

MINUTES OF THE HOWLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Howland Township Board of Trustees held their regular meeting on November 9, 2022, at 6:00 PM at the Howland Township Government Building, 205 Niles Cortland Rd. NE, Warren, OH 44484

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch – Present
Dr. James LaPolla - Present
Rick Clark - Excused

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and Second by Dr. James LaPolla to excuse Trustee Rick Clark for personal reasons.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to suspend the reading of the October 12, 2022, meeting minutes and accept them as written.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to authorize Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky to pay all outstanding invoices incurred and approve all warrants issued. (attached payment listing)

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-141:

Approve to schedule a Special Howland Township Board of Trustees meeting for Wednesday, December 28, 2022 @ 8:30 AM to finalize 2022 Township business.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-142:

Approve dues assessment for Trumbull County Emergency Management Agency for calendar year 2023 based on the 2020 Census.

17,191 @ \$0.21 = \$3,610.11

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-143:

WHEREAS, Howland Township requires outside legal counsel regarding an annexation involving the City of Niles, Ohio and other legal matters as assigned from time to time; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to contract for legal services with Attorney Alfred E. Schrader of Roderick Linton Belfance, LLP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

1. The Township retains Attorney Alfred E. Schrader of the law firm Roderick Linton Belfance, LLP for legal services.
2. The Township retains this law firm as an independent contractor.
3. A copy of the legal services agreement between Howland Township and Attorney Alfred E. Schrader is attached hereto, marked as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference.
4. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board and that all deliberations of this Board and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-144:

Howland Township and Vienna Township agree to share the cost of legal representation by Attorney Alfred E. Schrader of Roderick Linton Belfance, LLP. Howland Township will pay all legal fees and invoice Vienna Township for fifty (50) % of such cost in the Jeffrey W. and Mary Ann Heston-Bagnoli Irpino, LLC Annexation of 31.380 acres from Howland and Vienna Townships to the City of Niles.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-145:

The Howland Township Board of Trustees authorizes the following to represent Howland Township for the Ohio Public Works Commission Application for Financial Assistance for the 2023 Road Resurfacing Program.

Chief Executive Officer: Administrator, Darlene St. George
Chief Financial Officer: Fiscal Officer, Thomas Krispinsky
Project Managers: Public Works Director, David McCann
Trumbull County Engineer's Office

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-146:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRUMBULL COUNTY ENGINEER, DARLENE ST. GEORGE, HOWLAND TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR AND DAVID MCCANN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED.

WHEREAS, the State Capital Improvement Program and the Local Transportation Improvement Program both provide financial assistance to political sub divisions for capital improvements to public infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, the Howland Township Board of Trustees is planning to make capital improvements to 2023 Road Program, and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure improvement herein above described is a priority need for the Community and is a qualified project under the OPWC programs,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Howland Township Board of Trustees:

Section 1: The Township Administrator, Darlene St. George is hereby authorized to apply to the OPWC for funds as described above.

Section 2: The Fiscal Officer, Thomas Krispinsky is authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-147:

Thomas Krispinsky , Fiscal Officer of Howland Township, certifies that Howland Township has the amount of \$439,290.00 in the Road and Bridge Fund 2031 and that this amount will be used to pay the local share for the 2023 Road Program.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-148:

Be It Resolved *by the Township Trustees of Howland Township*

WHEREAS, the following list of properties have been cited during the month of November, 2022 in violation of the Howland Township Resolution 2003-58 (Abatement, Control or Removal of Vegetation, Garbage, Refuse or Other Debris), and Howland Township Resolution 2002-93 (Establish Fines) where the yards have not been maintained; and

WHEREAS, Howland Township has received complaints from neighbors of said properties that the condition interferes with the reasonable enjoyment of use of the property and high grass and/or garbage, refuse or debris poses a safety and health threat to the neighborhood. The unsightly appearance of the properties is detrimental to the aesthetic value of the neighborhood and would cause a depreciation of property values; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Office has contacted the property owner, and the property owner does not have the ability to dispose of the rubbish in a timely fashion.

WHEREAS, At least seven days before providing for the abatement, control, or removal of any vegetation, garbage, refuse, or other debris, the board of township trustees shall notify the owner of the land and any holders of liens of record upon the land that the owner is ordered to abate, control, or remove the vegetation, garbage, refuse, or other debris, the owner's maintenance of which has been determined by the board to be a nuisance.

