

## **LEROY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE MEETING MINUTES**

The trustees met in regular session on February 2, 2022, at 7:00 pm at the Leroy Township Hall.

Present were: Chairman, Heather Shelton, Rich VanPelt, Jason Rodgers and Julie Himmelman, Fiscal Officer.

Also present were: Attorney, Ron Graham, Zoning Inspector, Noell Sivertsen, BZA chair, Rudy Veselko and Zoning Commission chair, Dan Himmelman.

Audience: Eric Stutzman, Leslie and Jeff Bassett, Scott Kranstuber, Bob Fitzgerald, Jamie Coulter and Mark Manfroni.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes for the December 6, 2021 meeting was read. Heather made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Rich seconded. Heather and Rich were in favor. Jason abstained. The minutes for the January 3, 2022 meeting were read. Heather made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Jason seconded and all were in favor.

**Correspondence:** Heather read a letter from the Zoning Commission regarding recommended changes to the regulations. The Commission asked the Trustees to review and set a date for a public hearing if they approve.

Heather made a motion to set a public hearing regarding the recommended changes to the Zoning regulations at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at the town hall for the purpose of reviewing each of the proposed amendments. Rich seconded and all were in favor.

Jason reported that he had spoken with Mrs. Green of Vrooman Road about the increased speed and traffic on Vrooman since the bridge was opened. The logistics of speed tests were discussed. Someone inquired about plowing. Jason also spoke with the owner of the horse barn on Vrooman regarding property lines of the cemetery.

**Zoning:** Noell gave her report.

There was 1 new dwelling permit issued (7555 Leroy Thompson Road), 1 accessory building (6980 Leroy Thompson Rd.), 2 fence (Chadwick Road & Painesville-Warren Road) and 1 pool permit (Painesville-Warren Road).

Due to snow-cover, there was no meeting on January 6, 2022, with the homeowner and his attorney. The hearing set for February 1, 2022, was postponed due to health issues. This is with regards to the Mahr farm on Brakeman.

A final notice was sent to the owners at 7180 Brakeman regarding their used car dealership.

The 2 businesses at 13620 and 13600 Painesville-Warren Road still need to submit their Home-Occupation forms.

The horse barn on Vrooman Road still hasn't submitted an application for their agricultural use.

Mr. Weed will have his BZA hearing on the Feb 22, 2022 for his ramp.

**Fire:** Rich read the Fire Department report.

There were 52 calls so far this year. Since the last meeting there have been:

7 Fire	1 HAZARDOUS COND.	5 SERVICE CALL
32 EMS	5 GOOD INTENT	2 FALSE ALARM

One new hire: Part-time FF/EMS Michael O'Connell. Mike is Part-time with Mentor, Mentor on the Lake, and Willowick. He will be starting soon and has interest in the open Full-time position.

There were 570 calls in total for 2021.

**Cemetery:** The logging is done. They will have to wait until the spring to be released from their bond. There was one burial.

**Parks:** The Easter Egg Hunt will be at the Fire Station this year on April 10, 2022 at 2 p.m. Hidden Lake was booked for that day. June 25 is the Township Days. Planning meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30 in the Community Center. We have reserved the Sidley tent for that day, free of charge. Softball registration has begun online.

**Roads:** The guys are gearing up for the next snow storm coming up. January 17<sup>th</sup>, an axel snapped on the single axel Mack truck. It had to be towed. The cost of the repair was \$4,900. The total hours for the Road Department were 662 and 34 for Cemetery. The hours were spent as follows: 39 office work, 389 snow removal, 33 patching, 12 berm repairs, 31 equipment maintenance and 51 equipment repairs. 10 errands, 9 safety training, 6 mailbox repairs, 34 funeral and 75 garage and yard clean-up.

Jason spoke of future equipment needs. The 1 ton and the Tandem will need to be replaced in the next 5 years. The roadside mower needs to be replaced. An opportunity came up to purchase a 2021 New Holland tractor from Jefferson for \$62,412.05, which is currently priced at \$93,000. Our current flail mower will fit as well. He would like to finance it over 3 years, if the purchase is approved.

**Old Business:** Heather contacted the title company regarding the status of the school purchase. We should close on it by the end of February, if all goes smoothly. John Rogers from the Lake County Land Reutilization Corp feels confident that we should be able to secure the funding for the complete demolition of the school with no cost to the township. There may be grant money available for improvements and community needs. Alternative uses for school property and the Road Department buildings were discussed as well.

Heather made a motion to waive the fee for Mr. Weed's setback variance application, as well as the building permit fee for his handicap ramp as it is a hardship. Jason seconded and all were in favor.

#### **New Business:**

Heather made a motion to give the Rec. Board Chair, Brandi Hanusosky a one-time bonus of \$325 for her additional work with last year's Bicentennial + 1 celebration. Rich seconded. Poll of the vote: Rich, aye. Heather, aye. Jason, aye.

Heather also made a motion to give Billy Averson a stipend of \$500 for all of his work as the head of Leroy Softball in 2021. Jason seconded. Poll of the vote: Rich, aye. Heather, aye. Jason, aye.

Heather read a resolution 22-3 to request the County Auditor to advance funds that are collected in 2022 for 2021 Real Estate Taxes. Heather made a motion to accept the resolution. Jason seconded. Poll of the vote: Rich, aye. Heather, aye. Jason, aye.

Jason made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2021 New Holland Powerstar 75 tractor and a 2021 TriTech side mower for \$62,412.05 from Jefferson Village and to finance the purchase for a period of three years, if possible. Rich seconded. Poll of the vote: Rich, aye. Heather, aye. Jason, aye.

Jason made a motion to hire George "Mike" Orsulic as a full-time Road Department employee at the rate of \$16 per hour starting with the pay period beginning February 5, 2022, with the standard six-month probationary period and the passing of a drug test. It is hoped that this will cut down on overtime, summertime help needs and improve safety. Heather seconded. Poll of the vote: Rich, aye. Heather, aye. Jason, aye.

Jason made a motion to hire Sara Jusko, as part-time Road Dept secretary and office help for the Zoning Department at the rate of \$15 per hour for no more than 28 hours per week, with a 3-month probationary period. Rich seconded and all were in favor.

Heather made a motion to hire Lexi Brown as part-time office assistant in the Fiscal Office at the rate of \$15 per hour for no more than 28 hours per week with a 3-month probationary period. Jason seconded and all were in favor.

Heather made a motion to increase the pay of the Assistant Fiscal Officer, Sharon Rodgers to \$17 per hour, not to exceed 28 hours a week. The \$1,400 stipend for Cemetery Sexton will be removed, and she will receive rate of \$17 per hour for that position as well. She will have to keep record of

where her hours were spent to charge the correct department. Rich seconded. Poll of the vote: Rich, aye. Heather, aye. Jason, abstain.

Rich made a motion to hire Michael O'Connell and Nicholas Rhibar as part-time probationary fire fighter. Heather seconded and all were in favor.

There were no additional comments from the audience.

Heather made a motion to pay all bills, seconded by Jason. All were in favor.

Heather made a motion to close the meeting. Jason seconded and all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Julie Himmelman, Fiscal Officer

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Heather Shelton, Chairman