

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of New Russia Township Trustee Regular Meeting

HELD

September 19, 2023

Chairman Scott Justin called the September 19, 2023 Public Hearing to order at 6:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees: Patricia Brubaker, Andrew Gulish and Scott Justin were present, as well as Fiscal Officer, Lisa Akers. Staff and Public: John Crawford, Bryan Plemons, James Griner, John Honoshofsky, Edie Taylor, Dan Jarven, John Petersen, Nancy London, Joshua Sperling, Linda Abrogast, Dennis Chan

Motion to Approve September 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Andrew Gulish to approve the September 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Scott Justin. RCV: Andrew Gulish—aye; Scott Justin—aye; Patricia Brubaker—abstain.

MOTION CARRIED **2023-09-13**

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The Financial, Investment and Appropriation Reports were reviewed and found in order.

Motion to Approve Warrants

Motion was made by Andrew Gulish to approve Warrants totaling \$30,528.76, seconded by Patricia Brubaker. RCV: Andrew Gulish—aye; Patricia Brubaker—aye; Scott Justin—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2023-09-14**

Motion to Approve Certificate of Deposit Renewal

Motion was made by Patricia Brubaker to approve the renewal of Certificate of Deposit #5103001011 with Northwest Bank for 8 months at a rate of 4.5%, seconded by Andrew Gulish. RCV: Patricia Brubaker—aye; Andrew Gulish—aye; Scott Justin—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2023-09-15**

PUBLIC CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

John Crawford, Acting Fire Chief for Village of South Amherst: -Would like to discuss renewal of Fire Contract for New Russia Township with Village of South Amherst that will expire at end-of-year.

Motion to Enter into Executive Session

Motion was made by Patricia Brubaker to enter into Executive Session at 6:05 pm, for legal discussion with business to follow, seconded by Andrew Gulish. RCV: Patricia Brubaker—aye; Andrew Gulish—aye; Scott Justin—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2023-09-16**

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Motion to Adjourn Executive Session

Motion was made by Andrew Gulish to adjourn Executive Session at 6:28 pm, seconded by Patricia Brubaker. RCV: Andrew Gulish—aye; Patricia Brubaker—aye; Scott Justin—aye.

MOTION CARRIED

2023-09-17

Nancy London: -Resident on West Hamilton Street and wife of John Petersen. After recent attempt by Township to mow daylilies and wildflowers from flowerbed that is in mowing easement, would like to find a compromise so flowerbed can remain. She and her family has lived at residence for over 20 years, unknowingly, flowers were planted in easement well over 20 years ago. No one from Township has ever told her it was illegal. First attempt earlier in year led to flowers being mowed down, no one responded to her husband's inquires which led to recent 2nd attempt to mow by Township which almost led to her husband's arrest. She requests consideration to allow continue growth of flowerbeds without danger of being mowed.

John Petersen: -Distributed handouts to Trustees. In June the Township mowed approximately 16 feet of wildflower meadow on his property that he feels is not justified. He has managed for flowers for over 20 years. The Township seriously damaged the flowers and destroyed the irrigation system in place. He email Trustees with no response. Trustee Gulish and Trustee Justin eventually responded after a 2nd attempt to mow recently by Township personnel. Mr. Petersen gave numerous reasons why he feels he should be able to maintain the flowers which fall with mowing easement. He would like to come to an agreement that doesn't mean destruction of his flowers. ***The Trustees feel the mowing is warranted since property is on a corner lot in which motorists need visibility, as well as bike path visibility. Trustee Brubaker stated the Township will continue to mow 15 ft within easement twice a year. Chairman Justin and Trustee Gulish were in agreement.***

Linda Abrogast: -Discussed different noxious weed rules and what the City of Oberlin allows. Encouraged Township to think about biodiversity in future. Offered to help NRT identify native plants in the future. ***Trustee Brubaker reiterated that mowing will continue 15 ft within easement twice a year.***

STAFF REPORTS

Jim Griner: -Waiting for new Zoning Resolution to take effect 10/13/2023

Edie Taylor: -When will Park close for year? ***Trustees responded the Park will be open year round.***

-Ms. Williams would like to speak to a Trustee regarding dumpster letter she received.

-One Oberlin resident participated in September's Dumpster Days, letter will be sent.

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Motion to Approve Roof Top Unit Repair

Motion was made by Scott Justin to approve repairs to the roof top units by Gundlach at a cost of \$5,961.25, seconded by Patricia Brubaker. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Patricia Brubaker—aye; Andrew Gulish—aye. **MOTION CARRIED** **2023-09-20**

Motion to Approve Temporary Full-time Benefits

Motion was made by Patricia Brubaker to approve three (3) days vacation, sick leave accumulation, holiday pay and cell phone reimbursement to David Lent retro from August 1, 2023 while temporary full-time employee, seconded by Andrew Gulish. RCV: Patricia Brubaker—aye; Andrew Gulish—aye; Scott Justin—aye. **MOTION CARRIED** **2023-09-21**

-Reviewed Peter Zwick, Lorain County Engineer's Office, recommendations for East Hamilton Street drainage repairs. NRT staff will complete work as recommended.

-Dan Jarven will ask Lorain County Engineer's Office for a sign audit. Also, commended John and his staff for excellent work on roadside mowing.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Andrew Gulish to adjourn meeting at 7:07 pm, seconded by Patricia Brubaker. RCV: Andrew Gulish—aye; Patricia Brubaker—aye; Scott Justin—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2023-09-22**

AFFIRMED by Scott Justin at October 3, 2023 Regular Meeting

ATTESTED by Lisa Akers at October 3, 2023 Regular Meeting