

Canaan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
July 12, 2022
Minutes

Chairman Matthew Carwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll call showed all trustees and the fiscal officer present. Also present was Gene Ebert of Ebert Lawn and Landscaping and township residents Jim and Connie Conant.

Mr. Ebert reported that things are going well with the mowing and very appreciative of the clean-up of some trees and brush by the trustees in the cemeteries.

Mr. and Mrs. Conant purchased two grave plots in the North Canaan Cemetery.

The fiscal officer presented the minutes from the June 14, 2022 meeting. Mr. Bayles made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The fiscal officer reported receipts and balances to date in all funds. The bank reconciliation report was also presented. Automatic drafts were examined. The United Bank Statements were also distributed. Credit card purchases for June and early July were reviewed and the attestation statement signed by Mr. Carwell. Mr. Bayles made the motion to approve the reports. Mr. Levering Carwell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The 2023 budget estimate was examined. No changes were recommended. It will be filed with the County Auditor.

Communications included:

- The Grassroots Clippings newsletter
- OTARMA 2021 Annual Report

The Morrow PUCO Electric Aggregation Renewal Application was notarized and will be returned to Energy Harbor for filing. The current application expires on 9/24/22.

The roads were checked on Wednesday, July 6, 2022. There is a toilet that needs to be picked up out of the ditch on TR 133 and a trampoline that needs picked up out of the ditch on TR 74. The trustees plan to take care of removing and properly disposing of those items this week. The Road Sign Inventory and Management form was completed and is on file.

The trustees had discussed earlier this year the idea of again piggy backing off the county bid for any road work. A quote was received from Mid-Ohio Paving, the awarded county bidder this year, for paving TR 73 (one mile) and a portion of TR 133 (approx. ½ mile). Because of the increase in fuel costs, their quote had fuel surcharges and mobility charges on it. The trustees reached out to Prosecutor Tom Smith to see if this was allowable. Prosecutor Smith responded that if the contractor has changed the price from its bid to the county and its offer to the township, then R.C. 9.48 would not allow the township to utilize joint purchasing because it's a different contract than agreed to by the county. He suggested that the township should consider competitive bidding if the project meets the appropriate price.

Mr. Bayles made a motion to put out two bids, one for asphalt paving of TR 73 (one mile) and TR 133 (approx. ½ mile) and one for approximately 6 ½ miles of chip and seal of various township roads. The legal notice will run in the local newspaper on July 20th and July 27th. Bid opening will be at the regular meeting on August 9, 2022 at 7 p.m. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Bayles reported that 1st Consolidated has had 470 squad runs year-to-date compared with 334 runs year-to-date last year. He also said that plans continue to move forward for the 150-year anniversary celebration planned for September 17, 2022. The next meeting will be Wednesday July 13, 2022, at which meeting levy renewal will be decided upon. Mr. Bayles also reported that the fire department lost the new full-time firefighter hired in April to another township that was able to pay higher wages.

Mrs. Pangborn had dropped off information to Mrs. Retterer on a presentation given at the last regional planning meeting. The packet contained an overview of the Blossom Solar Project. The proposed 144-megawatt photovoltaic electric generation facility will be located in Washington Township in Morrow County. The project will occupy up to roughly 1,100 acres of agricultural land, which can be returned to farming after the 40-year life of the project. Construction of the facility likely won't begin until late 2023 at the earliest and will take approximately 12-18 months to complete. The annual tax revenue will be approximately 1.3 million to the County and associated taxing jurisdictions.

The trustees continue to gather quotes for new flooring, new HVAC, and new lighting in the township hall. Mr. Bayles presented a quote from Johnsville Flooring for the new floor. The quote was \$10,288.19. These projects will be paid for with the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received from the Treasury. The 1st tranche of funds totaling \$50,323.48 was received last July. The 2nd tranche of funds totaling another \$50,328.48 should be received sometime this month. The trustees discussed using some of the funds to install a back up generator at the township hall. The township and surrounding communities were without power for several days last month due to tornados and severe storms hitting the area. A back-up generator will be a good asset to have for the township and the community.

