

MINUTES OF THE HOWLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Howland Township Board of Trustees held their Regular meeting on March 14, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. at Howland Township Administration Building, 205 Niles-Cortland Rd. N.E., Howland Township, Ohio.

**Roll Call:** Rick G. Clark - Excused  
Dr James Lapolla – Present  
Matthew G Vansuch- Present

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A motion was made by Dr. James Lapolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to suspend the reading of February 28, 2018 minutes and accept as written.

**Roll Call:** Rick G. Clark – excused  
Dr. James J Lapolla – yea  
Matthew G Vansuch –yea

A motion was made by Dr. James Lapolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to authorize the Fiscal Officer to pay all outstanding invoices incurred and approve all warrants issued.

**Roll Call:** Rick G. Clark – excused  
Dr. James J Lapolla – yea  
Matthew G Vansuch –yea

A motion was made by Dr. James Lapolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution 2018-36:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Fire Chief James Pantalone, approve to hire the following as Part-Time Firefighter/EMT. The employees will receive \$12.39 per hour, no benefits, and scheduled on an “as needed basis”, effective March 16, 2018:

Zachery Hileman  
Timothy Grantz

Nathan Novicki

William Clark

**Roll Call:** Rick G. Clark – excused  
Dr. James J Lapolla – yea  
Matthew G Vansuch –yea

A motion was made by Dr. James Lapolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution 2018-37

Authorize the Fiscal Officer to transfer the following monies within each Fund:

Fund 10:

10-A-08 (Tools & Equipment) to 10-A-08A (Fire Truck Lease Payment) \$47,221.21

**Roll Call:** Rick G. Clark – excused  
Dr. James J Lapolla – yea  
Matthew G Vansuch – yea

A motion was made by Dr. James Lapolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 P.M.

**Roll Call:** Rick G. Clark – excused  
Dr. James J Lapolla – yea  
Matthew G Vansuch – yea

Summary of Meeting:

Police Chief Nick Roberts: Everything went smooth at the High School and Middle School for the walkout. The Police Dept. provided support with vehicles in the parking lot of both schools.

Fire Chief James Pantalone: Asst. Chief Sapp and myself attend the Ohio Fire Chief Winter Symposium. This was an opportunity to speak about the local government funding and how it affects the Fire Dept. budget and local townships.

Last week Lt. James Williamson attended a class at Warren Fire Dept. for our breathing apparatus equipment. This will enable to do in-house repairs which will save labor costs and getting equipment back in service faster.

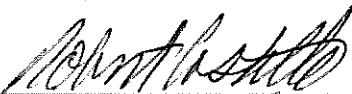
Zoning Administrator Kim Mascarella: The Township received a \$3,500 Healthy Community Grant from Trumbull County Combined Health District to be used for the Farmers Market for the period July through September. The markets will be held twice a month at the Bolindale Christian Church.

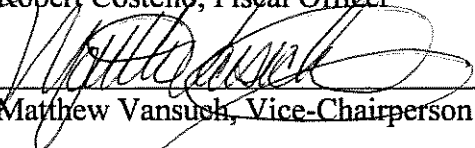
Abhishek Shah of Boy Scout Troop 101 completed his Eagle Scout project of mile marking sidewalks on sections of East Market Street and North River Road for walkers and runners.

Resident Ed Palumbo, 201 Sanctuary Drive: Questioned if the Council of Governments (COG) have the ability to tax or levy residents.

Trustee Lapolla stated that they have no ability to tax. It is not considered a taxing entity.

Trustee Vansuch: I have some thoughts on the scope of the authority of the COG. We authorized negotiations in terms of by-laws and we haven't approved any by-laws yet. I had a chance to talk to Jeff Goodman and looked through the Attorney General's opinions on the deficiencies of what some local governments can do. I think there needs to be a better definition of what exactly we are looking for. What problems are we looking for this COG to be solving. Right now it says we can have services of PSAP and I can believe the County Commissioners would agree to something that would take away from 911 operating plan. There has to be at least some consistency on the talking points of that and I think if we are looking at purchasing and sharing equipment that is one thing, and that needs to be the stated reason. Are we looking to hire employees to work between multiple townships. Are we looking to light remediation. That is one thing. I think the governing documents need to specifically spell out the specific issues we are going to be working on. As I read them right now, it is extremely broad. I have no problem of having discussions of what we can do, but before going forward, I am willing to approve any by-laws to join anything, that governing document needs to specifically spell out what problems we are looking to solve and why we are joining together to solve them. That is my guidance to you as our negotiator on those terms. The AG opinions are quite dense. I would urge the members to really be thoughtful about what they are trying to solve. You want to make sure the COG does what we want it to do. One of the points brought up was the sharing of equipment. Unless the COG is buying the truck and member entities are sharing the truck through the COG and the COG is maintaining the insurance and the COG is the political subdivision for liability purposes under the immunity statute, Howland has to enter into an agreement with the County Engineer to use the County Engineer's or rent from them to do it. There is a whole host of documents that go along with that to make sure that is authorized. I think if there is an perception of just swapping equipment, that is not true.

Approved by:  Dated: 3/15/18  
Robert Costello, Fiscal Officer

Approved by:  Dated: 3/28/18  
Matthew Vansuch, Vice-Chairperson