

MINUTES OF THE HOWLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Howland Township Board of Trustees held their regular meeting on December 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. 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 - Present

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to suspend the reading of the November 8, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes and accept as written.

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution **2023-168:**

Authorize Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky to request an Advance of 1st Half Settlement of 2023 Real Estate Taxes from the Trumbull County Auditor in the year 2024.

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

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2023-169:**

Authorize Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky to reduce the following funds and request an Amended Certificate from the Trumbull County Auditor:

Fund 4401: 2023 Road Project OPWC Decrease (\$13,276.82)
(OPWC Project is Complete)

Revenue Budget
4401-538 (Local Public Works Commission) **(\$13,276.82)**

Appropriation Budget

4401-330-730-2100 (Improvement of Sites (OPWC Grant
Contribution) **(\$13,276.82)**

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution **2023-170:**

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Howland Township, Trumbull County, Ohio approve the Temporary Appropriations to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, the sums be, and the same are hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made and during said fiscal year (Copy Attached)

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

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2023-171:**

A RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT ADULT-USE CANNABIS OPERATORS AND MEDICAL MARIJUANA CULTIVATORS, PROCESSORS, AND RETAIL DISPENSARIES WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF HOWLAND TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2023, voters in Ohio approved State Issue 2, which enacts new Chapter 3780 of the Ohio Revised Code, effective thirty days from the date of the election; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 3780 authorizes and regulates recreational adult use of cannabis in the state of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, R.C. 3780.25 authorizes Townships to prohibit or limit the number of adult-use cannabis operators (as defined in R.C. 3780.01) within the unincorporated area of the Township; and

WHEREAS, Medical marijuana is regulated in Ohio by Chapter 3796 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, R.C. 3796.29 similarly authorizes Townships to prohibit or limit the number of marijuana cultivators, processors, or retail dispensaries licensed under Chapter 3796 within the unincorporated area of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Township Trustees finds it to be in the best interest of the Township to prohibit adult-use cannabis operators licensed under Chapter 3780, as well as cultivators, processors, and retail dispensaries licensed under Chapter 3796, within the unincorporated area of the Township;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, as follows:

- 1) All terms used in this resolution shall be defined in the same manner as R.C. Chapter 3796, as it pertains to medical marijuana, and R.C. Chapter 3780, as it pertains to adult-use cannabis. All terms used in this resolution but not defined in those chapters shall be construed, for purposes of this resolution, in a manner to be consistent with the use of such terms in both chapters.
- 2) Adult-use cannabis operators, as well as cultivators, processors, and retail dispensaries of medical marijuana, are hereby prohibited from operating within the unincorporated area of Howland Township
- 3) It is the intent of the Board of Township Trustees to prohibit the operations described in Section 2 above to the maximum extent permitted by R.C. 3780.25, R.C. 3796.29, and any other applicable provisions of State law. This resolution shall be construed in a manner that gives maximum effect to that intent.

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution **2023-172**:

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 2024 Venice Ht., Rosewood Dr., Bayhill Dr., etc. Road Improvements.

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
	Rick Clark	-yea

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2023-173**:

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 2024 Venice Ht., Rosewood Dr., Bayhill Dr., etc. Road Improvements, 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 the 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 Township Administrator, Darlene St. George, 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
	Rick Clark	-yea

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution **2023-174**:

Thomas Krispinsky, Fiscal Officer of Howland Township, certifies that Howland Township has the amount of \$527,563.00 in the Road and Bridge Fund 2031 and that this amount will be used to pay the local share for the 2024 Venice Ht., Rosewood Dr., Bayhill Dr., etc. Road Improvements. The total cost of the project is \$677,563.00

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

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2023-175**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Fire Chief James Pantalone, hire David Rea as a Part-time Instructor for the Howland Township Training Center, effective November 1, 2023. David will be paid at the Training Center's current hourly rates, with no benefits, and scheduled on an "as needed basis."

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution 2023-176:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Fire Chief James Pantalone, accept the reimbursement of \$3,175.39 for the 2023-2024 ODPS Training Equipment Grant. The Grant is completed.

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

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2023-177:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Fire Chief James Pantalone, accept the \$11,583.33 payment for the 2023 Ohio BWC Firefighter Exposure to Environmental Elements Grant Program (FEEEG).

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution 2023-178:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George, Planning Director Kim Mascarella and Zoning Director Daniel Morgan approve the following:

Approve the appointment of Shibani Sheth-Massacci to the Howland Zoning Commission for a term beginning January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2028.

Approve to appoint Salvatore Ciferno to the Howland Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) as a regular member for term beginning January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2028. Mr. Ciferno is currently serving as a BZA alternate.

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

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution 2023-179:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George, approve to hiring David Spencer as a Part-Time Maintenance/Janitor employee effective December 4, 2023. David will receive \$13.24 per hour with no benefits and scheduled on an "as-needed basis".

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Matthew Vansuch to vote on Resolution **2023-180**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Fire Chief James Pantalone, approve the purchase of one (1) 2024 Ford E450 chassis on a Medix Ambulance Metro Express Model Type III w/gasoline engine in the amount of \$181,707.00 from Penn Care Inc. The truck is being purchased through the STS Cooperative purchasing program.

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

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2023-181**:

The Howland Township Trustees approve the sale of the following Fire Department items on auction site GovDeals and/or disposal. The items are unneeded, obsolete, or unfit personal property.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| (6) Large cubicle panels | (3) Small cubicle panels | 10) Cubicle rods/posts |
| (1) Two cabinets with wood desktops all in one. | | (2) Cubicle desktops |
| (3) Cubicle overhead storage with a light. | | (1) Metal desk |

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

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2023-182**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator Darlene St. George and Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky, approve additional ARPA money out of Fund 2902-Local Fiscal Recovery and for the following project.

- 1) 2022 Public Works Sanitation Improvement not to exceed \$30,000.00

Attorney Rodgers from Baker/Dublikar Attorneys of Law has opined the project is an appropriate expenditure of ARPA funds. (full resolution attached)

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

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2023-183**:

Approve to schedule the first 2024 Board of Trustees meeting for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

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

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Trustee Matt Vansuch: Thank you to everyone from the township who helped with the Christmas Tree lighting on Friday, December 1.

Trustee Dr. James LaPolla: He wished everyone happy holidays.

Fire Chief Pantalone: The annual Food and Fund Drive on Saturday, November 18, collected 1,800 pounds of food and \$2,200.00 in donations.

Police Chief Roberts: The department had 851 calls since the last meeting. There were 87 traffic stops, and 37 were by the construction area. We issued 26 citations, 14 of which were by the construction area. There were 42 non-injury accidents, and 27 were near the construction area. There were 24, and 20 of those were by the construction area.

Public Works Director David McCann: The department has nothing to do with Rt 46 and Rt 82 construction.

Zoning Director Dan Morgan: The department issued 15 permits with a total value of \$899,173.00. There are 97 cases still open, and during the year we closed 360 cases. We removed 744 signs in the public-right-of-way areas in the township. In 2024, we will get the word out about not having signs placed in the right-of-way areas.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Brian Bellus, vice president of the local firefighters' union, thanked Trustee Rick Clark for his 30 years of service to the township. He mentioned that Mr. Clark was involved with hiring all current township firefighters during his tenure.

A motion was made by Matthew Vansuch and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 P.M.

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

Approved by: Thomas Krispinsky Dated: 12/7/23
Thomas Krispinsky, Fiscal Officer

Approved by: Rick Clark Dated: 12/7/23
Rick Clark, Chair