Mr. Bayles made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 7-12-2022-2

Authorizing Expenditure from American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Morrow County, Ohio

Be It Resolved by the Township Trustees of Canaan Township

WHEREAS, this date, July 12, 2022, Trustee John Bayles moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township has received a distribution of monies (the "ARPA Funds") from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA" or the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Act effective March 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Section 603 created the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund which, among other things, appropriated money to cities, nonentitlement units of local government, and counties to mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19); and

WHEREAS, Section 603(c) generally provides that:

(1) USE OF FUNDS. Subject to paragraph (2), and except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), a metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county shall only use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover costs incurred by the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county, by December 31, 2024 -

(A) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;

(B) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;

(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency; or

(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

WHEREAS, Department of Treasury Final Rule, published on January 6, 2022, and effective April 1, 2022, provides in part that:

Treasury presumes that up to \$10 million in revenue has been lost due to the public health emergency and recipients are permitted to use that amount (not to exceed the award amount) to fund “government services.” [The “standard allowance”].

WHEREAS, the Rule further observes that:

The standard allowance provides an estimate of revenue loss that is based on an extensive analysis of average revenue loss across states and localities, and offers a simple, convenient way to determine revenue loss particularly for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund’s smallest recipients. This change is intended to promote administrative efficiency and simplify revenue loss calculation for smaller recipients.

WHEREAS, the Rule further clarifies that recipients can use:

SLFRF funds on government services up to the revenue loss amount, whether that be the standard allowance amount or the amount calculated using the [Final Rule four-step process]. Government services generally include any service traditionally provided by a government, unless treasury has stated otherwise.

WHEREAS, some common examples of “government services” expressly recognized by Treasury are as follows:

- Road building and maintenance, and other infrastructure
- Health services
- General government administration, staff, and administrative facilities
- Environmental remediation
- Provision of police, fire, and other public safety services (including purchase of fire trucks and police vehicles)
- Maintenance or pay-go funded building infrastructure
- Modernization of cybersecurity, including hardware, software, and protection of critical infrastructure

WHEREAS, “Government services is [deemed by Treasury] the most flexible eligible use category under the SLFRF program, and funds are subject to streamlined reporting and compliance requirements;” and

WHEREAS, funds utilized pursuant to the standard revenue loss allowance continue to have certain restrictions, including:

- Deposit into pension funds
- Satisfaction of settlements or judgments
- Contributions to financial reserves or “rainy day” funds

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has identified a project which, in the judgment of the Board, qualifies as a permitted use of the ARPA Funds, in direct support of governmental services, which consists of the following project:

Purchase a backup generator for the Canaan Township Hall located at 2170 State Route 95, Edison, Ohio 43320.

(the “Project”).

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board that:

1. The Township elects to use the standard allowance and its presumption of revenue loss due to the public health emergency and to use the amount authorized herein to fund government services
2. The Project is hereby authorized and shall be paid for from the ARPA Funds in the amount of/an amount not to exceed: \$50,000.00
3. The Project described herein serves the objectives of the Act by providing services traditionally provided by a government, namely:
 - Police protection
 - Fire and emergency medical services
 - Road repair, maintenance and other transportation and safety services
 - Public infrastructure support
 - General government administration and administrative facilities
 - Land use regulations and enforcement
 - Parks and recreational facilities and programs
4. Accordingly, the Project is in the best interests of the Township and is deemed a priority for the community.
5. No obligations paid under the authority of this Resolution were incurred prior to March 3, 2021.

Trustee Tyler Levering seconded the Motion, and thereupon, the votes in favor of this Resolution were recorded and reflected by the signatures hereto.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Mr. Carwell, yes; Mr. Levering, yes; Mr. Bayles, yes

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Township concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Township Trustees, and that all deliberations of the Township Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Installation of the new driveway in the N. Canaan Cemetery was started on Monday, July 11, 2022, by Bob Rogers Sr. The stone is being hauled by Mitchell Trucking. The driveway should be completed this week. The township received a \$1,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing to help offset the total cost of this project. A final report for receipt of the grant funds is due to the Ohio Department of Commerce by August 2, 2022.

The Morrow County Prosecutor sent a “friendly letter” requesting a township resident on CR 130 regarding junk vehicles on the property. This was as a result of the trustees receiving a complaint from another township resident about the junk vehicles. The owners were given until July 11, 2022 to resolve the situation. It was noted that there appears to be no progress in clearing the junk vehicles from the property.

The OPWC Project Grant Agreement was received on July 1, 2022 for the Township Road 60 Phase 3 Project. Trustee and Chief Executive Officer, John Bayles, signed the agreement electronically. Kokosing Construction Company had the winning bid which was \$127,522.30. The township will receive \$88,912.00 in grant money for this project and will be responsible for the remaining amount, \$38, 610.30.

