

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

MUNSON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held

Tuesday, May 28,

20

24

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairman Andy Bushman, with Trustees Nathaniel McDonald and James McCaskey and Fiscal Officer Todd Ray present. Mr. Bushman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Trustees signed warrants 20138 through 20155 dated 5/28/24, totaling \$13,492.01; and the 5/24/24 bi-weekly payroll EFT vouchers 182 through 189 totaling \$9,839.74.

#### Cemetery Deeds

The Trustees signed cemetery deed #5-388 dated May 28, 2024 to Chloe Patterson, for Maple Hill Cemetery, Section 3, Lot 350, Graves 11 & 12, and deed #5-389 dated May 28, 2024 to Joanne Cooper-Novak, for Maple Hill Cemetery, Section 3, Lot 304, Grave 4.

Mr. McCaskey moved to approve the minutes of Trustees Regular meeting Tuesday May 14 as presented. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Mike Vatty reported that the Department received two donations totaling \$1,250 from a resident who had received emergency care from Munson Fire Department. The resident was grateful for the high quality, courteous and respectful treatment received and wanted to give something back, but also wished to remain anonymous. The funds will be used to offset the costs associated with the upcoming babysitting course that is offered to Munson residents, The course is offered free of charge. Two sessions are offered, on June 6 and June 8. The Department is also following up on the recently completed Citizens Fire Academy with another offering, a Junior Fire Service Training class for high school and young adult residents. The course will expose participants to emergency medical and fire safety basics, and potentially inspire some to pursue careers in the field.

Chief Vatty also reported that earlier in the day the Fire Department was involved in a ground search for an elderly resident who had wandered away from home and was lost. The Geauga County Sheriff's office coordinated the search effort, with Munson Fire assisting. The Munson Road Department crew were also recruited to assist with the ground search. Chief Vatty provided background information on the use of drones and a helicopter to provide overhead visual search capability. The resident was found safe and healthy. There will be an after-action-review to debrief the search effort and identify any ways to improve the procedures.

#### ROAD DEPARTMENT

##### Ohio Public Works Commission Application

Since the last meeting, the Trustees each traveled the roads under consideration for the OPWC application for next year. The Township should have about \$175,000 available in OPWC funds next year. The Trustees noted the recommendation of the Geauga County Engineer's office to resurface Sherman Road. After some discussion, Mr. McCaskey moved to apply for Ohio Public Works grant funding to address the resurfacing of Sherman Road from Auburn Road to Bass Lake Road. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

##### Pressure Washer

Road Superintendent Kirk Walker indicated that he has completed additional investigation into the purchase of a pressure washer, including units that can provide hot water. He had one quote for about \$9,400 and was waiting for a second quote on a similar unit.

#### TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

##### Speed Study – Woodiebrook Road

The Trustees discussed a request by a resident to reduce the speed on Woodiebrook Road. They agreed that it was too soon to ask the Engineer's office for another speed study for that section of township road, as a previous speed study was conducted in 2018, and it did not indicate justification for lowering the speed limit at that time. Mr. McDonald said he would like to review the information gathered for the 2018 speed study.

##### State Legislature initiative to eliminate township zoning

The Trustees noted that the Geauga County Township Association had collaborated with the state-wide Ohio Township Association to draft a letter to the state legislature urging them to

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resist changing state law to eliminate township zoning. Mr. McCaskey stated that there are some real issues with township zoning, pointing out that some township zoning offices are understaffed and create delays and challenges that inhibit housing construction and economic development. Mr. McDonald agreed, and noted the current issue of the Ohio Township Association monthly magazine has an article that describes some of these issues. He also stated that he feels the effort to eliminate township-level zoning and enforcement is a very blunt instrument to try to correct some of those problems.

Mr. McCaskey moved to approve the Trustees signing onto the G.C. Township Association letter. Nate McDonald seconded. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Special Meeting for ARPA Fund expenditures

Mr. McCaskey moved to schedule a special meeting on Tuesday, June 18 at 6:30pm to continue discussions on allocation and spending of American Rescue Plan Act funds. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Zoning Fee Schedule

The Trustees reviewed a proposal to amend the zoning fee schedule to include "Alleging Error by Zoning Inspector" as one of the examples of a potential basis for an appeal, noting that the fee to file an appeal is \$300. Nate McDonald explained that the proposed amendment is intended to clarify that an appellant may challenge a zoning inspector's interpretive decision as a basis for an appeal. The standard zoning appeal fee is always \$300.

