

# Regular Meeting of the Goshen Township Trustees

February 13, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm with the pledge to the flag. Trustees John Bricker, Teresa Stratton, and Shawn Mesler and Fiscal Officer Michele Barratt were present.

## Approve Minutes:

Minutes of the 2023 Year-End Meeting, 2024 Re-Organizational Meeting, and January 27, 2024 Special Meeting were presented as distributed.

**Motion by Stratton, seconded by Mesler, to approve these minutes. Voting YES – Bricker, Stratton, Mesler. Motion carried.**

## Public Comment/Special Guests:

Resident Tom Rhodes stated that the Mahoning County Board of Elections is in need of pollworkers for the March 19 Presidential Primary Election. Interested registered voters at least 18 years of age should contact the Board of Elections at 330-783-2474 (contact person for Democrats is Jenny at extension 6627; contact for Republicans is Jill at extension 6606). Mesler suggested that Barratt add the info to the Goshen Township website.

## Old Business:

None

## Approve Bills:

**Motion by Bricker, seconded by Stratton, to approve payment of:**

Payroll	\$ 86,657.48
Other Warrants	\$ 42,376.46
Electronic payments	<u>\$ 29,418.62</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 158,452.56</b>

**Voting YES – Mesler, Stratton, Bricker. Motion carried.**

The January 2024 bank statement is in balance and was reviewed by the Trustees.

The January 2024 VISA statement has been reviewed by the Trustees.

Barratt presented the proposed budget for 2024. Noted changes from temporary budget (approved at December special meeting) were

- starting balances updated to reflect actual 2023 year-end balances
- police income and transfer to reflect revised Green contract
- expenses in funds 2908, 2271, and 2903

**Stratton made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Mesler seconded.**

**Voting YES – Bricker, Stratton, Mesler. Motion carried.**

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Barratt reported that the Certificate of Ownership for Ground Interment Rights of East Goshen New Lot 7 NE 2 had been incorrectly assigned to Rachelle Witherspoon (based on information provided by Stark Memorial Funeral Home) when it should have been assigned to Melissa Witherspoon. The trustees signed off on this and signed a new Certificate of Ownership for Ground Interment Rights with Melissa Witherspoon as the owner of East Goshen New Lot 7 NE2.

Barratt presented a proposed information form to be completed for upcoming purchases to avoid such issues in the future. Stratton questioned the legality of the form.

## **Road and Parks Report:**

Road Foreman Matt Springer reported that in January, 1,996 miles were put on trucks. They used 300 gallons of diesel and 140 gallons of gasoline. There were 9 weather events and 107 tons of salt mix was used. They applied 3 tons of cold patch.

The department hauled zero tons of limestone. There were two burials and zero cremations. They poured zero head stone foundations. There were no culvert installations.

Springer reminded residents that March 15 is cemetery cleanup day in the township. Residents need to remove any decorations or keepsakes prior to that day to ensure nothing valuable or sentimental is unintentionally discarded.

Bricker reported that he got a price for new tire from Horst Tire Service.

## **Fire Report:**

Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Prevention Officer April Thorne submitted the report for December 2023 and January 2024.

Damascus Fire Department responded to 36 out of 37 calls for the month of December:

- 5 fire runs (Berlin – 3, Salem – 1, Beloit – 1),
- 1 fire alarm (Goshen)
- 2 accidents with injuries (Goshen – 2),
- 2 accidents without injuries (Goshen – 1, Butler - 1),
- 2 wires/tree down (Goshen – 2),
- 1 burn complaint (Goshen),
- 1 carbon monoxide investigation (Goshen),
- 20 medical calls (Goshen – 7, Butler – 12, Beloit – 1),
- 2 mutual aid medical calls (Winona – 2),
- 1 unable to provide a crew.

The department had 26 training hours.

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In January the Damascus Fire Department responded to 62 out of 63 calls:

- 1 fire run (Goshen – 1 vehicle fire),
- 3 carbon monoxide checks (Goshen -3 (1 positive)),
- 1 smoke investigation (Goshen),
- 6 wires/tree down (Goshen – 4, Butler - 2),
- 2 MVA with injuries (Goshen - 2),
- 2 MVA without injuries (Goshen - 2),
- 37 medical calls (Goshen – 22, Butler – 15),
- 2 dispatching errors,
- 10 mutual aid given
  - 3 Fire (Salem – 1, Beloit – 1, Perry – 1)
  - 7 Medical (Winona – 2, Sebring – 2, North Georgetown – 2, Green – 1),
- 1 unable to provide a crew.

The department had 85 training hours.

**Stratton made a motion to re-hire April Thorne as Fire Prevention Officer. Bricker seconded. Voting YES – Bricker, Stratton; ABSTAIN - Mesler. Motion carried.**

Mesler gave an update on the MARCS radio grant. The township was approved for just under \$40,000 with the check being mailed out yesterday.

Damascus Volunteer Fire Department Trustee and EMS Coordinator Bill Stewart described a new equipment grant for up to \$15,000 to be used for turn out gear. Since the Fire Department is a private entity, the state grants must go through the township.

**Bricker made a motion to apply for the new equipment grant. Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Bricker, Stratton; ABSTAIN – Mesler. Motion carried.**

There has not been a Fire levy on the ballot since 2008.

## **Police Report:**

Police Chief John Calko presented the stats for the months of December 2023 and January 2024.

In December:

Goshen:	7,294 miles driven with 72 events and 273 business checks
Green:	7,310 miles driven with 76 events and 220 business checks
Beloit:	35 events and 49 business checks

In January:

Goshen:	7,127 miles driven with 98 events and 227 business checks
Green:	7,193 miles driven with 78 events and 204 business checks
Beloit:	31 events and 69 business checks

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Calko distributed the end of year report for 2023 and the updated 2024 police policy to the Administration.

The new Ford Explorer is currently at WB Signs having graphics applied. Outfitting is yet to be completed.

Calko received the check from OTARMA for the repairs on the 2020 Ford Explorer (car vs deer). The vehicle will be getting stripped down while it is at the autobody shop to be made into the new unmarked cruiser.

The Chief is waiting on 3 security camera installers to give us pricing on possibly updating the system.

### Trustee Items:


The trustees talked briefly about attending the Oho Township Association conference in Columbus last week. They attended a variety of classes and had the opportunity to network with other townships to discuss and compare policies and procedures.

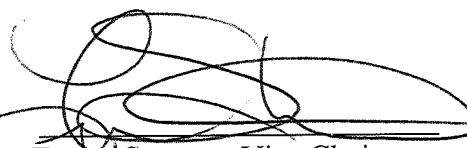
Stratton presented a letter to certify that the township was responsible for maintaining 18.814 miles of public roads in 2023.


### Adjournment:

**With no further business to conduct, Stratton moved, seconded by Mesler to adjourn at 6:42pm. Voting YES – Stratton, Bricker, Mesler. Motion carried**

Attest:

  
John Bricker, Chairman

  
Teresa Stratton, Vice Chairperson

  
Shawn Mesler, Trustee

  
Michele Barratt, Fiscal Officer