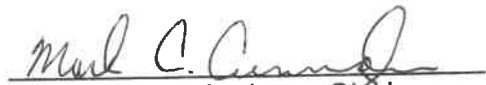
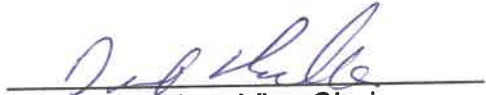


FISCAL OFFICER:


Mandie Andrews

APPROVED:


Mark C. Cunningham, Chairman


Dick Heidecker, Vice Chairman


Tony Manning, Trustee

Chairman Mark Cunningham called the December 19, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7 p.m. in the Columbia Town Hall.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Fiscal Officer Mandie Andrews took roll call attendance and Trustees Mark Cunningham, Dick Heidecker and Tony Manning were present.

Fiscal Officer Andrews sent all meeting reports to the Trustees electronically.

At this point in the meeting, Chairman Cunningham turned the meeting over to Chief Anthony and the Fire Department for the presentation of awards and the swearing in of the new firemen.

Chief Anthony presented Jerry Peters with the Fireman of the Year Award. Mr. Peters heads up the new hire class which is four months of training done with the support of the other officers in the department. This is just one of the ways Peters goes above and beyond his regular duties to contribute to the success of the department.

Next, Chief Anthony presented four new members to be sworn in by the Board of Trustees. Chairman Cunningham read the Oath of Office for each new member, Andrew Collins, Patrick Grealis, Lucas Roberts, and Cody Winland.

Chief Anthony explained how Firefighter/Paramedic Brett Wilson, now deceased, taught Troy Cavadas how to stop, drop and roll during Fire Safety Week. Troy used this knowledge to save his father whose clothing had caught on fire. Troy and his father, Mr. Jed Cavadas, were present. Those responding to the Cavadas' call for help that day, received the Star of Life Award. The recipients of this award are Chief Anthony, Assistant Chief Craig Heidinger, Captain Brett Heidecker, Lieutenant James Gunter, Firefighter/Paramedic Nancy Heidecker and Firefighter/EMT Scott Bringman. Captain Brett Heidecker and Lieutenant James Gunter were present to receive their Star of Life Award pin.

Chief Anthony has been notified that Brett Wilson's name will be added to the National Firefighter's Memorial. He is not sure if it will be in May 2023 or May 2024.

After a five minutes recess, Chairman Cunningham resumed the Trustees' regular order of business.

Minutes from the December 5, 2022 regular meeting were presented for approval.

Motion Heidecker to approve the minutes as written. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous.

Fiscal Officer Mandie Andrews presented bills and payroll totaling \$77,208.99 for payment.

Motion Manning to approve bills and payroll totaling \$77,208.99. Seconded Heidecker. Vote unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

Letter from the Lorain County Stormwater District requesting Columbia Township prepare for an audit of the Phase II General MS4 Permit.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

Captain Ashdown was present. He reported that Deputy Bargaheiser took a transfer. His replacement has not been selected yet.

ZONING INSPECTOR:

Zoning Inspector Bob Eichenberg was absent.

ROAD DEPARTMENT:

Equipment – Service Director Bob Rundle reported all equipment up and running.

Issue I Status – The Integrating Committee Meeting is coming up in January. Rundle won't hear anything about the 2023 applications until after that meeting.

Subdivision Status – Nothing new reported.

MS4'S – Rundle recently attended a class in Oberlin that was basically about housekeeping. There will be additional classes scheduled due to the new documentation required for illicit discharges.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Personnel – Chief Anthony reported 39 members on file and 37 members on call.

Calls – To date, the Fire Department has responded to 846 calls.

Equipment – All equipment is up and running.

Mutual Aid – Mutual aid has been given 56 times and requested 58 times.

Station Coverage – All hours offered are being covered.

Department Input – The annual Christmas Eve Blood Drive will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fire Station. At this time, 32 people have signed up online to donate blood. Anthony's personal goal is to get 50 donors.

