

Canaan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
August 13, 2024
Minutes

Chairman John Bayles called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll call showed all trustees and the fiscal officer present. Also present was Commissioner Tim Siegfried and Gene Ebert of Ebert Lawn and Landscaping.

Mr. Ebert reported that there have been no issues with the mowing in the cemeteries. The trustees recently reseeded a few graves at Worden cemetery. It was noted by the trustees that the neighbor beside the township hall, Josh Albert, was going to put some dirt in some low spots out back near where the properties adjoin.

Mr. Siegfried gave an update on things that are happening in Morrow County. The SoMoCo Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade project has been completed. This was a 4-million-dollar project with some of the funds coming from ARPA monies. The waste water from this plant is now releasing into Alum Creek. The project known as "480", in reference to the building purchased by the commissioners at 480 Douglas Street, Mt. Gilead, continues to progress with renovations. A portion of the building is being renovated to house the Health Department. The Health Department hopes to be in the building by the beginning of 2025. The project for the new County Garage facility being built on Home Road is also progressing with the steel structure slated to go up starting next week. The targeted completion date for this project is the spring of 2025. The Morrow County Hospital Board and the County Commissioner's recently signed a 30-year lease with OhioHealth to take over the Morrow County Hospital beginning January 1, 2025. This will be the 16th hospital in the state of Ohio to become an OhioHealth facility. The current 2.5 mil hospital levy will be removed from resident's property taxes, providing a tax savings to the residents. Mr. Siegfried also mentioned there are 27 tax issues on the ballot this fall and all except two are renewals with the other two being additional. A 4-million-dollar grant for the jail is also going to provide some much-needed renovations. It was noted that nothing too major has been done to the jail since it was built at its current location in 1995. Mr. Siegfried also explained the merger of the 911 call center and the sheriff's office for dispatch. Currently 911 is contracted with the Morrow County Firefighter's Association. The merger of these two facilities and housing them under one roof will make for a quicker response time for dispatch of 911 calls, whether it be a call for the sheriff or EMS.

The fiscal officer presented the minutes from the July 9, 2024, 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 July and early August were reviewed and the attestation statement signed by Mr. Bayles. Mr. Bayles made the motion to approve the reports and pay all bills, including electronic payments. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Communications included:

- The Grassroots Clippings newsletter
- OTARMA 2023 Annual Report
- Shaw Creek 2024/2025 Propane Pricing Options

Information was received from Shaw Creek for the 2024/2025 year to pre-buy propane @\$1.599 per gallon. This is a commercial pre-buy rate and is .15 cents per gallon higher than last year. The township currently has a \$1.01 credit with Shaw Creek from last year's pre-buy of 700 gallons. Mr. Carwell made a motion to pre-buy 1,000 gallons of propane. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The OTARMA 2023 Annual Report was reviewed and is on file at the township hall.

The roads were checked on Wednesday, August 7, 2024. The Road Sign Inventory and Management form was completed and is on file. It was noted that 20/20 Enterprises recently completed almost 3.9 miles of chip and seal on several township roads. The roads that were chipped and sealed were TR 10, TR 62 (between CR 59 and CR 61), TR 64, TR 71, and TR 61 (between TR 60 and the Marion County line). The trustees are also in the process of mowing the township ditches for the second time this season. Mr. Bayles noted that one more tank of fuel for the tractor will need to be purchased to complete the mowing.

The OPWC Project for the paving of TR 60 between TR 67 and CR 61 is expected to be completed by the winning bidder, Small's Asphalt, sometime in late September or early October. The trustees signed the contract with Small's Asphalt for this project. The trustees discussed the possibility of applying for the OPWC grant for next year to pave and widen TR 133. The trustees are going to check with the county to see if they would agree to a joint project that would include the county replacing the very narrow bridge on that road.

Mr. Bayles reported that First Consolidated Fire District moved to put a 3-mil additional levy on the ballot for this fall. If approved, the total millage in the First Consolidated Fire District would be 12 mil. The Fire District is also working on providing new green house number signs for residents in need of a new sign.

Mr. Carwell reported that at the most recent Regional Planning, Warren Davis, chair, had resigned. Mr. Carwell was elected to finish his unexpired term. There was a total of 15 lot splits approved with one of the splits being in Canaan Township.

The trustees discussed uses for the remaining ARPA Funds of \$44,315.81. These funds must be appropriated by December 31, 2024, and spend by December 31, 2026. The discussion led to the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 08-13-2024-1

Authorizing Expenditure from American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Morrow County, Ohio

Be It Resolved by the Township Trustees of Canaan Township

WHEREAS, this date, August 13, 2024, Trustee Matt 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 projects:

Purchase a Dump Trailer, purchase a Mower, Seal and Stripe Parking Lot, Sandblast handrails at township hall, and pour new concrete aprons and sidewalk around the Morton pole barn.

(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 John Bayles 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. Bayles, yes; Mr. Carwell, yes; Mr. Levering, 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.

The trustees also signed the following resolution to cede authority to the Morrow County Commissioners to act as the purchasing agent and governmental aggregator for electric power for Canaan Township. This applies to customers of Ohio Edison. The township will join with other townships in Morrow County that have approved electric aggregation, under the umbrella of the Commissioners, to receive a more competitive price on supply rates. As always, township residents are free to opt out of any offer.

