

# CURRENT

*Bethel Township Trustees*

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*Jay Zimmerman*

*Planning & Zoning*

*Jeff Green*

*Lead Road Worker*

*Robert Yocum*

*Township Offices*

*8735 S. Second Street (Brandt)*

*Tipp City, Ohio 45371*

*937.845.8472*

## Roads, Potholes and Repaving

Bethel Township maintains a little more than twenty five (25) miles of roadway. The responsibilities include pavement repair, resurfacing, roadside mowing, culvert maintenance and replacement, overhanging tree trimming, snow/ice removal, and berm maintenance. The township employs one full time road worker and several part time seasonal road workers. The money to pay for equipment, materials, salaries, fuel, repairs, maintenance, road improvements, salaries and other expenses comes from four funds, which combined in 2014, generated \$249,000. The funds are:

Fund	Type	2014 Amount
Road and Bridge Fund	1 mil, inside millage. This is a permanent fund and is not voted on by township residents.	\$96,000
Gasoline Tax	State tax of \$0.28 per gallon. The township gets a portion of this, as decided by the state.	\$86,000
Motor Vehicle Tax	5% of each license based on Twp. road mileage	\$11,000
Permissive Motor Vehicle Tax	\$15 per vehicle annual tax.	\$56,000

\$249,000 sounds like a lot of money, until you realize the cost of maintaining and /or replacing road equipment, factor in the increases in fuel, salaries, vehicle insurance, workmen's comp insurance and add to that the ever increasing cost of asphalt and salt. In 2014, the township committed to an extremely frugal road department budget: we did no major paving projects or crack sealing, no equipment purchases, no culvert or ditch restoration, limited tree trimming and reduced roadside mowing. The result - the township spent \$145,000 in 2014 on road and bridge items. This allowed us to save \$104,000, which will be spent this year on repaving Scarff Road from 571 to New Carlisle Road. The current cost for re-surfacing is approximately \$110,000 per mile of roadway. A good overlay can extend the life of a road 15—20 years. For 2015 and 2016, our goal is to save \$40,000 each year to build up enough reserve to once again have enough money to repave another mile of township road.

This method of "save and repave" works fairly well until we need to replace a dump truck, a lawnmower or a snowplow. Our road department vehicles are aging. We do as much maintenance as possible in house. However, ageing vehicles generally require more frequent and more costly maintenance. Below is a chart of our equipment and current replacement costs:

Equipment	Current Vehicle Replacement Cost
1996 Dump Truck #1	\$140,000
2009 Dump Truck #2	\$140,000
2001 Mini Dump	\$56,000
1997 Backhoe	\$45,000
2006 Lawnmower #1	\$6,000
2010 Lawnmower #2	\$6,000
1972 Motrim Mower	\$45,000
1996 Street Sweeper	\$10,000



Scarff Road

## Zoning Update

### Zoning Certificates Issued:

ZC-6-15	7625 E. New Carlisle Rd	Addition to Residence
ZC-7-15	6575 Walnut Rd	Addition to Residence
ZC-8-15	9095 Bellefontaine Rd	Pole Barn
ZC-9-15	968 Bellefontaine Rd	Pole Barn
ZC-10-15	5630 Dayton Brandt Rd	New Residence and Barn
ZC-11-15	8345 New Carlisle	Pool
ZC-12-15	6235 Pisgah Rd	Barn
ZC-13-15	9965 W Haskett	Pole Barn
ZC-14-15	6582 E US 40	New Residence
ZC-15-15	7719 Singer	New Residence
ZC-16-15	6143 Ross Rd	Pool
ZC-17-15	5430 State Route 202	Addition to Garage
ZC-18-15	6929 US Route 40	Sign face Change
ZC-19-15	7775 St Rt 201	Pool

### **BETHEL TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION (ZC):**

The Bethel Township Zoning Commission (ZC) did not meet for the month of April or May. The Bethel Township Zoning Commission (ZC) did meet in June to review the zoning code: 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 Bethel Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) did meet in April to hear the following case:

**Case CU-01-15:** A request from Jay Zimmerman, 6420 SR 201, Tipp City, OH, 45371. The applicant requests conditional use approval to allow for a multifamily residence to be allowed on the property located at 2280/2282 US Rt 40, Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio. The property is identified at Miami County Parcel ID # A01-001660. **Approved 4-0**

The Bethel Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) did meet in May to hear the following cases:

**Case V-03-15:** A request from Mollee and Chad Gray of 6143 Ross Rd, New Carlisle, OH, 45344. The applicant requests that an automatic pool cover be installed instead of a fence for an in ground pool that is to be installed later this summer. The property is identified as Miami County Parcel ID # A01-078970. **Approved 3-1**

**Case CU-02-15:** A request from Three Springs Lake, 7745 Agenbroad Rd, Tipp City, OH, 45371. The applicant requests conditional use approval to allow for a pay lake and camp ground to be allowed on the property located at 7745 Agenbroad Rd, Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio. The property is identified at Miami County Parcel ID # A01-059400. **Business will be allowed to continue for 90 days. Vote: 2-1**

The Bethel Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) did not meet for the month of June. The BZA meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Bethel Township Meeting Room. Public notice for both the Zoning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals meetings are posted in the news section of the Township web site at [www.betheltownship.org](http://www.betheltownship.org), and in the Troy Daily News. Additionally, residents within 300’ of the requesting property are notified by first class mail as per the Bethel Township Zoning Resolution and the ORC.

