

Board of Trustees

Jerome L. (Jerry) Hirt, Sr.

Beth van Haaren

Cliff Wray

Fiscal Officer

Deborah A. Watson

Administrator/Fire Chief

Andy Ehrhart

Assistant Fire Chiefs

Josh Schiebrel

Jay Zimmerman

Planning & Zoning Director

Andy Ehrhart

Lead Road Worker

Robert Yocum

Township Offices

8735 S. Second Street (Brandt)

Tipp City, Ohio 45371

937.845.8472

Funding of Bethel Township Government

Like all governmental units, funding of services remains tight. In the last few years the weakness of the general economy has put stress on the budgets of every level of government. Townships do not rely on income taxes for support nor do Townships have the authority by state law to impose an income tax to support our services like municipalities. Bethel Township relies on 0.9 mills of *inside statutory un-voted millage* levied on real-estate in the unincorporated area of the township and the millage you as voters entrust us to levy.

You, the voters of Bethel Township, are currently supporting your local governmental services through four separate levies:

- A permanent -1.0 mill levy for Additional Police Protection which funds a contract with the Miami County Sheriff
- A 5yr – 2.0 mill levy for Fire and EMS Services
- A permanent -1.5 mill levy for Fire and EMS Services
- A 5yr - 3.8 mill Levy for General Fund Support

The 3.8 mill General Fund Levy began in 2004 and was renewed for an additional five years in 2008. The intent of the 3.8 mill levy was to fight annexation and preserve the Bethel Community as our residents recognized it. Through frugal fiscal responsibility we have utilized these funds to develop a Comprehensive Land Use Plan as well as for engineering studies for water and sanitary sewer service to areas of the township which have known health concerns or are susceptible to the threat of annexation without proper infrastructure. Funds have also been used to offset the cost of assessments to Residents of the Brandt Sewer Project as well as to expand the Phoneton Sewer Project to serve Bethel Local Schools. We also anticipate additional support of the Phoneton Sewer Project. We continue to pledge appropriating those funds to preserve the integrity of the township and discourage any potential future annexations.

While our revenue from real estate taxes has remained relatively stable during the down turn of the economy, our funding has significantly shrunk with the elimination of the State Inheritance Tax in 2013 and continuing reduction of the State Local Government Funds. The township's only other tax revenue is a portion of the State Gasoline and Motor Vehicle License Taxes, which are designated for the repair and maintenance of township roads.

We have been able to stretch your tax dollars, across the entire scope of each fund. In this environment of shrinking tax revenue we have sharpened our pencils by:

- Consolidating job responsibilities taking advantage of attrition to cut personnel costs.
- Loaning from the un-encumbered funds of the 3.8 mill levy to purchase new Fire truck in 2011 rather than financing the purchase with a conventional loan. Thus saving additional cost of interest from the fire fund. With the current economic conditions un-encumbered funds are not accruing significant interest income.
- Applying for and receiving various grants for specific projects and programs.

Bethel Township continues to strive to give the most efficient government services possible and encourage you to attend our meetings and offer your input. The trustees meet in regular session on the second and fourth Tuesday every month at 7:00pm.

Jerome L. (Jerry) Hirt, Sr.
Township Trustee



Zoning Update

Zoning Certificates Issued:

ZC-01-13	9815 West Haskett Lane	Accessory Building
ZC-02-13	4444 Dinsmore Drive	Porch Addition
ZC-03-13	4580 Rudy Road	New Single Family Residence
ZC-04-13	5355 Westland Drive	Addition
ZC-05-13	7080 US Route 40	Sign
ZC-06-13	9000 State Route 202	Sign

Bethel Township Zoning Commission (ZC):

The Zoning Commission met in regular session on January 24, 2013 to hear the following case:

Case ZA-01-13: A request from Teresa Wiley, 4290 Gibson Drive to rezone .72 acres located at 4290 Gibson Dr. Tipp City, Ohio 45371. from General Agricultural (A-2) to Light Industrial (I-1) on property to be used for commercial purposes. Approved as submitted.

The Zoning Commission met in regular session on March 28, 2013 to hear the following case:

Case ZA-02-13: A request from The Bethel Township Trustees to rezone 5744 Scarff Road and 8715, 8585, 8545, 8515, 8475, 8445, 8405, 8375, 8730, 8680, 8630, 8580, 8540, 8510, 8470, 8444, 8400, 8370 Heilman Drive from A-2, General Agriculture to R-1AAA Single Family Residential; also to rezone 8655 and 8355 Heilman Drive from A-2, General Agriculture to A-1 Domestic Agriculture on properties used for residential purposes. Pending

The ZC meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Bethel Township Meeting Room.

Bethel Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA):

The BZA met in regular session on January 24, 2013 to hear the following cases:

CU-01-13: A request from Scott Earhart & Deany L Chaney, 4620 South Rudy, Tipp City, OH, 45371. The applicant requests conditional use approval for to allow for the construction of new single family residence located in an F-1 Flood Plain Zoning District. Approved as submitted.

