

Regular Meeting of the Goshen Township Trustees

November 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm 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 regular meeting of October 10, 2023 were presented as distributed.

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

Public Comment/Special Guests:

Bill Wilson from Morris Financial reported that the 2024 renewal rate for the township's healthcare would increase by an unusually low 2.9%. He stated that the industry standard is to budget a 12% increase in healthcare annually.

Bricker made a motion to renew the township healthcare insurance with Anthem for 2024. Mesler seconded. Voting YES – Mesler, Bricker, Stratton. Motion carried.

Resident Tom Rhodes congratulated Mesler and Barratt on their elections wins. He also complimented Police Chief Calko on the work of the officer who worked the Park's Garden Center event.

Resident Thomas Knoedler also congratulated Mesler and Barratt on their elections wins, and asked if the portable restroom had been removed from the park yet. April Thorne stated that it had.

Resident John Biery expressed congratulations and asked that the township leave the flags up at the cemetery and let the Ruritan remove them. He also proposed discussion that the Township and Ruritans combine community days for 2024 and offered the use of the Ruritan Park. They were thinking of a date of sometime in July and late in the day to enjoy the fireworks. The Ruritan recently spent \$42,000 on the installation of new playground equipment. Police Chief Calko mentioned that he was also thinking about adding a car/antique tractor show. The Goshen Center Ruritan Club is accepting donations for the playground equipment. Any donations (with "playground" in memo line) can be mailed to:

Goshen Center Ruritan Club
18300 Western Reserve Road
North Benton, OH 44409

Old Business:

Mesler reported that he is continuing to talk with the Land Bank and Health Department about the property in Damascus. Multiple postings have been attached to house, and there was a hearing which no one attended. The Health Department is meeting on 11/15 when they may declare the

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Regular Meeting of the Goshen Township Trustees

November 13, 2023

property a nuisance. Once the Health Department declares the property a nuisance, the Township may then vote to declare it a nuisance.

Approve Bills:

Motion by Stratton, seconded by Mesler, to approve payment of:

Payroll	\$ 78,389.29
Other Warrants	\$ 2,105.87
Electronic payments	<u>\$ 35,847.01</u>
Total	\$ 116,342.17

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

The October 2023 bank statement is in balance and was reviewed by the Trustees.
The October 2023 VISA statement has been reviewed by the Trustees.

Melissa Witherspoon purchased ground interment rights for lot 7 NE1 in East Goshen new cemetery. The trustees signed the certificate of ownership.

RESOLUTION 2023-1113-01

A resolution to increase Lighting Assessment Electricity appropriations budget (2401-310-351-0000) from \$6600 to \$8600. Bricker moved to adopt resolution. Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Stratton, Bricker, Mesler. Resolution adopted.

Barratt reported that it is up to the township to decide whether or not to withhold the employer OPERS from the Ohio EMA ARPA First Responder Grant bonuses for three officers or have the township pay it. After much discussion,

Bricker made motion a to have the township pay the employer portion of OPERS. Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Stratton, Bricker, Mesler. Motion carried.

Road and Parks Report:

Bricker reported that in October, 1,257 miles were put on trucks. They used 200 gallons of diesel and 88 gallons of gasoline. There were no weather events and no salt mix was used. They applied one ton of cold patch.

The department hauled 4 tons of limestone. There was one burial and two cremations. They poured two head stone foundations. There was one culvert installation.

Fire Report:

Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Prevention Officer April Thorne submitted the report for October stating there were 49 calls:

- 2 fire runs (both in Butler) and 1 fire alarm (Goshen),
- 1 fire alarm (Goshen)

Regular Meeting of the Goshen Township Trustees

November 13, 2023

- 2 accidents with injuries (Goshen – 2),
- 3 accidents without injuries (Goshen – 3),
- 2 natural gas investigations (Butler – 2),
- 2 wires/tree down (Goshen – 2)
- 32 EMS runs (Goshen – 10, Butler – 13, Sebring – 6, Winona - 4), and
- 4 EMS standby (West Branch High School)
- 1 dispatched to wrong location/canceled (Goshen).