The toys donated to Toys for Tots were picked up. Quite a bit of food and some cash were donated to the Columbia Food Bank.

After the first of the year, two department members will be hired by the City of Parma. Two others are being hired by Cleveland.

CEMETERY:

Rita Plata reported the receipt of \$500 from the sale of one grave.

ZONING COMMISSION:

The Zoning Commission will meet on Thursday, January 5, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., they will hold a public hearing for four zoning amendments.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS:

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be on Monday, January 23, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

Upgrades to the Projector and Sound System in the Town Hall – Chairman Cunningham will reach out to Jeff Ziolkowski to make sure he is here to assist the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee on January 10th and 12th with any technical needs.

Contract with the Lorain County Sherriff – Captain Ashdown was present for the discussion. Chairman Cunningham explained that the Trustees discussed the contract during their last meeting. Cunningham said he thinks the board will suspend it for now because of the cost and a lot of variables with the cost for the deputy. Cunningham said he did a lot of research and read a lot of the reports.

Manning also pulled a lot of the reports and read them. He is disappointed that there was lot were stationary radar done. No tickets were issued, only warnings.

Cunningham said he has a sour taste in his mind about the car with 40,000 miles on it. He noted the Trustees purchased the car for Columbia Township and now it is going to be used as a general car. The new proposal increases the mileage cost and includes the purchase of another car for \$40,000. Also, the standard rate for the deputy increases to \$45 to \$70 per hour, depending on the deputy patrolling. Cunningham explained to Captain Ashdown that the Trustees discussed these costs during the last meeting.

Manning said he just didn't see it.

During the discussion, the Board was unanimous in their decision to terminate the agreement with the Sheriff for extra patrol due to the increased cost and the fact that the deputies were, for the most part, just doing stationary radar.

Captain Ashdown said he completely understood.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cell Tower Lease – Fiscal Officer Mandie Andrews has been getting repeated phone calls and a lot of emails about the cell tower contract.

Manning reviewed the contract and made numerous suggestions. He believes American Tower should show the Trustees their customers and what they are paying vs. the 15% increase every five years. Manning suggested the contract should be for 20 years additional, not 40 years. He also suggested they pay a flat monthly rate, with increases; payment should not be dependent upon their leaseholders because the Township can't budget for unknowns. The termination notice should be 30 days not 45. Manning said the confidentiality clause (No. 8) should be eliminated because the Trustees represent the township not a private entity. He also suggested a 15% increase in the lease payment every 5 years. Another option would be to put the parcel up for sale. Manning explained these items could be included in an addendum to the contract.

Cunningham explained the Trustees have not contacted anyone. The salesperson keeps emailing Mandie.

Cunningham believes the Trustees rolled over the contract with American Tower to 2040 with 5-year increases of 15%. The Township is supposed to get additional income from any additional carriers added to the tower. Cunningham also noted, if the Trustees were to decide to anything with the tower, American Tower has the first right of refusal with the option to purchase it.

Snow Plow to be Used for New Truck – Rundle would like to order a Henderson plow that is on State Bid for the new truck. Rundle can't get a delivery date until they receive a purchase order. The cost of the plow is \$16,774.00.

Motion Heidecker to approve the expenditure of \$16,774.00 for a snow plow for the new truck. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous. 12-19-2022-144

Replacement Home Sewage Treatment System (HSTS) for 26373 Folley Road – Bob Rundle explained the system at this address has failed must be updated. There is no other drainage available except to discharge to the roadside ditch.

Motion Heidecker to allow the HSTS at 26373 Folley Road to drain to the roadside ditch. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous. 12-19-2022-145

“No Parking on Fire Hydrant Side” Signs for Columbia Reserve Subdivision – Rundle explained these signs will be added to existing signs so there will be no new posts. Heidecker asked about the other developments. Rundle said this was the only development requesting the signs.

Storm Water Planning Grant to Clean Ives Ditch – Rundle explained the planning grant application is for cleaning a crossover pipe on Station Road and an existing ditch to Plum Creek. Rundle said this is a planning grant only and he will file the application if the Board agrees. Then, he will come back with the details.

