

Canaan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
June 11, 2024
Minutes

Chairman John Bayles called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll call showed all trustees and the fiscal officer present. Also present were Chief Mark Carey with Mt. Gilead Fire Department and Commissioner Tim Abraham.

Mr. Carey shared that he is acting as interim fire chief while a court case between the Village of Mt. Gilead and former Chief Chad Swank works its way through the court system. Mr. Swank was terminated by the Village of Mt. Gilead in August of 2023. Mr. Carey currently works full-time for the BST&G Fire District in Sunbury, Ohio. He said he is happy to fill the interim position as Mt. Gilead is his hometown. Mr. Carey said the department is experiencing some vehicle issues with the ladder truck being down. They found some frame issues as well and other things in need of repair. There has been a lot of discussion on where to go with the current condition of the truck and whether to repair it or not. This is the only ladder truck in the county and a new one will cost anywhere from 1.5 to 2 million. Mr. Carey reported the biggest change for the fire department is the staffing model has changed. They now have 2 people at the station at all times. They are still staffed with part-time and volunteers but having 2 people at the station around the clock allows them to get out the door quicker while waiting for the volunteers to arrive. The trustees and Mr. Carey discussed the map coverage of the portion of Canaan Township covered by the Mt. Gilead Fire Department. We contract with them to cover 65% of the township not covered by First Consolidated. Iberia Fire District is contracted to cover 35% not covered by First Consolidated. The boundaries were originally laid out on a map, but that map is missing. Mr. Carey will see if he can locate a copy of the map. It was discussed that a map needs to be marked with the clear boundaries before we sign the new fire contracts in 2025. Mr. Carey also shared that year-to-date they have responded to 252 calls with only 12 of those calls being in Canaan Township. The Canaan Townships calls are mostly MVAs on State Route 95. The maximum response time for the department is currently 10 – 12 minutes. Mt. Gilead Fire Department has an ISO rating of 3, the same as First Consolidated.

Mr. Abraham shared that the county has received a 4.3 million dollar grant to renovate the county jail. They have tried for this grant for over 3 years and are happy to finally receive it. The jail was built in 1995 and is almost 30 years old. The money will be put to good use to repair locks, replace the HVAC, and many other issues. The county has a 13% match (approximately \$600,000). It may be another year before the renovations actually begin. Work continues on the County Garage project on Home Road. The building pad has been laid out and the steel has arrived. They hope to be in the new building by the spring of 2025. The Douglas Street building that the county owns is currently housing the County Maintenance Department as well as the County Recycling Department. Renovations are in progress to move the Health Department to that building as well. The Neal Avenue building that the county owns and was formerly being used by the hospital, is going to be renovated and used for the Board of Elections. This location will have more convenient access for people with disabilities or who are unable to walk long distances. It may be 6 months to a year before that renovation is complete. It will not be finished in time for the fall 2024 election. There is also a 3-year project that has been going on at the courthouse. The final step in that project is getting the generator hooked up. This is supposed to happen soon.

The fiscal officer presented the minutes from the May 14, 2024, meeting. Mr. Carwell made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The fiscal officer reported receipts and balances to date in all funds. The bank reconciliation report was also presented. Automatic drafts were examined. The Park National and STAR Ohio Statements were also distributed. Credit card purchases for May and early June were reviewed and the attestation statement signed by Mr. Bayles. Mr. Carwell made the motion to approve the reports and pay the bills. Mr. Bayles seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Advertising for the upcoming budget meeting on July 9, 2024, will be advertised in the Morrow County Sentinel on June 26, 2024.

Communications included:

- The Grassroots Clippings newsletter
- Letter from Morrow Co. Treasurer regarding “blight” properties
- MCTA Summer Quarterly Meeting June 20, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m. at Trinity UMC

The letter received by the treasurer stated they are working in conjunction with the Morrow County Land Bank in the matter of “blight” properties that have been deemed abandoned, are vacant and have deceased owners, or have become grossly neglected. When they are made aware of such properties, an inquiry can be opened to determine what recourse that the County or the Land Bank may have to rectify these “blight” property situations. The treasurer asked that the township call him with any such properties for him to pursue.

The roads were checked on Tuesday, June 4, 2024. The Road Sign Inventory and Management form was completed and is on file.

The trustees discussed which roads to chip and seal this year. The trustees will piggyback off the county bid with 20/20 Enterprises. The price through the county bid is \$18,372.80 per mile with 16-foot roads. Since the Canaan Township roads are typically around 13 foot wide, the cost should be a little less per mile. Mr. Bayles made the motion to go with 20/20 Enterprises and the competitive bid price offered to the county to chip and seal TR 10, TR 62 (between CR 59 and CR 61), TR 64, TR 71 and TR 61 (between TR 60 and the Marion County line), approximately 3.9 miles of roadway. Mr. Carwell seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mr. Carwell will measure the roads so he can get some accurate information to 20/20 for pricing.

Mr. Bayles is talking with Kokosing, who received the county paving bid, and getting some costs to possibly pave TR 73 (one mile) and approximately ½ mile of TR 133.

The trustees are waiting for the pipe to come in to begin replacement of the TR 74 culvert. They will check with a couple other places on pricing to rent a backhoe for this project.

