

Canaan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
November 14, 2023
Minutes

Chairman Tyler Levering called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Roll call showed all trustees and the fiscal officer present. Also present were four representatives from Canaan United Methodist Church: Chris Woodard, Diane Hildreth, Renee Hildreth, and Rick Hill.

The fiscal officer presented the minutes from the October 10, 2023, meeting. Mr. Carwell 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 Park National Bank Statements were also distributed. Credit card purchases for October and early November were reviewed and the attestation statement signed by Mr. Levering. Mr. Bayles made the motion to approve the reports. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

Communications included:

- The Grassroots Clippings newsletter

The OPWC Grant application for Round 38 was submitted on October 26, 2023. It will likely be next spring before notice is received of approval or not.

The roads were checked on Wednesday, November 8, 2023. It was noted that a couple of signs need to be straightened. There is road sign down in the back corner of the Village of Climax. There are also a couple of holes on TR 67 west of the woods and some cracks are forming on TR 62. The trustees will work on taking care of these issues. The Road Sign Inventory and Management form was completed and is on file.

Mr. Bayles reported that he was unable to attend the most recent First Consolidated meeting, but he reported some highlights from the meeting minutes. There was a good turnout at the most recent Awards Banquet. Unit 111 Rescue is being repaired for a leaky pump valve and a hose. There is still work going on for the deed restrictions for Station 3. They hope to be able to sell it to the Marion County Sheriff's Department. The 4 mill/5 year renewal levy for the district passed in the most recent general election on November 7, 2023.

There was no Regional Planning update.

Mr. Carwell reported that he attended the most recent District Advisory Council meeting. He reported that they need a physician to be on the board. Mr. Carwell also presented a drawing of the building on Douglas Street that is being remodeled to house the Morrow County Health Department. There is a new 988 number to call for mental health, suicide, and crisis lifeline. As of November 13, 2023, Hidden Lakes has had their license revoked. Since April 8, 2023, there have been 45 plus incidents involving the sheriff at Hidden Lakes. According to the ORC,

Hidden Lakes can no longer operate as a recreational park. There was not a quorum present at this meeting, so everything presented was informational.

Mr. Levering reported that in the past two months he has stopped by once and called township resident Christopher Tiell three times and left three voicemails. Mr. Tiell has not responded to the letter sent in August regarding the noxious weeds on his property. The trustee wish to speak with him to find a resolution to the situation.

One application from Canaan Township was submitted to the Morrow County Land Bank for the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program to take care of blighted, vacant, or abandoned homes. The application was for the Goble house at 639 Jefferson Street in the village of Climax. The Demolition program has \$150 million set aside for 2 years. Each county will have an annual allotment available on a competitive first come first served basis. Counties will be allotted \$500,000 annually. Applications were due to the Morrow County Lank Bank on November 1, 2023, for funding in 2024. It is uncertain when we will receive notice if the application was approved or not. Applications can be submitted after November 1, 2023, but they will not be considered until next year for funding in 2025.

The trustee's looked over the Trash Bash information from this year. Clover Posse 4-H Club cleaned up 8.25 miles of township roads in Canaan Township this spring. They collected a total of 80 pounds of trash, 44 pounds of aluminum cans, and 42 pounds of recyclables out of the township road ditches. They also cleaned 3 miles of county roads in Canaan Township. Mr. Carwell made a motion to pay the Clover Posse 4-H Club \$20 per mile for the 8.25 miles of township roads cleaned. Mr. Bayles seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The township recently had two burials. James H. Welling, age 97, of Brooksville, Ohio and formerly of Scottsburg, Indiana, was buried in S. Canaan Cemetery on October 16, 2023. Ronnie W. Collins, age 71, of Marion, Ohio (former Canaan Township resident), was buried in N. Canaan Cemetery on October 23, 2023.

The trustees looked over a template for a new cemetery policy. It will be decided at the December meeting if the current policy needs to be updated with this more in-depth policy from the OTA.

The trustees looked over an email received from Prosecutor Smith regarding the voter approved State Issue 2 which allows possession, use, and sale of recreational marijuana and cannabis products. The email included a resolution the trustees can consider passing. Included in the new law, R.C. 3780.25 specifically authorizes boards of township trustees to adopt a resolution, by majority vote, to prohibit or limit the number of adult use cannabis operators within the unincorporated territory of the township. This is not a zoning statue. Even unzoned townships may adopt such a resolution, and any township, whether zoned or unzoned, may adopt the resolution by simple majority vote of the board of township trustees. There is no need to hold hearings, obtain the recommendations of the zoning commission or planning commission, or follow any of the requirements specific to zoning amendments. The trustee are going to look over this proposed resolution and compare it to the current resolution that was approved by the trustees on May 8, 2017.