RESOLUTION 08-13-2024-2

Resolution Authorizing the Morrow County Commissioners to act as the Purchasing Agent and Governmental Aggregator for electric power for Canaan Township.

The CANAAN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES, Morrow County, Ohio, met in regular session on the 13th day of August 2024, at the office of the Township Trustees with the following members present: John Bayles, Matthew Carwell, Tyler Levering

Trustee Tyler Levering moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas, on May 4, 2010, the residents of Canaan Township voted in favor of electric aggregation to improve purchasing leverage and offer reduced electrical generation rates to residential and small business consumers, and,

Whereas, the Morrow County Commissioners have offered their services to act on behalf of all Townships in Morrow County as the governmental aggregator, and,

Whereas, having one centralized aggregator will provide for the most expeditious manner to handle any issues arising in the process of electrical aggregation,

THEREFORE, Be It Resolved,

Section 1. The Township Trustees of Canaan Township hereby authorize the Morrow County Commissioners to act as the governmental agent for purchasing and aggregation of electric power for the residents of Morrow Township.

Section 2. This resolution shall be copied to the Morrow County Commissioners, 80 N. Walnut St, Mt. Gilead, OH 43338

Section 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were so adopted in an open meeting of this Township, and that all formal actions, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

Trustee Matthew Carwell seconded the above resolution and the vote upon its adoption resulted as follows: John Bayles, yes; Matthew Carwell, yes; Tyler Levering, yes.

Considered and adopted by unanimous vote on August 13, 2024.

There being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Carwell made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Bayles seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Trustee: _____
John Bayles, Chairman

Trustee: _____
Matthew Carwell, Vice Chairman

Trustee: _____
Tyler Levering

Fiscal Officer: _____
Jill Retterer

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July 2024 Receipts:

Date:	Amount:	Receipt #:	From:	For:
7/17/2024	\$741.21	62-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	July Local Government Distribution
7/17/2024	\$528.32	63-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	July Local Gov. Dis. Per sec 57
7/17/2024	\$9,963.80	64-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	July Excise Gas Tax
7/17/2024	\$1,935.84	64-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	July cents per gallon gas tax
7/18/2024	\$713.78	65-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	July License Tax - State
7/18/2024	\$410.45	65-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	July License Tax - County
7/18/2024	\$75.00	66-2024	Amanda Thompson	Township Hall Rental
7/31/2024	\$222.11	67-2024	Park National	July ICS Interest
7/31/2024	\$1,392.41	68-2024	STAR Ohio	July Income Dividend Reinvestment Interest
TOTAL:	\$15,982.92			

July 2024 Payments

Date:	Amount:	Voucher/Warrant:	To:	For:
7/1/2024	\$1,007.04	59-2024	OPERS	June 2024 Payroll
7/1/2024	\$1,242.84	60-2024	IRS	2nd Quarter Federal Tax
7/1/2024	\$201.75	61-2024	State of Ohio	2nd Quarter State Tax
7/1/2024	\$142.65	62-2024	State of Ohio	2nd Quarter School District Tax - Mt. Gilead
7/1/2024	\$17.79	63-2024	State of Ohio	2nd Quarter School District Tax - River Valley
7/3/2024	\$47.62	65-2024	Ohio Edison	Denmark Street Lights
7/3/2024	\$35.70	65-2024	Ohio Edison	Climax Street Lights
7/9/2024	\$1,156.43	4215	Eugene P. Ebert	July 2024 Mowing Contract
7/9/2024	\$1,175.90	4216	Strine Contracting LLC	Vegetation Control Roadways & Cemeteries
7/9/2024	\$69.60	4217	Mitchell Trucking	2.4 ton of 2 limestone
7/9/2024	\$25.30	4218	Morrow County Treasurer	Special Assessment 911 & Otter Creek Ditch
7/9/2024	\$35.00	4219	AIM Media Midwest	Legal Notice 2025 Budget Hearing
7/9/2024	\$265.00	4219	AIM Media Midwest	Legal Notice OPWC Bid
7/9/2024	\$419.00	4220	John Bayles	June Health Ins. Reimbursement
7/9/2024	\$402.42	4221	Matthew Carwell	June Health Ins. Reimbursement
7/9/2024	\$567.92	4222	Tyler Levering	June Health Ins. Reimbursement
7/9/2024	\$303.76	4223	Jill Retterer	June Health Ins. Reimbursement
7/11/2024	\$82.80	66-2024	Ohio Edison	Township Hall Electric
7/16/2024	\$12.00	67-2024	Delco Water	Township Hall Water
7/31/2024	\$794.58	4224	John Bayles	July Payroll
7/31/2024	\$791.02	4225	Matthew Carwell	July Payroll
7/31/2024	\$802.96	4226	Tyler Levering	July Payroll
7/31/2024	\$913.68	4227	Jill Retterer	July Payroll
TOTAL:	\$10,512.76			

Bank Balance as of July 31, 2024

Park National Balance:	\$183,614.38
Park National MM Balance:	\$85,892.82
STAR Ohio	\$303,407.41
TOTAL:	\$572,914.61