Advertisement for bids for the OPWC Project Twp. Rd. 60 Phase 4 will appear in the Morrow County Sentinel on June 19th and June 26th. The bid packet will be available on the township website, canaantwp.org or by request. Bids will be opened at the Canaan Township Hall, 2170 St. Rt. 95, near Denmark, on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

There was no First Consolidated Fire District report. The meeting for June has not occurred yet.

There was no Regional Planning report. The meeting was cancelled.

The trustees looked over quotes for dump trailers. This is something they would like to purchase with ARPA funds. It was also determined that since this dump trailer will be used in the cemeteries to help remove dirt during burials, they may also see if the Cemetery Grant they apply for this year could be used toward the purchase as well. Mrs. Retterer will check into that.

The trustee wanted to clarify something in the new cemetery policy that was passed in January 2024. Mr. Carwell made a motion to add the following guidelines to the cemetery policy “For graves with one body and one cremated remains, the full burial **MUST** take place prior to the cremation burial”. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

There were two burials in Worden Cemetery in May. Douglas Meachem of Sarasota, Florida, passed away on February 26, 2024, and was cremated. The cremation burial took place on May 27, 2024. Ronald White of Edison, Ohio, passed away on May 23, 2024, and was buried on May 31, 2024.

Delco Water sent notice of a price increase effective July 2024. The minimum usage amount was \$12 a month and that is increasing to \$15 a month.

There being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Carwell made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Trustee: _____
John Bayles, Chairman

Trustee: _____
Matthew Carwell, Vice Chairman

Trustee: _____
Tyler Levering

Fiscal Officer: _____
Jill Retterer

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May 2024 Receipts:

Date:	Amount:	Receipt #:	From:	For:
5/1/2024	\$110.67	40-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	1st half 2024 Manufactured Home Settlement
5/4/2024	\$4,591.50	41-2024	State of Ohio	Reimbursement Homestead, non-business credit, owner occupied credit
5/9/2024	\$90.37	42-2024	Ergon Oil Purchasing	Interest - Guy Heffley Well
5/15/2024	\$741.20	43-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	May Local Government Distribution
5/15/2024	\$528.32	44-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	May Local Gov. Dis. Per sec 57
5/16/2024	\$75.00	45-2024	Christina Andrews	Township Hall Rental
5/20/2024	\$9,457.40	46-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	May Excise Gas Tax
5/20/2024	\$2,477.90	46-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	May cents per gallon gas tax
5/20/2024	\$844.59	47-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	May License Tax - State
5/20/2024	\$406.50	47-2024	Morrow Co. Auditor	May License Tax - County
5/31/2024	\$696.81	48-2024	Park National	May ICS Interest
5/31/2024	\$671.10	49-2024	STAR Ohio	May Income Dividend Reinvestment Interest
TOTAL:	\$20,691.36			

May 2024 Payments:

Date:	Amount:	Voucher/Warrant:	To:	For:
5/2/2024	\$47.37	39-2024	Ohio Edison	Denmark Street Lights
5/2/2024	\$35.51	39-2024	Ohio Edison	Climax Street Lights
5/3/2024	\$1,007.04	40-2024	OPERS	April 2024 Payroll
5/10/2024	\$89.73	41-2024	Ohio Edison	Township Hall Electric
5/13/2024	\$73.98	42-2024	Elan Financial Services	Amazon - Picture frames for township Hall
5/14/2024	\$1,156.43	4187	Eugene P. Ebert	May 2024 Mowing Contract
5/14/2024	\$320.00	4188	Morrow County Twp. Assoc.	MCTA/OTA Membership Dues 2024/2025
5/14/2024	\$14,637.38	4189	Village of Mt. Gilead	Fire Contract Payment (65%)
5/14/2024	\$7,881.67	4190	Iberia Joint Fire District	Fire Contract Payment (35%)
5/14/2024	\$700.00	4191	Mike Lyon Construction	Removal of dirt pile in Worden Cemetery
5/14/2024	\$419.00	4192	John Bayles	April Health Ins. Reimbursement
5/14/2024	\$402.42	4193	Matthew Carwell	April Health Ins. Reimbursement
5/14/2024	\$851.58	4194	Tyler Levering	April Health Ins. Reimbursement
5/14/2024	\$266.36	4195	Jill Retterer	April Health Ins. Reimbursement
5/14/2024	\$544.99	4196	Ag-Pro Ohio LLC	Oil, Filter, Air Filter, Battery - JD Tractor
5/14/2024	\$25.00	4197	Friendly Farmers 4-H Club	One mile clean up Twp. Rd. 62 - Trash Bash
5/21/2024	\$12.00	43-2024	Delco Water	Township Hall Water
5/31/2024	\$794.58	4198	John Bayles	May Payroll
5/31/2024	\$791.02	4199	Matthew Carwell	May Payroll
5/31/2024	\$802.96	4200	Tyler Levering	May Payroll
5/31/2024	\$913.68	4201	Jill Retterer	May Payroll
TOTAL:	\$31,772.70			

Bank Balance May 31, 2024

Park National Balance:	\$173,773.49
Park National MM Balance:	\$85,486.29
STAR Ohio	\$300,671.10
TOTAL:	\$559,930.88