

**RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP
LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO
BOARD OF RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

February 6, 2023

The regular meeting of the Richfield Township Trustees was called to order by John Hassen at 7:00 p.m. at the Maintenance Building, 3951 Washburn Rd., Berkey, Ohio. All present were asked to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Chairman John Hassen – present
Co-Chairman Andrew Lumbrezer – present
Steve Bettinger – absent

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

The clerk provided copies of the minutes from the January 17, 2023 meeting, current Cash Summary Report, Revenue Report, and Pending Warrants Report.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Andrew Lumbrezer made a motion to approve the January 17, 2023 minutes as presented. John Hassen seconded the motion. Roll call: Bettinger- absent, Lumbrezer –yes, Hassen-yes. Motion approved.

PRESENTATION OF THE BILLS:

The attached listings of warrants (13062 - 13080) were presented for approval:

Andrew Lumbrezer made a motion to approve payment of the attached listing of invoices and the corresponding pending warrants. John Hassen seconded the motion. Roll call: Hassen-yes, Lumbrezer-yes, Bettinger-absent. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A resident was present to discuss issues on Gibbs Rd. Recently he heard gun shots coming from Gibbs Rd. late at night, 911 was called. The Lucas County Sherriff responded 65 minutes later, upon arrival they shined a spot light down the road and left. The resident went down Gibbs Rd. the next day and found AR15 gun shells on the road. Other residents in the area have heard gun shots as well in the past couple months.

Resident Joe Okos was present to discuss options for the township. Suggestions were made as follows:

- Place signage on the road to include: no parking, no trespassing.
- Contract with a Deputy to provide 20 hours a month of patrol. Cost \$75.00 per hour for a total cost of \$18,000.00 per year. The Deputy would be dedicated to Richfield Township only and would respond to any accidents/incidents within the township.
- Contact the property owners on both sides of the Gibbs Rd. bridge for permission to clean out the trees. This would open up the view.

The Trustees had placed signs previously on Gibbs Rd. for no loitering, no parking. The signs were destroyed shortly after placing on the road.

Discussion was tabled until the next scheduled meeting.

FIRE:

New engine will be delivered this week.

Received resignation of two fire-fighters, Caroline Hinde and Chris Harrison.

Andrew Lumbreer accepted the resignation of Caroline Hinde and Chris Harrison from the fire department. John Hassen seconded the motion. Roll call: Hassen-yes, Lumbreer-yes, Bettinger-absent. Motion approved.

ZONING:

Zoning Inspector Ron Smith provided updates on zoning violations in the township.

OLD BUSINESS:

Additional resumes were reviewed by the Trustees for the Road Maintenance Supervisor position. Fiscal Officer will set up date/time for interviews.

The Lucas County Land Bank approved the grant application for the destruction of an abandoned home on Sylvania Avenue. The grant is for \$12,500.00. Trustee Hassen will contact Klumm Brothers for the demolition work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fiscal Officer presented information on the Ethics Session she attended at winter convention. Ohio Ethics Law:

- Prohibits a public official from authorizing the employment of a family member. A “public official” is any elected or appointed officer, or employee, of the state or any political subdivision of the state.
- A “member of [an official’s] family” includes the following relatives, regardless of where they reside: (1) spouse; (2) children (whether dependent or not); (3) siblings; (4) parents; (5) grandparents; and (6) grandchildren. It also includes any other person related by blood or by marriage and living in the same household.
- The Ethics Law and related statutes are criminal laws. If a person is convicted of violating an ethics law, that person may receive a jail sentence and/or have a fine levied against him or her. This is a fourth-degree felony with a maximum penalty of eighteen months in prison and/or a \$5000 fine.
- An official cannot solicit, accept, or use the authority of his or her public position to secure anything of value, including a gift, meal, or entertainment, that could have a “substantial” and “improper” influence upon the performance of public duties.
- Small gifts, such as a book, a meal at a family restaurant, a promotional item, an inexpensive entertainment activity, and other things of nominal value, even if they are provided by an improper source, will not have a substantial influence on an official. An official is not prohibited from accepting these kinds of items.
- The Ethics Commission generally advises that officials should not solicit or accept any things of value from parties they regulate or with whom they do business.

Trustee Hassen provided updates on the cemetery session he attended, highlighting available forms we can use.

Trustee Lumbrezer attended fire department sessions, he provided Cheif Clonch with information on all sessions.

Unlimited pickup is scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2023.

ROADS:

No new road business.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Residents may call Norma Drennan at 419-829-6029 or 419-283-3424 to rent the town hall.

The following information can be viewed on the Richfield Township website at: www.richfieldtwp.com.

1. Trustee minutes
2. Zoning minutes
3. Zoning including: fees, applications, complaint forms, and the zoning book.
4. Meeting dates and times
5. Contact information for Trustees, Zoning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals.
6. Wolfinger Cemetery information including cemetery fees, rules & regulations.
7. Fire and Rescue
8. Town hall rental rules and fees
9. Roads and Maintenance
10. Rubbish Contractor information for garbage pickup
11. Community Links.

There being no further business Andrew Lumbrezer made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m., which was seconded by John Hassen: Roll call: Hassen -yes, Bettinger-absent Lumbrezer -yes. Motion approved.

Richfield Township Fiscal Officer
