

Bid Opening	2024 Road Program	Thursday, September 12, 2024
RT Vernal	\$599,694.95	
Kirila Construction	\$637,671.51	
Shelly & Sands Inc.	\$669,436.43	
Geauga Highway Co.	\$892,073.25	
Bids taken under advisement		

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in Regular Session on Friday, September 20, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. with the following members in attendance Mr. Arnold Clebone, Mr. Devon Stanley, & Mr. Gregory Cizmar presiding.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, September 9, 2024 Regular meeting.
 Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.
 Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

24-106 Motion to award the 2024 Road Project to RT Vernal in the amount of \$599,694.95, low bidder, execute the agreement and a performance bond specific to the contract will need to be obtained.
 Motion: Mr. Clebone. Second. Mr. Cizmar.
 Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Motion carried.

24-107 Motion to increase appropriations from Fire – Other Expenses – Other State Grants – 2111-220-590-0070 by \$10,875.00 due to receiving the 2nd round of the Grant for State of Ohio Ambulance Impacted Industry Program. It will then be all internally transferred to the Appropriation line # 2111-220-190-0070 to expend all of it before the September 30, 2024 deadline to use for Workforce Relief, exactly like we did with the 1st round of these granted funds.
 Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.
 Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

24-108 Motion to enter into an agreement to participate in the ASPP – Ambulance Supplemental Payment Program, which allows public ambulance providers to receive supplemental Medicaid payments that account for the difference between what it costs our EMS/Fire Dept. to provide a transport to a Medicaid recipient and what our Dept. is paid by Medicaid for that transport.
 Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.
 Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

A discussion between Zoning Enforcement Officer Jim Rodway and the Board of Trustee regarding the vacant lot at Academy Drive took place. It was decided to notify KPA Investments, Northeast Logging and Lumber LLC to clean up the vacant lot or through the below abatement the township will and put a lien on their taxes.

24-109 Motion to pass the following resolution for nuisance abatements:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby determines that the owner’s maintenance of vegetation, garbage, refuse and other debris upon the following properties constitutes a nuisance abatement:
 Address: Parcel No.:
 0 Academy Dr. 12-054200
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of this Board’s intent to provide for the abatement, control, or removal of said vegetation, garbage, refuse or other debris constituting said nuisance be given to all owners of the land and holders of liens of record upon said land in accordance with **Section 505.87 (B) O.R.C.**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon proper notice, and failure of the property owner to abate said nuisance within seven days, the Board of Trustees provide for the abatement, control, or removal of said vegetation, garbage, refuse or other debris constituting said nuisance in accordance with **Section 505.87 (B) O.R.C.**
 Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Stanley.
 Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion: Troy Rhodes, First Energy’s Regional External Affairs, introduced himself to the Board of Trustees. He is the contact person for most of NE Ohio.

Road Superintendent Wayne Hickman said once he receives the final invoice for the 2023 Road Project, we can close that program. Now that the Board has awarded the 2024 Road Project to RT Vernal, we will start the process of getting the contract signed and set up a preconstruction meeting with them. At the very least, we should be able to do the infrastructure this year and if RT is available and the weather cooperates we may knock out the paving too. If not, we should at least get the drainage done this year.

We are working towards the 2025 Road program. For the Community Development Block Grant Townsend Project, there's a meeting at the Planning Commission on Monday. Wayne said he is meeting GPD Group next week regarding Center Park. He hopes the Crack Seal program will begin again at the end of the week. The Scrap Tire Grant Program is this weekend and is set up at the upper parking lot next to the police department. On Monday our road guys will load all the tires onto the semi that has been placed at the site per the recommendation of Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste. The Road guys will continue with repairing catch basins, drainage work, and road department related work.

Fire Chief Doug Theobald said the fire line at the new hotel is complete, but he still has concerns about water pressure in that area. The Chief spoke of a possible burning ban because of the severe drought we are experiencing. There have been massive delays at the local hospitals, due to backups at the ER. In some cases, they leave one medic with the patient at the hospital in order to continue ambulance services. The next two weekends they will be conducting the Gary Sinise Grant controlled burn. Afterwards, we will keep the structure for future training purposes. Chief inspected the fire hydrants that were mentioned at the Monday Meeting. In the one case the hydrant was damaged and reported to the City of Girard. The other hydrants were checked from Belmont to Tibbetts Wick. 2 hydrants are clocked at 90 degrees off – one in front of the Teddy Bear Lounge and the other at 845 Tibbetts Wick. The big bill regarding the 2019 Fire Truck to fix the leaky radiator, Greg suggested they go to guy in Hubbard who repairs all types of radiators to see if he can fix it rather than be at the mercy of the manufacturer who is the only one who can customize the radiator.

Fiscal Officer Matthew Connelly discussed a continuation of a previous grant (we received \$20,000 previously that was put towards payroll), and the potential to receive an additional \$11,000 from Work Force Grant. The extra ASPP Medicare funds we could potentially receive could be between \$90,000 and \$110,000 with 10% going to the 3rd party billing company.

Police Chief Toby Meloro reminded everyone Coffee with a Cop is October 2nd at Dunkin Donuts from 9 – noon.

Trustee Greg Cizmar said the auction is almost done.

Motion to adjourn into executive session to consider employment and/or compensation of public employees at 9:05 a.m.

Motion: Mr. Clebone. Second. Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn from executive session and resume regular session at 9:49 a.m.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

24-110 Motion to amend the Memorandum of Benefits for the Township Administrator and Zoning Inspector and increase rates as follows effective September 15, 2024:

1. To increase the Administrator and Zoning Inspectors rate by \$2/ hour to \$37.70.
2. Increase the Fiscal Officer Assistant Teena Wylie by \$1.87/hr. to \$20.00 per hour.
- 3 Increase the Administrative Assistant Maureen Schrecengost by \$2/hr. to \$17.00 per hour.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second. Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Motion carried.

24-111 Motion to amend the Memorandum of Benefits for the Police Chief to pay his accrued by unused sick leave at retirement to fifty five percent (55%) of his then current hourly rate of pay

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, NO. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:54 a.m.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

Next meeting Friday, September 27, 2024 @ 8:30 a.m. Next evening meeting Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

- Scrap tire is Saturday and Sunday from 9 – 2 p.m. Max 8 tires off rims.
- Neighborhood Trick or Treat October 31st from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Administration/Police Open House from 4 pm. – 5 p.m. October 31st at Admin Bldg.

MATTHEW CONNELLY
FISCAL OFFICER

GREG CIZMAR, CHAIRPERSON