

**Middlefield Township
Minutes
December 11, 2023 – Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

Meeting Called to Order

Present Robert Troyer, Mervin Miller, Paul Porter, Mary Ann Pierce, Heidi Snyder, Mayor Ben Garlich, Counsel Joseph Weiss, Sophia Porter, Melissa Channell, Rob Demko, Terry Warne, Ray Dodds and Architect Sean Thompson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Troyer at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions and or Deletions for the Agenda

One addition to agenda – Annexation of Sherpa Property.

Approval of Minutes

November 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes: Mr. Porter made motion to accept minutes for November 13, 2023 meeting, seconded by Mr. Miller. All in favor. Minutes approved.

November 27, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes: Mr. Miller made motion to accept minutes for special meeting of November 27, 2023, seconded by Mr. Troyer. All in favor. Minutes approved.

Floor given to guest, Ben Garlich, who is present on behalf of Village of Middlefield. The mayor would like to know how Middlefield Township handled the reduction to the tax increase. Brief discussion was had there on. The village was able to match dollar for dollar. He is also present to discuss the annexation issue.

Rob Demko thanked the trustees for the opportunity as a seasonal employee and would like to come back next year. Same with Terry Warne. Ray Dodds jokingly confirms he will be at work tomorrow. (All are also present to surprise Bob Troyer and congratulate him on his years of service as a Middlefield Township Trustee as he approaches the end of his term).

Next, floor was given to Joe Weiss. The annexation of the Sherpa property would be same terms as the last – 10%. all will benefit from the additional employees. He has a clean copy of the proposal. Merv Miller made a motion to approve the annexation of property located by Just for Fun Honda. Paul Porter seconded the motion. All trustees voted affirmatively in favor thereof. The motion carried. Legal documentation executed provided by Attorney Weiss.

Old Business

- A. Snow & Ice Controls:** Per Mary Ann Pierce and Merv Miller, 250 tons of salt has been reserved at \$54 per ton. Township will add cinder and mix ourselves.
- B. Insurance Results.** Per Mary Ann Pierce, she spoke with Debbie Boop. After review of the available options, nothing is really comparable to what the Township currently has, and the recommendation is to stay with United Healthcare. After brief discussion, the Township will stay with it.

New Business

- A. Resolution to Request for Advance of Taxes Collected: Resolution 2023-10.** Motion by Paul Porter to adopt the proposed resolution as written, seconded by Mr. Miller. All in favor. Resolution adopted.
- B. Acceptance of Amended Rates from Auditor's Office.** Motion by Merv Miller to accept amended rates from Auditor's Office, seconded by Paul Porter. All in favor. Motion carried. Auditor's form executed.
- C. NOPEC Grant Disbursement.** \$9,683 received - paid for almost all of the work performed on the outer building and LED lighting.
- D. Quarterly Dinner Meeting.** Next quarterly dinner will be in January, hosted by Auburn Township at Adam Hall. Deadline to respond is January 3 for reservations. Several will attend. Finalize reservation at year-end meeting.
- E. Amish Ohio Road Maintenance Fund.** \$15,632.99 check was received from the Ohio Road Maintenance Fund. Brief discussion on this.
- F. Ohio Electricity Litigation.** Township received \$69.66 from class action lawsuit.
- G. Resolution to Increase Appropriations.** Paul Porter made motion to increase appropriations, seconded by Merv Miller to cover the \$89,516 invoice from Declan for construction project. All in favor. Motion carried. Resolution 2023-11.
- H. Annexation Issue.** Sepra Property – Hartville (see above).

Reports

Roads: Per Ray Doods, a little tree work and some mowing currently. The extra room is done but door still needs installed.

Garage. Per Merv Miller, nothing really to report at this time.

Fire District. Meeting tonight (12/11/23). 2024 appropriations approved. New levy increase in receipts will cover increase in wages.

(Sean Thompson arrives and indicates he is here for cake.)

Ambulance service. Paul Porter and Sean Thompson provide update on construction project. Still estimate end of January for completion.

Sheriff's report. Trustees will review later – report in folders.

Fiscal Officer's Reports

Bank/Management Report: Management report reviewed and signed. October bank reconciliation presented. November not yet received. Bills, purchase orders and checks presented to pay bills in the amount of \$134,569.42. Motion to pay bills by Merv Miller, seconded by Paul Porter. All in favor. Bills paid in the amount of \$134,569.42.

Some discussion on some historical township and village matters while paperwork and checks signed.

Celebration of Bob Troyer with cake and many good stories.

Adjournment: No further business before the Board. Mr. Porter moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m., seconded by Mr. Miller. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Robert Troyer, Chairman

Mary Ann Pierce, Chief Fiscal Officer

Minutes by Heidi Snyder, Secretary