



Bethel Township Board of Trustees
July 5, 2023
Workshop Meeting Minutes

Roll Call: Administrator Ehrhart, Fiscal Officer Watson, Zoning Administrator Arnold, Trustee vanHaaren, Trustee Black, Trustee Reese

Admin Items:

1: Land Use Plan Meeting

- Next meeting will be Tuesday July 25th at 6 P.M.

2: Huber Heights Actions

- Trustee vanHaaren stated she ran into a Council member at the Y who basically said that all of the Council members knew about the annexation agreement: point being that a lot of differing statements are being made so we must take them with a grain of salt.
- Trustee Reese asked about the annexation agreement that we approved – is it null and void due to Huber missing the annexation voting deadline, do we let it ride and if so, what are the consequences of leaving it out there? Administrator Ehrhart will talk to Peter about options and consequences and bring them back to the Trustees.

3: Minutes Review

- Five sets of minutes have been reviewed and will be on the agenda for approval at the next meeting.

Trustee Items:

Trustee Reese:

- Fire department policy
A resident had some difficulty getting her husband driven to their requested medical facility during an emergency situation. She explained what happened to the Trustees, Fiscal Officer, and Administrators, stating that the Bethel squad refused to take her husband to Springfield Regional Hospital based on policy. She eventually signed a right of refusal agreement to state that she did not want Bethel Township's squad to transport her husband to any other hospital. The township policy does include Springfield Regional and also a path to contact a supervisor if there is a request not covered by the policy. Administrator Ehrhart will look into the circumstances of the run to determine what happened in order to prevent it from happening again. Apologies were made to the Mangan family.
- Trustee Reese provided the results of the survey conducted during the Township Yard Sale in early June. Trustee vanHaaren felt it was inappropriate for the Land & Lifestyle Preservation Committee to do a survey because it looked like an official survey by the Township. Trustee Reese noted it was just a way for the residents attending an event to prioritize ideas for future community events and also to add ideas to the list. Based on the results, having a picnic would be the next most desired event.
- Trustee Reese asked about the status of the drainage in the Bethelville area and if something can be done to repair some of the pipes leading out to Palmer Rd. Discussion ensued, but the bottom line, summarized by Trustee vanHaaren, is that townships are responsible for the ditches that go under our township roads, property owners are responsible for the ditches on their property. Thus a ditch petition would have to be filed and it could be very expensive to fix.

Ongoing Items:

- 1: Huber Heights Annexation
 - See Admin Items #2 above.
- 2: Promotional Videos on Facebook/ Instagram are being posted as they are completed.
- 3: Massage Parlor regulations are still with the Prosecutor for review.
- 4: Land Use Plan Update was addressed above in Admin Items #1.
- 5: Bee City USA
 - A resolution to join Bee City USA will be on the agenda Tuesday for a vote.
- 6: Trees on Singer
 - Advice has been received from Metro Parks via eMail from Eric Sauer. Trustee Black and Administrator Ehrhart will meet with Mr. Sauer to discuss options.
- 7: Social Media Archiving Program
 - Administrator Ehrhart stated this is here as a placeholder for consideration at a future date. No updates at this time.

Other Discussion Topics:

- 1: Trustee Black noted that Bart Gessaman passed away and his viewing was held recently. He is buried in Bethel West cemetery.
- 2: Resident Jeff Morford suggested a full-time person be hired to fight annexation for the county. Trustee Reese asked if the Township Trustees could pass a resolution to throw our support behind the county hiring an anti-annexation worker. Trustee vanHaaren stated that we could just call the commissioners. Trustee vanHaaren felt that only two townships would be interested that had unwanted annexation: Bethel and Union. She will call the new Admin in Miami County.

Adjournment time called by Trustee Black at 10:14 am.

Minutes prepared by Trustee Reese

Don Black, Chair

Julie Reese, Trustee

Beth vanHaaren, Trustee

Deborah Watson, Fiscal Officer