### **Fire and EMS Runs 2015:**

**4/1—6/20: EMS 108 Fire 46 Total 154**

**YTD: EMS 202 Fire 82 Total 284**



## Roads, Potholes and Repaving, cont.

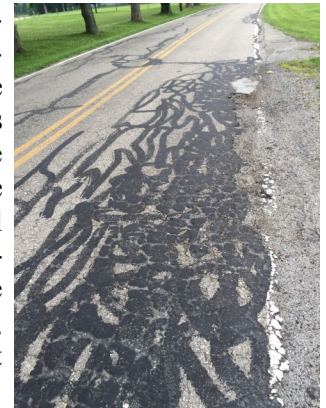
In addition, there have been no raises in salary for the road department workers since 2008. There are other items, which despite all frugal measures, will always be fairly fixed costs: fuel (\$21,000), salt (\$10,200), workmen's comp insurance (\$3,500) and equipment liability insurance (\$3,000) (all costs are from 2014). These items are necessary to keep our roads, township residents and our workers safe. The value of the four funds listed above has been fairly steady over the past 5 years, thus even as fixed costs increase, the funds do not increase.

Frugal spending combined with conservative estimating suggest that the township, with current funding, could repave one mile of road approximately every four years. This makes the “paving cycle” for all 25 miles possible only every 100 years. Clearly, this is not an acceptable option. Chip and seal is a much less expensive solution, costing approximately \$25,000 per mile. However it needs time to be worked into the road and many residents do not like the “chip” that goes flying during the work in period. Chip and seal can extend the life of a road 5—7 years but it would still require an overlay at the end of this life span.

You may wonder - why not use general fund money? Or 3.8 mil Levy money? Several sources of general fund money to all Ohio townships have been reduced or eliminated in the past few years. In prior years, the township received monies from the estate tax, the personal property tax, and the local government fund. Most of this funding is no longer available, eliminating over \$192,000 in township annual revenue that was used for fuel, vehicle maintenance, road department salaries, building repair, insurance and other things. The original intent of the 3.8 mil Levy money was for infrastructure improvements to fight annexation. As stewards of this levy, the trustees feel that it is vitally important to continue to spend the funds in a manner that is consistent with the original goal. To date, we have used 3.8 mil levy funds on two road projects that were a result of infrastructure improvements: repaving Brandt streets and Wiley Industrial Park streets after the sewer line installation.

**This November, a 2.1 mil Road & Bridge Levy will be on the ballot. This is a new levy. Bethel Township currently does not have any road levies.** The funds from this levy can only be used for road maintenance, repairs and equipment, such as those previously mentioned. It will cost a homeowner \$73.50 per year for a \$100,000 home, or \$0.20 per day. It will generate \$280,266 annually. This will allow us to repave roads on a 15 year cycle, rather than 100 years and maintain and replace our equipment in a conservative manner without having to borrow money. The trustees are very conscious of the need to keep taxes as low as possible. Every effort is made to reduce costs and to keep expenses at a minimum. With the substantial loss of annual tax revenue to the general fund (both state and local) over the last few years, combined with the increase in asphalt, salt, insurance, salaries, vehicle and fuel costs, we feel a 2.1 mil Road & Bridge Levy is the best solution to proactively maintain the integrity and safety of our roads and our community. If you have questions about this issue, please contact any of the trustees (all phone numbers and email addresses are on the back of the newsletter) or Andy Ehrhart, Township Administrator at 845-8472.

Road	Year Paved	Type	Fund
New Carlisle Rd	2009	Overlay	Road Funds
Pisgah Rd.	2010	Chip & Seal	Road Funds
Brandt Streets	2012	Overlay	3.8 mil
Bethelville & part of Singer Rd.	2013	Chip& Seal	Road Funds
	2013	Overlay	Road Funds
Wiley Industrial Park	2013	Overlay	3.8 mil



West Charleston Road

## Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Bethel Township Fire Department received a \$300 grant to purchase smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms. If you are a township resident, please call the Fire Station at 937-845-4274 and ask for Lt Rich Morrett. They will come out and inspect your current detector's and if needed, provide you with a new one. The Fire Department will install the units for you at no charge and/or change the batteries on your existing units. These smoke detectors use photoelectric sensors. The International Association of Firefighters recommend the use of photoelectric smoke alarms. This type of smoke detector is far less likely to sound nuisance alarms and, as a consequence, is less likely to be disabled.



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

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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

*Or like us on Facebook— Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio*

**July**

- 1 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 3 4th of July Observed—Township Offices Closed
- 14 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 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

**August**

- 5 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 11 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 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

**September**

- 2 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 7 Labor Day—Township Offices Closed
- 8 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 15 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 22 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 25 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](http://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.