

**Miami Township Trustees**  
Minutes of December 19, 2022

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Chairperson Mucher. Trustee Hollister and Trustee Moir were present.

Road Department employee Dan Gochenouer, Fiscal Officer Margaret Silliman, Zoning Inspector Richard Zopf, and Recorder Cyndi Pauwels were in attendance.

*Yellow Springs News* reporter Lauren Shows was also present.

**Adoption of Minutes**

A **motion** was made by Trustee Moir and **seconded** by Trustee Mucher to **adopt the minutes** of December 5, 2022. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Payment of Accounts**

A **motion** was made by Trustee Hollister and **seconded** by Trustee Moir to **pay bills in the amount of \$37,926.92:** General Fund - \$607.05; Fire Fund – \$28,965.85; Cemetery - \$30; EMS Billing - \$3,706.34; Road and Bridge - \$4,617.69; 2021 - \$665.31; and 2031 - \$3,952.37. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Correspondence**

The Trustees received:

- Welcome to Dispute Resolution Committee
- USDA Annual Reporting Letter
- Collapsed Drain – Allison Moody
- Brosius, Johnson and Griggs, LLC – billing rate changes for 2023
- Lee Slone- Final Opinion and Order denying Kingwood
- YS/News request for comment on Kingwood decision
- Colin Altman – Firehouse contacts schedule/vacationing chief and ass't chief
- Draft solar resolutions shared by Cedarville township

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

No comments.

**Fire Department Report**

No report, as Chief Altman and Assistant Chief Powell were on vacation.

**Cemetery and Road Report**

**Cemetery:**

Dan Gochenouer reported two burials were held recently. He will be installing a new board to accommodate electric service at the cemetery.

In response to Trustee Mucher's inquiry, Mr. Gochenouer said the two headstones outside the cemetery building will either be moved inside or placed at the sites temporarily until foundations can be laid.

Discussion was held re: Trustee Mucher's suggestion to address the water line issues at SR 68. Mr. Gochenouer will attempt to locate the leak (may be on the Village side) and resolve the situation.

The new wooden cart to be used for natural burials was on display in the Township building lobby. It will be moved to storage.

Trustee Mucher asked for details on the tanks and cages at the cemetery storage area. After discussion, Mr. Gochenouer said he would dispose of those not being used for old crack fill.

Trustee Mucher offered a "Well done!" for Brandon Morris' work while Mr. Gochenouer was off.

Trustee Moir and Mr. Gochenouer will talk next week about procedures at the natural burial site.

#### **Roads:**

Mr. Gochenouer reported Brandon Morris salted roads on December 18<sup>th</sup>, and the fire department salted the walks at the Township building. A brief discussion was held about the amount of salt used, and it was agreed to use only as much as necessary for environmental and structural concerns.

Trustee Mucher asked Mr. Gochenouer to be thinking about one or two roads to be blacktopped next year. Potholes were discussed briefly.

Trustee Much read proposed **Resolution 2022-45: Agreement Between the Greene County Engineer and the Miami Township Board of Trustees** re: permitting and fees for the county's Internet fiber installation. After a short discussion, Trustee Hollister **moved to adopt** the Resolution, noting it is a huge milestone for the county. Trustee Moir **seconded**. **Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Fiscal Officer's Report**

Ms. Silliman presented **Resolution 2022-46: Advance Transfer Authorization**. She explained that, after discussion with the County Auditor, it was decided this was the cleanest way to handle the payroll issues faced before the new levy monies become available.

Trustee Moir **moved to adopt** the Resolution as presented. Trustee Hollister **seconded**. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Silliman then presented **Resolution 2022-47: Amendment of Permanent Appropriations**, explaining the small amounts being moved in and out of accounts were to cover payroll issues prior to her discussion with the County Auditor.

After a brief discussion, Trustee Moir **moved to adopt** the Resolution as presented. Trustee Hollister **seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Zoning Inspector's Report**

Richard Zopf reported a permit was issued for a resident converting barn space to a personal office on Snypp Road.

A short discussion was held on Zoning regulations Chapter 18.5 – Temporary Use, and the criteria that is/should be included. He's asked the Greene County Prosecutor for clarification, but has not received a response. Trustee Mucher said to take the matter to the Township attorney on retainer.

The Zoning Committee is discussing inviting Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) members to their organizational meeting on the third Tuesday in January; so far, only a "save the date" message has been sent, with little response.

Mr. Zopf and Trustee Moir are working on website updates, specifically to standardize contact information for Zoning Committee and BZA members, and to list term dates.

Trustee Mucher asked for a **motion to add an addendum to Township regulation 14.1.3** to allow a trustee credit card purchase of gift cards as thanks to Zoning Committee and BZA volunteers. Trustee Moir **so moved**; Trustee Hollister **seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Trustee Moir then **moved to authorize Trustee Mucher to make the purchases** at \$100 and \$50 each, and Trustee Hollister **seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Standing Committee Reports**

- Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) – Executive Committee 7 Board of Directors: no report
- Greene County Regional Planning & Coordinating Commission: Trustee Mucher noted a pending 2040 update that will be up for discussion and vote in January
- Clifton-Union Cemetery: no report
- Yellow Springs Community Development Corporation: no report
- Climate Action & Sustainability Project (CASP): Trustee Moir reported they will be interviewing next week for a project coordinator
- Natural Burial Committee: Trustee Moir said a meeting is set for January 9, 2023, to discuss seeding the new section, and to possibly create a reminder card of spring regulations for new burials

**New Business**

After lengthy discussion on Trustee Moir’s request for a public session on Township budgets (Fire/EMS and overall), it was decided that each trustee would create a list of questions to be researched and discussed in order to make best use taxpayer money. When budget time comes, further discussions and if necessary, a public session, will be added to the agenda.

**Old Business**

- Discussion was held on the recent Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) denial of the proposed Kingwood solar project, which the developer will likely appeal. Trustee Moir noted Greene County Commissioner Gould, while supportive, would prefer townships determine their preferred restrictions.

In response to questions re: a possible moratorium on permits now, Mr. Zopf noted it may be time to review the Township’s comprehensive land use plan.

Per earlier-noted correspondence, the trustees agreed to join Cedarville in a joint response, depending on content. Trustee Hollister will resume lead contact on this activity. He will not, however, be able to attend Bath Township presentation on January 9, 2023, on the topic.

- As proposed last meeting by Chief Altman, reclassification of fire/EMS employees per Department of Labor. Ms. Silliman will be asked to provide same for future vote.

**Adjournment**

A **motion** was made by Trustee Moir and seconded by Trustee Hollister to adjourn at 6:32 p.m. **Motion carried by acclamation.**

Next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, January 4, 2023**, at 5 p.m., due to the New Year’s Day holiday.

**Chairperson** \_\_\_\_\_ **Attest** \_\_\_\_\_

/clp