WHEREAS, if that vegetation, garbage, refuse, or other debris is not abated, controlled, or removed, or if provision for its abatement, control, or removal is not made, within seven days, the board shall provide for the abatement, control, or removal, and any expenses incurred by the board in performing that task shall be entered upon the tax duplicate and become a lien upon the land from the date of entry.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Howland Township declares and finds the following properties to be a nuisance.

<u>Address</u>	<u>Parcel #</u>
2870 North Road NE	28-366000

Roll Call:	Matthew Vansuch	-yea
	Dr. James LaPolla	-yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-149:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Police Chief Nick Roberts, accept the resignation of Patrolman Keith Peterson effective October 24, 2022 for personal reasons. Keith's last day of employment was October 23, 2022.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-150:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Fire Chief James Pantalone, hire Zachary Holmes as a Part-time Instructor for the Howland Township Training Center. He will receive \$20.00 an hour as a Probationary Instructor and \$25.00 an hour as a Lead Instructor with no benefits and scheduled on an "as-needed basis."

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2022-151:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Fire Chief James Pantalone, approve hiring Part-Time Firefighter Jared Wagoner as a Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedic effective November 18, 2022.

Base Rate: 90% - Current Firefighter base pay - \$19.49 an hr.

Jared will receive all benefits per the Township Personnel Policy and the Howland Township Fire Department's IAFF Local 2786 Contract.

Roll Call: Matthew Vansuch -yea
Dr. James LaPolla -yea

Dr. LaPolla gave the Oath of Office to Firefighter/Paramedic Jared Wagoner.

Chief Pantalone explained the Volunteer Firefighters' training, including going through the Howland High School's program.

REPORTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Trustee Dr. Jim LaPolla: Thanked the Community for supporting the passage of the Police Levy.

Trustee Matt Vansuch: The Township's Tree lighting will be on Friday, December 2, 2022, between 6:00-7:00 PM. Santa arrives at 7:00 PM.

Administrator Darlene St. George: Thanked the Community for supporting the services that the Township provides for them by the passing of the Police Levy. Welcome, Jared Wagoner, to the Fire Department.

Fire Chief Pantalone: We will be doing the Food and Fund Drive for the Food Pantry on Saturday, November 19, 2022, from 10-2 at Giant Eagle. We are working on the promotion test for the department. On November 17, the ISO (Insurance Service Organization) will be here to score the Fire Department. The BWC safety assessment will be coming in soon to assess the Fire Department.

Police Chief Roberts: A HUGH thank you to the Community for passing the Police Levy. We are here to work for you. The Police Department worked hard on the passing of the levy.

Public Works Director David McCann: The weather has been good, so the department is still cutting grass. We are in the middle of the leave and branch pickup, still working on road repairs, and the Allison Rd Storm Project is complete. The Old Farm Trail project will begin within the next two weeks. We are also preparing the equipment for winter.

Planning Director Kim Mascarella: The Zoning Department issued 30 permits totaling \$3,400,000 in tax value in the past month. The Zoning Department has over 400 enforcement cases this year compared to 300 all last year. The Winter Farmers Market started last Saturday. They will be on the first and third Saturday of the month from 10-1. The Township Comprehensive Plan committee is up and running. There will be a survey online and in the lobby for the residents to fill out so the committee can get your feedback. On January 11, 2023, at 5:00 PM, the committee will have the first Public Hearing for Community to come and hear what they received from your survey. Another project being started will be a butterfly garden at the Township's Community Garden.

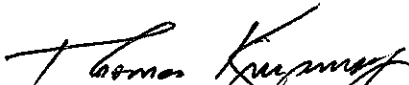
Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky: Thank the Community for passing the Police levy.

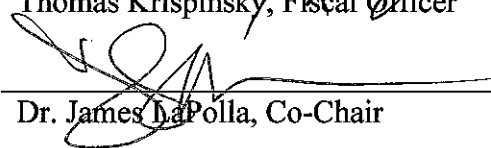
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Ed Polumbo had a question on Item #6 on the agenda, asking if the approved attorney is the same as the other firm used before. Matt Vansuch mentioned that this firm is not the same as the one used in the past.

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 PM.

Roll Call:	Matthew Vansuch	-yea
	Dr. James LaPolla	-yea

Approved by:  Dated: 11/14/22
Thomas Krispinsky, Fiscal Officer

Approved by:  Dated: 11/16/22
Dr. James LaPolla, Co-Chair