The trustees looked over and discussed the possibility of paying a portion of the trustee's salaries next year out of the gas tax fund. Information was received from an Auditor's Bulletin on the proper way to split trustee's salaries out of the general fund and restricted funds (i.e. gas tax). The most likely split will be 80% of the salaries coming out of the gas tax fund and 20% coming out of the general fund. A decision will be made late this year when the trustees vote on next year's compensation.

Mr. Bayles shared some information he received from the Pleasant Township (Marion County) fiscal officer regarding HB 140 "Ballot Transparency". This bill requires property tax election notices and ballot language to convey a property tax levy's rate in dollars for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value (i.e. true value), instead of in dollars for each \$100 taxable value. There are concerns that inconsistent calculations within the same ballot form for levies that are renewal, decrease, increase, or expansion of an existing tax. Other concerns are the cost per \$100,000 calculation doesn't capture the many different rates actually paid, which depend on the type of property, the use of the property (such as CAUV, forestry/timber, and manufactured homes), reduction factors that vary by property class, homestead exemption, and rollbacks to name a few. Many properties are not worth \$100,000, which makes this cost calculation potentially misleading for some voters. It was noted that local governments must help voters understand their needs on a continuing basis, not just at levy time. Voters will see the amount estimated to be collected first on the ballot, before any other levy particulars. Voters will also need educated on the difference between how property taxes are levied versus paid. Pending AOS guidance will make education efforts more challenging. This bill will go into effect in September of 2023.

Mr. Bayles noted that there is a burial in N. Canaan Cemetery that needs updated on the cemetery map.

Mr. Bayles made the motion to approve the bills for payment. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Bayles made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 PM.

Trustee: _____
Matt Carwell, Chairman

Trustee: _____
Tyler Levering, Vice Chairman

Trustee: _____
John Bayles

Fiscal Officer: _____
Jill Retterer

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June 2022 Receipts

Date:	Amount:	Receipt #:	From:	For:
6/17/2022	\$25.00	50-2022	Kassandra Hauersperger	Township Hall Rental
6/17/2022	\$25.00	51-2022	Tammy Sellers	Township Hall Rental
6/17/2022	\$150.00	52-2022	Troy Mulvaine	Burial/Cremation Jerry & Sue Mulvaine
6/21/2022	\$672.04	53-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	June Local Government Distribution
6/21/2022	\$528.32	54-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	June Local Gov. Dis. Per sec 57
6/22/2022	\$9,264.95	55-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	June Excise Gas Tax
6/22/2022	\$2,445.33	55-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	June cents per gallon gas tax
6/22/2022	\$697.56	56-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	June License Tax - State
6/22/2022	\$283.50	56-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	June License Tax - County
6/30/2022	\$108.55	57-2022	Park National	June ICS Interest
TOTAL:	\$14,200.25			

June 2022 Payments:

Date:	Amount:	Voucher/Warrant:	To:	For:
6/3/2022	\$972.67	36-2022	OPERS	May 2022 Payroll
6/4/2022	\$36.38	37-2022	Ohio Edison	Denmark Street Lights
6/4/2022	\$27.29	37-2022	Ohio Edison	Climax Street Lights
6/8/2022	\$93.13	38-2022	Ohio Edison	Township Hall Electric
6/9/2022	\$275.30	39-2022	Cardmember Services	WIX Premium Renewal - 3 years
6/14/2022	\$985.00	3903	Eugene P. Ebert	June 2022 Mowing Contract
6/14/2022	\$447.00	3904	Treasurer of State of Ohio	3rd Quarter 2022 UAN Fees
6/14/2022	\$30.00	3905	Ohio Bureau of Workers' Comp	Installment due to payroll changes/audit
6/14/2022	\$438.58	3906	John Bayles	May Health Ins. Reimbursement
6/14/2022	\$384.10	3907	Matthew Carwell	May Health Ins. Reimbursement
6/14/2022	\$492.02	3908	Tyler Levering	May Health Ins. Reimbursement
6/14/2022	\$1,119.90	3909	Strine Contracting	Spraying Township Roads/Cemeteries
6/21/0022	\$12.00	40-2022	Delco Water	Township Hall Water
6/30/2022	\$767.63	3910	John Bayles	June Payroll
6/30/2022	\$764.38	3911	Matthew Carwell	June Payroll
6/30/2022	\$775.84	3912	Tyler Levering	June Payroll
6/30/2022	\$863.23	3913	Jill Retterer	June Payroll
TOTAL:	\$8,484.45			

Bank Balance June 30, 2022

Park National Checking Balance:	\$165,835.48
Park National MM Balance:	\$267,426.69
TOTAL:	\$433,262.17