V-01-13: A request from Gordon & Debbie West, 8263 US Route 40, Tipp City, OH, 45371. The applicant requests a variance to allow for the reduction of the required lot frontage from one hundred and seventy five feet (175') to zero feet (0') to allow for a lot split on property zoned A-2 General agricultural. Approved but modified to have one hundred feet (100') of frontage.

The BZA met in regular session on February 28, 2013 to hear the following case:

CU-02-13: A request from Justin Powell, 8315 State Route 722, Arcanum, OH, 45304. The applicant requests conditional use approval for to allow for the construction of a double sided billboard on the property located at 7080 E. US Route 40, Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio. Approved as submitted.

Long Driveway Identification

Long driveways in Bethel Township present a unique challenge for the Fire Department. Our fire engine has 1000' of large diameter hose. We use this hose to supply water to our fire engines. In an effort to improve our pre-planning process and provide better services to our citizens, we want to identify driveways longer than 1000' so that in the event of a fire, we have the appropriate amount of hose and can more efficiently stage the engines and the water truck. **If your driveway is longer than 1000' please contact Lt. Rich Morrett at 845-4274.** The Fire Department will place a reflective sticker on your mailbox as well as marking a spot on the driveway 1000' from your house. If you think your driveway is close to 1000' but not sure, please call and the Fire Department will come and measure it for you.

Fire and EMS Runs to Date:

Runs from 01/01/13-03/09/13: EMS 72 Fire 9 Total 81



Volunteer Opportunity

Interested in volunteering to give a helping hand and spruce up Bethel Township?

Tipp City Area United Way, Tipp Monroe Community Services, and America in Bloom invite you to participate in the Day of Caring which has been scheduled for **Saturday, April 20!** Opportunities are available to help in Bethel Township, Monroe Township or Tipp City.

This is a day when community volunteers partner with local agencies to come together for a few hours to clean, paint, wash windows, mulch or do minor repair work for folks within our community needing a little help. If you wish to volunteer or someone you know is in need of this type of assistance, call the United Way office at 669-3863 or send an email to deb.carr@tippcityauw.org or call Tipp Monroe Community Services at 667-8631 or send an email to tmcom-services@bizwoh.rr.com.

New Fire Chief



Bethel Township welcomes a new Fire Chief, former assistant fire chief, Andy Ehrhart. Andy has over 20 years in the fire service. He spent 10 years at Harrison Township Fire department and achieved the rank of Captain. Andy was also on the Butler Township fire department for another 10 years and rose to the rank of lieutenant. Andy's promotion follows the departure of Bethel Township Administrator, Mike Gebhart who also served as our Public Safety Officer. In addition to serving in the Fire Department, Andy continues on as the Director of Planning and Zoning for the township. Please join us in welcoming Andy to his new position.

Lisa Ehrhart presents the Chief's Badge to her husband, Andy Ehrhart, at the swearing in ceremony.

Bethel Business Spotlight

Since starting up in 2004, and moving the operation to Bethel in 2008, things have come a long way for Steve Weichbrodt. Steve is the owner of Heirloom Woodworks and has the good fortune of utilizing his passion for woodworking on a daily basis. The main demand to date is for custom cabinetry, however; the purchase of a new Omnitech CNC machine now allows Steve to offer a broader range of products including more furniture pieces and groupings. This machine allows patterns and cuts to be recreated exactly each time. This saves time and manpower, reducing production time and keeping the overhead low.

Even though the new machine increases efficiency there is no shortcut on quality. When asked what sets his products apart from others, Steve stated "with my products people get what they want, not just what they need". One look at the end results of the work and that statement is apparent. The quality wood and natural grain patterns are truly stunning.

Some of the products used in the process are outsourced such as turnings and raised panel doors. Steve uses local business to provide those products. The raised panel doors come from a shop in Camden. Steve states "there are specialties that these shops perform, to keep cost and overhead down it makes sense to use what they specialize in".

When asked who his clientele are, Steve stated that most of his work comes from contractors but he also does direct sales. So if you are in need of quality custom cabinets and furniture at affordable pricing contact Steve on his cell phone at 937-430-0394 or e-mail at heirloomwoodworks@gmail.com. Steve is located at 5930 Rudy Road.





PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TIPP CITY, OH
PERMIT #22

Bethel Township Trustees

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [WWW. BETHELTONNSHIP.ORG](http://WWW.BETHELTONNSHIP.ORG)

April

- 3 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 9 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 16 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 19 May Meeting deadline
- 23 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 25 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM

May

- 1 Historical Society
- 14 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 17 June Meeting deadline
- 21 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 23 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 28 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM

June

- 5 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 11 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 14 April Meeting deadline
- 18 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 25 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 27 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM

Please note:

The Board of Trustees meets in Workshop Session on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month @ 8:30AM in the Township Building in Brandt. Please check the Township's website at www.betheltownship.org for Workshop Session cancellations.

All meetings are held in the Bethel Township Community Room, 8735 S. Second Street-Brandt unless otherwise noted.
All meetings are subject to cancellation.