter will be sent from the Township Trustees that if property is not maintained and/or is considered unsafe and condemned, taken down, and costs added to the

property. Mr. Klein is to get contact information for the brother (lives local). Mr. Klein, the Nolls and Mr. Garlich departed. [This is Agenda item "A" under new business.]

Next, floor given to Sean Thompson who is present with final rundown of the construction punch list and the final project payments were discussed, including retainage. Goal is to be done and officially wrapped up by the next meeting. Drawings will be updated to Township. Wiring for stove discussed. Suggested and emergency shut-off in case anyone cooking when an emergency call comes in. He suggests to use the original electrician used. Mr. Thompson departed. [This is old business not otherwise referenced on the Agenda.]

Return to Old Business.

### **Old Business**

- B. April 10 GCTA Meeting:** Claridon Township hosting. Advised that the Meeting "will be packed" and they are requesting that people carpool with overflow parking available offsite if needed. All attending from Middlefield Township will carpool.
- C. Bright Star Auctions:** Gradall sold at auction and will net a check of \$3,087.50. Not as well as hoped.
- D. OPWC Nauvoo Project:** Nauvoo Road Project has been approved for 2025 from Madison Road to Hayes Road. Will need electronic signature.
- E. Paul Miller from N.O.A.H.:** See above.

### **New Business**

- A. Abandoned Property 16216 Kinsman Road:** See above.
- B. Russ Nank – Penn Ohio:** No bid from Waste Management so we will proceed with Penn Ohio for the upcoming Trash Day.
- C. Geauga County 911 Plan:** Geauga County established a 911 program review committee, with Sheriff's Department responsible. Trustees presented with Resolution to Accept the Final Plan. Motion by Sophia Porter to adopt the Resolution as written, seconded by Merv Miller. All in favor. Motion carried. **Resolution 2024-07.**

### **Reports:**

**Roads Superintendent:** Brief discussion on putting weight limits on roads. Mr. Miller, Mr. Hylton and Mr. Porter have all received complaints during the worst of the recent weather. Holes vs. ruts. With regard to Nauvoo Road will fill holes to hold until OPWC Project begins. Ray has done some mowing and they are taking down saplings.

**Garage:** The Loader has an intermittent issue with Reverse. Will need it to happen again to try to diagnose and fix. The Case Trax Machine is delayed due to some computer glitch, but hopefully it will be in by next week. Bristles for broom, etc. being done. Goal to remove plows around 4/15/24.

**Fire District:** Mr. Porter advised there is nothing new to report.

**Ambulance Service:** Trustees did another walkthrough before meeting tonight. Project nearly complete. Front building to get new keys.

**Sheriff's Department Report:** Report in Trustees' folders for review.

**Fiscal Officer Reports:**

Management report distributed, reviewed and signed. No bank reconciliations – statement has not arrived.

**Payment of Bills:** Bills were presented for payment in amount of \$257,384.40 (large amount from the construction project). Motion to pay bills, in the amount of \$257,384.40, made by Merv Miller and seconded by Sophia Porter. All in favor. Motion carried. Purchase orders and checks signed. Bills paid.

**Adjournment:** No further business before the Board. Merv Miller made motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Sophia Porter. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

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Paul Porter, Chairman

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Mary Ann Pierce, Fiscal Officer

*Minutes by Heidi Snyder, Secretary*