Mr. McCaskey said that he feels the fee is too high for appealing an alleged zoning inspector error. Mr. McDonald noted that \$300 is the fee for any appeal brought to the Board of Zoning Appeals, regardless of the reason a person might appeal a zoning decision.

Andy Bushman said he would research the matter to see if other townships vary the fee for a zoning inspector error appeal.

Disc Golf Course at Nero Nature Preserve

Jim McCaskey moved to approve payment for additional discing work on the disc golf course by Thomas Hall Excavation and Contracting in the amount of \$1,500.00. Nate McDonald seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

FISCAL OFFICER

Resolution 2024-20: Fund Transfer

Mr. McDonald moved to approve Resolution 2024-20, approval to transfer \$5,000 within the General Fund and \$2,000 within the Road and Bridge Fund. He read the entire Resolution aloud. Mr. McCaskey seconded. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Other Business

Baseball Field Lease

The Trustees noted that there are still three requested additions by Chardon Schools Athletic Department to the lease agreement for the baseball fields that have not been resolved. Mr. Bushman said he believes the requested additions are attributed to the Schools' not understanding how much money Munson Township invests in the ballfields each season. He asked that Fiscal Officer Ray prepare a report that shows all of the expenditures Munson has made in the ballfields used by the boys baseball and girls softball teams in the last five years. Mr. Bushman said he will meet with Athletic Director Doug Snyder and Superintendent Dr. Hanlon to go over the agreement and hopefully resolve any lingering questions.

Memorial Day Observance

The Trustees noted that the annual Memorial Day Observance was moved indoors to the Town Hall for the first time in more than 35 years, on very short notice due to the rain. Nate McDonald commented that he appreciated the decisiveness to move the observance indoors, and noted that Maple Hill Cemetery still looked great due to the work of the Road Department and the volunteers from the Chardon Schools girls lacrosse team planting flowers.

Other meetings

Nate McDonald and Todd Ray attended the meeting at the Croation Lodge, a Stream Restoration project site review on May 28 for contractors interested in submitting proposals for the project, facilitated by Chagrin River Watershed Partners.

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Encumbrances

Jim McCaskey moved to approve the encumbrances for Tuesday, May 28 as presented. Nate McDonald seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

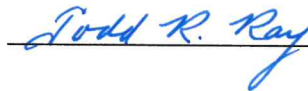
Blanket	Operating supplies, parks	\$1,092.06
Blanket	Other supplies and materials, cemeteries	\$500.00
Blanket	Other expenses, parks, fishing derby	\$100.00
Blanket	Other expenses, parks	\$500.00
Hanley Print and Promotions	Printing bank checks	\$377.00

Motion to Adjourn

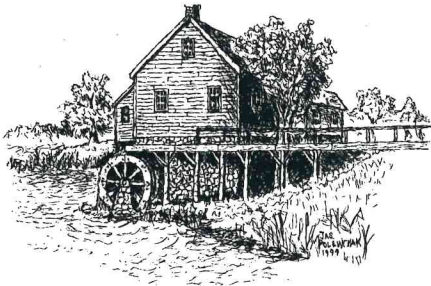
Jim McCaskey moved and Nate McDonald seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm, with a unanimous vote. Motion carried.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer



# Munson Township

12210 Auburn Road, Chardon OH 44024-9454  
Phone: (440) 286-9255 Fax: (440) 286-1180

## Resolution 2024-20

Be it resolved by the Trustees of Munson Township, in a regular session on the 28th day of May, with the following members present, Andrew J. Bushman, James J. McCaskey, and Nathaniel J. McDonald, that

Nate

\_\_\_\_\_ moved the adoption of the following resolution:

That the 2024 Permanent Appropriation be amended, as follows:

### Transfers Within Funds

In the Road and Bridge Fund 2031, a within fund transfer, as follows:

\$5,000.00 to 2031-760-730-0000 Capital, Improvement of sites, Road Dept.  
from 2031-330-360-0000 Contracted services

In the General Fund 1000, a within fund transfer, as follows:

\$2,000.00 to 1000-610-599-0000 Other, other expenses, parks  
from 1000-930-930-0000 Contingencies

Jim

\_\_\_\_\_ seconded the motion and the roll being called, resulted as follows:

<u>Andrew J. Bushman</u>	Voting <u>yes</u>
<u>James J. McCaskey</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Nathaniel J. McDonald</u>	<u>yes</u>

Attest: Todd R. Ray, May 28, 2024  
Todd Ray, Fiscal Officer