

RAVENNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF JUNE 2, 2023

The Ravenna Township Board of Trustees met in Special Session at the Ravenna Township Trustee’s Meeting Room, 6145 Spring Street, Ravenna, Ohio, on June 2, 2023. Trustee Jim DiPaola called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

Roll call showed the following present: Trustees Vince Coia, Hank T. Gibson and Jim DiPaola; Fiscal Officer Gail Pittman. In the audience was Attorney Chad Murdock

The purpose of the special meeting is to discuss the following issues:

1. Consult with legal counsel regarding litigation
2. Discuss and decide on the auditing firm for the upcoming cycles
3. Discuss and decide on the purchase of a remount chassis for unit 2411
4. Additional emergency items – approve purchase order and payment for court costs in zoning case for Sharrar; discuss roof repairs; discuss repairs to unit 2413

Chad Murdock notified the trustees of the recent summary judgment decision and informed the trustees of their options. The trustees will notify Chad of their decision.

The final estimate for remount of ambulance unit 2411 was presented. We are removing the lift package from the current unit and will be placing it in the remounted unit, saving over \$20,000. The final estimated amount is \$182,483.00 for Pfund Superior Sales. It will take at least a year to take delivery.

RES #23-102

WHEREAS, this date, June 02, 2023, Trustee Vince Coia moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township has received a distribution of monies (the “ARPA Funds”) from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA” or the “Act”); and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Act effective March 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Section 603 created the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund which, among other things, appropriated money to cities, nonentitlement units of local government, and counties to mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19); and

WHEREAS, Section 603(c) generally provides that:

(1) **USE OF FUNDS**. Subject to paragraph (2), and except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), a metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county shall only use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover costs incurred by the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county, by December 31, 2024 -

(A) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;

(B) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID–19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the metropolitan

city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;

(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency; or

(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

WHEREAS, Department of Treasury Final Rule, published on January 6, 2022, and effective April 1, 2022, provides in part that:

Treasury presumes that up to \$10 million in revenue has been lost due to the public health emergency and recipients are permitted to use that amount (not to exceed the award amount) to fund “government services.” [The “standard allowance”].

WHEREAS, the Rule further observes that:

The standard allowance provides an estimate of revenue loss that is based on an extensive analysis of average revenue loss across states and localities, and offers a simple, convenient way to determine revenue loss particularly for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund’s smallest recipients. This change is intended to promote administrative efficiency and simplify revenue loss calculation for smaller recipients.

WHEREAS, the Rule further clarifies that recipients can use:

SLFRF funds on government services up to the revenue loss amount, whether that be the standard allowance amount or the amount calculated using the [Final Rule four-step process]. Government services generally include any service traditionally provided by a government, unless treasury has stated otherwise.

WHEREAS, some common examples of “government services” expressly recognized by Treasury are as follows:

- **Road building and maintenance, and other infrastructure**
- **Health services**
- **General government administration, staff, and administrative facilities**
- **Environmental remediation**
- **Provision of police, fire, and other public safety services (including purchase of fire trucks and police vehicles)**
- **Maintenance or pay-go funded building infrastructure**
- **Modernization of cybersecurity, including hardware, software, and protection of critical infrastructure**

WHEREAS, “Government services is [deemed by Treasury] the most flexible eligible use category under the SLFRF program, and funds are subject to streamlined reporting and compliance requirements;” and

WHEREAS, funds utilized pursuant to the standard revenue loss allowance continue to have certain restrictions, including:

- **Deposit into pension funds**
- **Satisfaction of settlements or judgments**

- **Contributions to financial reserves or “rainy day” funds**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has identified a project which, in the judgment of the Board, qualifies as a permitted use of the ARPA Funds, in direct support of governmental services, which consists of the following:

Purchase of remount chassis for Ambulance Squad # 2411 (the “Project”).

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board that:

1. The Township elected to use the standard allowance by way of Resolution 22-038, passed April 29, 2022 and its presumption of revenue loss due to the public health emergency and to use the amount authorized herein to fund government services.

2. The Project is hereby authorized and shall be paid for from the ARPA Funds in the amount of/an amount of \$182,483.00.

3. The Project described herein serves the objectives of the Act by providing services traditionally provided by a government, namely:

- Police protection
- Fire and emergency medical services
- Road repair, maintenance and other transportation and safety services
- Public infrastructure support
- General government administration and administrative facilities
- Land use regulations and enforcement
- Parks and recreational facilities and programs
- Other

4. Accordingly, the Project is in the best interests of the Township and is deemed a priority for the community.

5. No obligations paid under the authority of this Resolution were incurred prior to March 3, 2021.

Trustee Hank T. Gibson seconded the Motion, and thereupon, the roll call votes are as follows:

R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Carried

Fiscal Officer Pittman notified the Board that the Auditor of State has determined that the township is eligible for participating in a contract extension with Perry and Associates, CPAs AC without utilizing the bidding process for the biennial fiscal period ending 2023, and for one (1) subsequent period.

RES #23-103 Motion by Vince Coia, seconded by Hank T. Gibson, to stay with Perry and Associates, CPAs AC for the fiscal period ending 2023, and for one (1) subsequent period.

R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Carried

The trustees reviewed the quote for the roof repair obtained by Fire Chief Dave Moore. They decided to request a second quote.

The trustees reviewed the running board assembly quote on unit 2413 obtained by Fire Chief Dave Moore to repair the damage done by accidentally running over the chock block. The trustees had discussion and tabled a decision until a later time

RES #23-104 A motion by Jim DiPaola, seconded by Vince Coia to approve the following: PO # 288-2023 in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Attorney Chad Murdock for legal work on zoning cases; PO #289-2023 in the amount of \$320.00 to the Portage County Clerk of courts for court costs related to zoning case with Sharrar; Warrant # 24058 payable to the Portage County Clerk of Courts in the amount of \$320.00 for payment of court costs. R/C: Mr. Coia, yes; Mr. DiPaola, yes; and Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Hank T. Gibson and seconded by Vince Coia to adjourn special meeting at 1:43 PM

ATTEST:

CHAIR

TRUSTEE

FISCAL OFFICER

TRUSTEE