The department had 66 training hours. There were two inspections (1 business and 1 home).

The township's current contract with the fire department expires 12/31/23. The township met with the Fire Department earlier today to discuss next year's contract. There are no significant proposed changes. The trustees expect to sign the contract at next month's meeting.

Police Report:

Police Chief John Calko presented the stats for the month of October:

Goshen:	7,234 miles driven with 77 events and 242 business checks
Green:	6,873 miles driven with 95 events and 202 business checks
Beloit:	43 events and 74 business checks

Detective Bureau has 29 total open cases, with 10 being new, & 6 recently closed cases. Juvenile Detective has 6 active cases, with zero being new, and 10 recently closed cases.

Calko has reached out to the US Marshall's Office in reference to assigning an officer to the task force.

Administrative Assistant Jessica Morris is to be certified as a Notary Public.

Car #4 is at Sarchione Ford in Alliance for transmission issues.

Barratt requested a motion to re-allocate \$5200 from car damage (2081-210-599-0317) to vehicle repairs and maintenance (2081-210-323-0305) in order to pay this bill.

Mesler made a motion to re-allocate \$5200 from car damage (2081-210-599-0317) to vehicle repairs and maintenance (2081-210-323-0305) in order to pay this bill. Bricker seconded. Voting YES – Bricker, Stratton, Mesler. Motion passed.

Chief Calko requested a motion to accept the resignation of John Janacone. Mr. Janacone trained twice and then advised that he had decided to pursue new opportunities in education instead of law enforcement.

Stratton made a motion to accept the resignation of John Janacone effective October 12, 2023. Mesler seconded. Voting YES – Mesler, Stratton, Bricker. Motion passed.

Regular Meeting of the Goshen Township Trustees

November 13, 2023

Chief Calko requested a motion to hire Jeffrey Rober Jr as a part-time officer.

Mesler made a motion to hire Jeffrey Rober Jr. as a part-time officer effective November 13, 2023. Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Bricker, Stratton, Mesler. Motion passed.

Trustee Items:

Bricker reported that the water issue that was originally diagnosed to be a result of plugged filters now appears to be due to a leak somewhere. Repair personnel have been requested.

RESOLUTION 2023-1113-02

A resolution to apply, accept, and implement MARCS radio grant. Mesler moved, seconded by Stratton. Voting YES – Bricker, Stratton, Mesler. Resolution adopted.

Mesler reported that the township application for the OPWC grant for Stratton Road was denied. They did, however, forward the grant to the state for consideration for a small government grant.

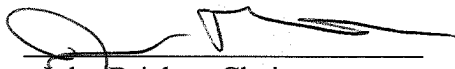
There will be an advertisement for bids for the Stratton Road project in the Alliance Review.

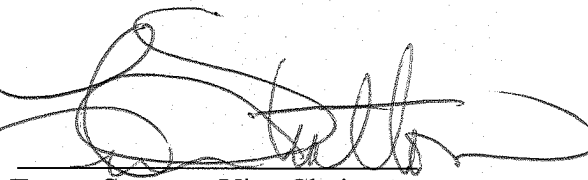
Adjournment:

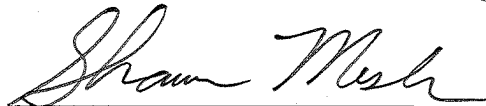
Bricker made a motion to move the next month's regular meeting to Monday, December 4, 2023 at 6:00pm. Stratton seconded. Voting YES – Stratton, Bricker, Mesler. Motion carried.


With no further business to conduct, Stratton moved, seconded by Bricker to adjourn at 8:05pm. Voting YES – Stratton, Bricker, Mesler. Motion carried

Attest:


John Bricker, Chairman


Teresa Stratton, Vice Chairperson


Shawn Mesler, Trustee


Michele Barratt, Fiscal Officer