Chairman Cunningham said Don Romancak said there is \$425,000 available for grants. Rundle said this is just a planning grant.

Motion Cunningham to apply for a SWAC Planning Grant for the Ives Ditch. Seconded Heidecker. Vote unanimous. 12-19-2022-146

Discuss Allowing Columbia Gas to Do an Open Cut on North Boone Road – Cunningham got a phone call today from Columbia Gas. They are running a gas line on North Boone and need to do a horizontal bore to the west side of the road. They could not camera it so they requested permission to do an open cut at 12408 North Boone. Cunningham spoke to the Lorain County Engineer about it and he said he

would allow it because they will be putting in turning lanes on North Boone Road and making repairs to Snell Road. Cunningham said Columbia Gas wanted to do it today. It will be a 2 ft. x 30 ft. open cut across the road and through the road right-of-way. Cunningham said they will have to make repairs per the Lorain County Engineer's specs for patching open cuts.

Motion Manning to allow Columbia Gas to make an open cut at 12408 North Boone Road. Seconded Heidecker. Vote unanimous. 12-19-2022-147

NOPEC 2023 Community Event Sponsorship Grant – Mandie Andrews reported she received an email from NOPEC about the sponsorship grant available for community events. Andrews said these funds need to be designated to a group having a community event. She explained it went to the Chamber of Commerce in 2017, one year to the car show and also to the Columbia Community Foundation for their fall event. The Columbia Community Foundation continues to sponsor an annual fall event which is now held at the Football Field.

Heidecker asked how much money is disbursed. Andrews said \$1,500. Heidecker said he has no objection to giving it to the Columbia Community Foundation. Cunningham said if nobody wanted it, he would use it for the car show as it has been used for the car show before.

The problem with giving it to the Chamber of Commerce is they are going year-to-year with their event and the application deadline is April 30, 2023. Cunningham said we have time to decide. Andrews commented that they do disburse funds quickly.

Discuss Land Swap on Snell Road – Cunningham commented that the Trustees discussed this land swap several meetings ago. The parties involved now have a letter for the Board to sign. Cunningham would like to send it to the Lorain County Prosecutor for review.

The land swap is between Sandra Elliot and Emerald Woods. The land swap would allow Sandra Elliott to access the back of her property without crossing the Baker Creek. If the Lorain County Prosecutor approves the agreement, the Trustees can sign it during their next meeting.

Township Office Closed on December 23rd – The Township Office will be closed from December 23rd thru December 26th and will reopen on Tuesday, December 27th at 9:00 a.m.

Year-End Meeting – The 2022 year-end meeting will be on Tuesday, December 27th, at 10:00 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cunningham reported the Lorain County Township Association will meet in Sheffield Township on January 19th. The RLCWA Board's monthly meeting is on Wednesday, December 21st. Cunningham had nothing new to report concerning the Rocky River Watershed Council.

Heidecker reported NOACA approved the Facility Planning Area change for State Route 82.

Heidecker had nothing new to report concerning NEORS. NOPEC sent an email today saying they would like to put the townships back into their program, but the PUCO is not letting NOPEC get their license back.

Manning had nothing new to report concerning SWGH and the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

The Trustees gave everyone present the opportunity to ask questions and/or offer comments.

The year-end meeting is on December 27, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. The next regular meeting is on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion Heidecker to adjourn the meeting. Seconded Manning. Vote unanimous.

RECEIPTS

LC AUDITOR (DEC LOCAL GOV)	\$ 9,125.30
LC AUDITOR (HB 49)	756.21
PERSO (ADDITION INSURANCE FUNDS FOR ROOF REPAIR OF PARK PAVILION)	3,091.00
CEMETERY	500.00
ZONING INSPECTOR	7,191.90
RECREATION FEE (PULTE)	1,800.00
RECREATION FEE (DREES)	<u>1,800.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 24,264.41</u>