The Ohio Township Association's annual conference will be February 7–9, 2024. The conference is held in Columbus each year to further the education of township officials and staff, and to provide networking opportunities to meet fellow township officials and staff from across

Ohio. Mr. Carwell made a motion to pay all mileage and expenses for attendance at the Ohio Township Association Winter Conference and any other trainings in 2024. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Township policies were reviewed and discussed regarding any needed changes for next year. Two of the policies that were discussed were the Cemetery Policy and the Building Rental Policy. The trustees will make a decision at the December meeting regarding any needed changes.

The 2024 Compensation Chart was distributed. Compensation adjustments for township officials were amended in Senate Bill 296, which took effect December 27, 2018. The bill provides a 1.75 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) that began in 2019 and extends through 2028. Only those township officials that are elected or appointed on or after December 27, 2018 are eligible to receive the increase. Per Ohio Revised Code, township trustee's and the fiscal officer salaries are based on the annual budget of the township and are only effective on election or re-election, but not in the middle of a term. All three trustees and the fiscal officer will be compensated according to the 2024 rates on the chart.

The next regular monthly meeting will be held December 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. There will not be a special end of the year meeting unless it is determined necessary at the regular December meeting.

There being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Levering made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Carwell seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Trustee: _____
Tyler Levering, Chairman

Trustee: _____
John Bayles, Vice Chairman

Trustee: _____
Matthew Carwell

Fiscal Officer: _____
Jill Retterer

**Canaan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
November 12, 2023
Minutes**

October 2023 Receipts:

	Amount:	Receipt #:	From:	For:
10/12/2022	\$92.57	89-2022	Ergon Oil Purchasing	Interest Guy Heffley Well
10/13/2022	\$528.32	90-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	October Local Gov. Dis. Per sec 57
10/13/2022	\$664.56	91-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	October Local Government Distribution
10/17/2022	\$223.12	92-2022	OTARMA	Capital Distribution
10/18/2022	\$9,564.66	93-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	October Excise Gas Tax
10/19/2022	\$2,094.19	93-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	October cents per gallon gas tax
10/25/2022	\$716.21	94-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	October License Tax - State
10/25/2022	\$324.16	94-2022	Morrow Co. Auditor	October License Tax - County
10/26/2022	\$25.00	95-2022	Tiffany Heimlich	Township Hall Rental
10/31/2022	\$495.87	96-2022	Park National	October ICS Interest
TOTAL:	\$14,728.66			

October 2023 Payments:

Date:	Amount:	Voucher/Warrant:	To:	For:
10/3/2022	\$767.63	3952	John Bayles	September Payroll
10/3/2022	\$764.38	3953	Matthew Carwell	September Payroll
10/3/2022	\$775.84	3954	Tyler Levering	September Payroll
10/3/2022	\$863.23	3955	Jill Retterer	September Payroll
10/4/2022	\$972.67	64-2022	OPERS	September 2022 Payroll
10/4/2022	\$737.82	65-2022	IRS	3rd Quarter Federal Tax
10/4/2022	\$229.48	66-2022	State of Ohio	3rd Quarter State Tax
10/4/2022	\$91.74	67-2022	State of Ohio	3rd Quarter School District Tax - Mt. Gilead
10/4/2022	\$11.24	68-2022	State of Ohio	3rd Quarter School District Tax - River Valley
10/5/2022	\$44.72	69-2022	Ohio Edison	Denmark Street Lights
10/5/2022	\$33.53	69-2022	Ohio Edison	Climax Street Lights
10/10/2022	\$253.87	71-2022	Cardmember Services	Township Minute Book
10/10/2022	\$67.98	71-2022	Cardmember Services	Printer Ink
10/10/2022	\$211.42	71-2022	Cardmember Services	Township Hall Supplies
10/11/2022	\$80.78	72-2022	Ohio Edison	Township Hall Electric
10/11/2022	\$985.00	3956	Eugene P. Ebert	October 2022 Mowing Contract
10/11/2022	\$297.26	3957	Burkhart Farm Center	Parts for Mower
10/11/2022	\$438.58	3958	John Bayles	September Health Ins. Reimbursement
10/11/2022	\$384.10	3959	Matthew Carwell	September Health Ins. Reimbursement
10/11/2022	\$492.02	3960	Tyler Levering	September Health Ins. Reimbursement

10/19/2022	\$12.00	73-2022	Delco Water	Township Hall Water
10/31/2022	\$767.63	3961	John Bayles	October Payroll
10/31/2022	\$764.38	3962	Matthew Carwell	October Payroll
10/31/2022	\$775.84	3963	Tyler Levering	October Payroll
10/31/2022	\$863.23	3964	Jill Retterer	October Payroll
TOTAL:	\$11,686.37			

Bank Balance October 31, 2023

Park National Checking Balance:	\$140,343.36
Park National MM Balance:	\$368,786.59
TOTAL:	\$509,129.95