

MINUTES OF THE HOWLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Howland Township Board of Trustees held their regular meeting on April 10, 2024, 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
Frank Dillon - Present

OATH OF OFFICE TO FISCAL OFFICER

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to suspend the reading of the meeting minutes of the March 13, 2024, March 23 Joint Work Session and the March 25, 2024, special meeting and accept them as written.

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon 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
Frank Dillon -yea

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2024-062:**

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Fire Chief Ray Pace, approve application to the Trumbull County Board of Commissioners for up to \$200,000.00 in ARPA funds for a new ambulance.

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to vote on Resolution **2024-063:**

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

- 1) Police Department Fire Arms up to \$33,000.00

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

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

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2024-064:**

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

- 1) Fire Dept Stryker Load System up to \$33,000.00

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to vote on Resolution **2024-065:**

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

- 1) Conference Room Remote Media System up to \$3,000.00

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
Frank Dillon -yea

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2024-066:**

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Fire Chief Ray Pace, approve removing the following Training Center Instructors from the Township payroll due to inactivity effective 4-1-2024

Tierney Bryant Rebecca Conner Rudy Harsany Chris Olsen
Patrick Pellin

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to vote on Resolution **2024-067**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Fire Chief Ray Pace, accept the resignations from the following part-time Firefighters for personal reasons:

Brendan Bockelman Effective: March 18, 2024
William Clark Effective: March 28, 2024

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

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2024-068**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Fire Chief Ray Pace, hire the following as Part-time Instructors for the Howland Township Training Center effective April 16, 2024. They will be paid at the Training Center's current hourly rates of \$20.00 (Probationary) / \$25.00 (Lead), with no benefits, and scheduled on an as-needed basis

Bryan Iceman James Williamson

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to vote on Resolution **2024-069**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Fire Chief Ray Pace, change part-time seasonal employee Jakob Baxter to a part-time Firefighter/EMT effective April 16, 2024. Jakob will earn \$16.00 per hour with no benefits and scheduled on an as-needed basis.

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to vote on Resolution **2024-070**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky, accept the 2024 Geauga/Trumbull Drop-Off Recycle Reimbursement Grant (DIG) award of \$14,940.00. The Township's match is \$1,660. The total cost is \$16,600.00

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

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2024-071**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky, accept the 2024 Geauga/Trumbull Recycle Go-Green Reimbursement Grant award of \$3,500.00. There is no township match.

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to vote on Resolution **2024-072**:

Authorize the Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky to supplement the following appropriations from unbudgeted fund money:

Fund 2111 – Fire Fund

2111-220-215	Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund	\$34,600.00
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Roll Call:	Matthew Vansuch	-yea
	Dr. James LaPolla	-yea
	Frank Dillon	-yea

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2024-073**:

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky, approve to enter into a two-year Equipment Promotion Agreement with FiNet, Inc. for two Post Office credit card machines. (entire agreement attached)

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

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to vote on Resolution **2024-074**:

Authorize Fiscal Officer Thomas Krispinsky to request an Amended Certificate from the County Auditor to increase and appropriate the following fund.

Fund 1000 -- General Fund	Increase	\$250,000.00
Revenue:		
Other Misc. Operating (Post Office)	1000-891-5000	\$250,000.00

Appropriations:

\$250,000.00

Operating Supplies (Post Office)	1000-110-420-5000	\$245,000.00
Small Tools and Equipment (Post Office)	1000-110-430-5000	\$ 5,000.00

Roll Call:

Matthew Vansuch	-yea
Dr. James LaPolla	-yea
Frank Dillon	-yea

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2024-075:**

Per Administrator James Pantalone's recommendation, approve entering into a one-year utility aggregate agreement with Energy Harbor as the electric supplier for the Township streetlights. (full agreement attached)

Roll Call:

Matthew Vansuch	-abstain
Dr. James LaPolla	-yea
Frank Dillon	-yea

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to vote on Resolution **2024-076:**

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Public Works Director David McCann, accept the bid for the OPWC 2024 Road Resurfacing Project from Shelly and Sands Inc., Akron, OH, in the amount of \$638,560.69

Other Bids Received:

RT Vernal Paving	Youngstown, OH	\$660,950.80
Kirila Contracting	Brookfield, OH	\$681,380.00
Barbicas Construction	Akron, OH	\$758,510.56

Roll Call:

Matthew Vansuch	-yea
Dr. James LaPolla	-yea
Frank Dillon	-yea

A motion was made by Frank Dillon and seconded by Dr. James LaPolla to vote on Resolution **2024-077:**

Per the recommendation of Administrator James Pantalone and Public Works Director David McCann, approve the purchase of one (1) 2024 Case Loader for \$190,819.16 from Southeastern Equipment Co., Inc., through the State Cooperation Purchasing Program.

Roll Call:

Matthew Vansuch	-yea
Dr. James LaPolla	-yea
Frank Dillon	-yea

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Trustee Matt Vansuch: On March 23, 2024, we had an outstanding joint work session with the Howland Local School Board and the Howland Township Park District. We are working on some projects together and will have more meetings soon.

Trustee Dr. James LaPolla: Congratulations to James on getting off to a great start as the Township Administrator.

Trustee Frank Dillon: Congratulations to Ray Pace on becoming the new Fire Chief.

Administrator James Pantalone: We held the first Department Head meeting this week. Everything is going smoothly with all departments. It's been a busy few weeks with the transition.

Fire Chief Ray Pace: I would like to thank everyone for giving me this opportunity to be the Township's Fire Chief. With the weather breaking you'll see more trucks on the road working on fire hydrants.

Police Chief Nick Roberts: I have nothing to report this month. I congratulate Ray on becoming Fire Chief.

Public Works Director David McCann: The spring season is here, and we started mowing grass this past week. The Limb and Branch pickup will start on the Eastside on April 15 and on the Westside on April 29.

Zoning Director Dan Morgan: We issued 28 permits totaling \$2,642,000 in valuation in March. As of now, we have 111 complaints still open. With it being spring, there will be more coming. There will be a rezoning meeting on April 17, 2024, for a property on Niles-Cortland Rd SE, which would convert from a CRD 1 to 2.

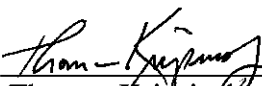
Fiscal Officer Tom Krispinsky: Explained the revenue the township received from the state from cigarette taxes collected.

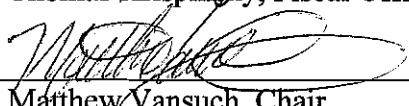
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Seth Durig, President of the Howland Township Firefighters Local 2786, welcomed Ray as the new Fire Chief. It has been a smooth transaction.

A motion was made by Dr. James LaPolla and seconded by Frank Dillon to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:32 pm.

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

Approved by:  Dated: 4/15/24
Thomas Krispinsky, Fiscal Officer

Approved by:  Dated: 4/22/24
Matthew Vansuch, Chair