

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
IRA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

The Ira Township Board of Trustees met in the board room of the Ira Township Hall on February 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Board members present: James Endres Jr., Thomas Eder, Thomas Lauer, Jean Corbat and Stella Ruhlman.

Board members absent: None

MINUTES:

S. Ruhlman moved to approve the minutes of the 1/4/2023 regular and 1/30/23 special meetings, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

CORRESPONDENCE:

- St. Clair County Road Commission RE: Annual Meeting;
- Semco Energy;

Acknowledged and filed

OLD BUSINESS:

Request to Waive Utility Charges - 9286 Dixie

T. Lauer moved to grant relief to the property owner at 9286 Dixie Highway by providing a credit in the amount of \$800.00 for the sewer portion of their water/sewer bill in excess of normal usage from July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Letter of Agreement

S. Ruhlman moved to clarify the Letter of Agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324 to amend the Collective Bargaining Agreement to reflect an increase in the Building Clerk's salary to \$20.50 per hour, which includes a 2.5% annual increase as provided in the Collective Bargaining Agreement, supported by J. Endres Jr.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS:

Music in the Park Rain Location

T. Eder moved to approve the request of the Parks & Recreation Director and authorize use of the Fire Hall as an alternate rain location for the Music in the Park events to be held on June 16, 2023, July 14, 2023 and August 11, 2023, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Request for Sewer Relief - 7798 Wagner Lane

S. Ruhlman moved to accept the recommendation of the DPS Superintendent and grant relief to the property owner at 7798 Wagner Lane by providing a credit in the amount of \$915.12 for the sewer portion of their water/sewer charges in excess of normal usage from December 18, 2022 to February 3, 2023, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Clay Police - Monthly Additional Charges

T. Eder moved to approve the additional monthly charge of \$2,052.00 from the Clay Township Police Department, for additional services rendered during the month of January 2023, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Budget Amendment 22/23 #4

Budget Amendment 22/23 #4		2/6 Meeting
General Fund		
Revenues		
101-000-676.009	Reimbursements - Election Expense	1,400
101-000-676.010	Reimbursements - Lawn Care	3,000
Expenditures		
Elections		
101-262-818	Contractual Services	1,400
Building Department		
101-371-801	Professional & Contractual Service-Legal	3,000
Parks & Recreation		
101-751-818	Contractual Services	(920)
101-751-924	Other Utility Servs-Electric Receptacles	920
Fire Fund		
Revenues		
206-000-665	Interest	5,800
Expenditures		
206-000-807	Audit Services	5,800
Water/Sewer Fund		
Revenues		
592-536-583	St Clair County Contribution - Sewer Infrastructure	500,000
Expenditures		
592-000-158	Construction in Progress	500,000

J. Endres Jr. moved to approve Budget Amendment 22/23 #4, as presented, for the General Fund, Fire Fund and Water/Sewer Fund, supported by S. Ruhlman.
 All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Budget Revision 22/23 #4

Budget Revision 22/23 #4		2/6 Meeting
General Fund		
Expenditures		
Executive Activities		
101-173-818	Contractual Services	5,000
Assessing		
101-257-964.100	BOR/Tax Tribunal/Prior Year Refunds	6,000
Inspection		
101-371-832	Building Inspector Inspections	20,000
Net effect on budget will be a \$ 31,000.00 Increase to the Expenditures		
Water/Sewer Fund		
Expenditures		
592-537-818.001	Contractual Services - Computers	1,200
592-537-956	Seminars/Workshops/Training	2,000
Net effect on budget will be a \$ 3,200.00 increase to the Expenditures		

S. Ruhlman moved to approve Budget Revision 22/23 #4 for the General Fund and Water/Sewer Fund, supported by T. Eder.
 All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Firefighter Probation Status

S. Ruhlman moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and move Firefighter Tony Spina to probationary status which will move his run pay to member status, supported by T. Eder. All voting yes. Opposing: None MOTION CARRIED

New Member Fire Department

T. Lauer moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and hire Gabriel Zarb as a paid-on-call firefighter, supported by S. Ruhlman. All voting yes. Opposing: None MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS:

- Police Run Report- January 2023
- Building Department Permits - January 2023
- Code Enforcement - January 2023
- DPS Superintendent - January 2023

- Update on Boiler system installation;
- Awaiting parts on PLC Project;
- Update on sewer plant and authority;

Parks & Rec Director's Reports - January 2023

- Update on County Crew Chart and Archery Survey;
- Update on sponsorship program;
- Working with Troop 252 on Replace Grief with Awe in connection with the War Memorial at Municipal Park;
- Meeting with County Parks Director, Dennis DeLor;
- Participated with the Supervisor in a Zoom meeting with Priority Health for a fitness equipment program; another Zoom meeting is scheduled;

Fire Chief's Report

- Run Report;
- Update on status of new fire truck; chassis inspection is set-up with a tentative build date for April;

Supervisor:

- Attending Supervisor's meeting on February 15, 2023;
- Meeting with Road Commission to review gravel haul for the Township;
- Sewer Authority Update; Zoom meetings on-going to meet April deadline;
- Update on Recognition plaques;

Clerk:

- Attending St. Clair County MTA;

Treasurer:

- Bank Balances as of January 31, 2023;
- Water / Sewer Adjustments - January 2023;

DISBURSEMENTS:

S. Ruhlman moved to pay the following disbursements totaling \$495,439.30 and supported by T. Eder. All voting yes. Opposing: None MOTION CARRIED

Reg	
Fund 101 General Government	\$69,076.73
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$8,611.80
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$139,703.73
ACH	
Fund 101 General Government	\$274,321.80
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$752.90
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$2,972.34
Total for All Funds	\$495,439.30

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan Pagel (8615 Short Cut Road) provided the Board with a copy of a letter he distributed to his neighbors regarding tannerite explosions in the area. Mr. Pagel advised that these explosions have been happening in his neighborhood for the past two years and specifically addressed an explosion

that occurred on December 26, 2022. Mr. Pagel has contacted Clay Police and ATF regarding the use of tannerite in the area. The noise from the explosions is not legal. The Supervisor addressed Mr. Pagel's concerns and will see what action can be taken.

Laurhn Halabis (8427 Samantha) addressed the Board requesting an ordinance amendment to allow backyard chickens in residential area. She is recommending up to six (6) laying hens be allowed in a residential area. The ordinance currently requires a five-acre parcel to have barnyard animals. She also advised that many cities and other municipalities have changed their ordinances to allow chickens on smaller lots in residential areas. The Supervisor advised the ordinance was very clear on the requirements to retain farm animals but he will talk with the Township Planner.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss T. Lauer moved, with the support of S. Ruhlman, to close the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Corbat, Clerk