

Board of Trustees

Gary Biggs

Jerome L. (Jerry) Hirt, Sr.

Beth van Haaren

Fiscal Officer

Deborah A. Watson

Administrator/Fire Chief

Andy Ehrhart

Assistant Fire Chiefs

Josh Schiebrel

Jay Zimmerman

Planning & Zoning

Marty Caskey

Lead Road Worker

Robert Yocum

Township Offices

8735 S. Second Street (Brandt)

Tipp City, Ohio 45371

937.845.8472

County Commissioners Approve Phoneton Water Project

After several months of discussion, the Miami County Commissioners voted on June 16 to approve the Phoneton Water Project. The project area is shown in the picture below. This is a large project with an estimated total cost of \$2.5 million. To date, the Township has paid over \$270,000 in design and engineering fees from the 3.8 mill levy fund. We have received a \$400,000 grant for this project from the Ohio Public Works Commission as well as a \$200,000 low-interest loan.

The Township, using monies from the 3.8 mill levy, will contribute an additional \$1 million to help offset some of the property assessments. The assessment for each of the 153 properties will be less than \$8,000 and is consistent with the assessment paid by property owners in Brandt for the 2010 sewer project. Thanks to large grants from the Ohio EPA and the Ohio Public Works Commission, the Phoneton Sewer Project in 2013 was completely funded as was the Brandt Water Project in 2003. The assessment is paid out over 20 years (approximately \$400 per year) and is placed on the tax bill for the parcel.

In March, Miami County Sanitary Engineering contacted all property owners of the affected 153 parcels to offer free water sampling and testing. Forty-five properties responded and 43 samples were gathered. Two of the wells tested above the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for nitrates, 18.6% (8 wells) had an unsafe level of E Coli and 34.9% (15 wells) were at an unsafe level for coliform. The testing results convinced the commissioners to go forward with the project.



Bidding for the project will be done in September 2016 and construction is likely to begin in early spring of 2017. It remains a priority for the Township to extend water and sewer lines across our southern portion. Infrastructure is one of the best tools we have to fight future annexation as well as improve the health and safety of our rivers, streams and drinking water.

Township Hires New Employee

Bethel Township would like to welcome Marty Caskey as the Township's newest employee. Marty was hired for the position of Assistant to the Administrator and fills the shoes of Jeff Green, who left in April to work for the City of Middletown.

The duties of the position include handling the zoning for the Township, locating potential grant sources and administering them, special projects, and general day-to-day operations. He previously served on the Bethel Township Zoning Commission for several years and has many years of experience in the corporate sector, as well as with the City of Fairborn and the City of Kettering. Marty is a longtime Township resident, and he and his wife Donna have one daughter.

"I enjoyed serving the Township on the Zoning Commission and look forward to continuing to serve the residents as a member of the staff," said Marty.



Zoning Update

Zoning Certificates Issued:

ZC-12-16	6574 State Route 571	Pole Barn
ZC-13-16	4904 S. Dayton Brandt Rd.	Residential Covered Porch
ZC-14-16	7727 E. US Rt. 40	New Residence
ZC-16-16	8740 State Route 201	New Building
ZC-17-16	9550 Bellefontaine Rd.	New Residence
ZC-18-16	6984 Church St. (Brandt)	Detached Garage
ZC-19-16	4445 S. Dayton-Brandt Rd.	Covered Porch Addition
ZC-20-16	4025 Lisa Dr.	Building Sign
ZC-21-16	4270 Rudy Rd.	Above-ground Pool
ZC-22-16	6460 Studebaker Rd.	In-ground pool
ZC-23-16	4191 US Rt. 40	Sign
ZC-24-16	5195 Westland Dr.	Above-ground pool
ZC-25-16	7910 S. Palmer Rd.	New Residential Addition
ZC-26-16	8280 Wildcat Rd.	Above-ground pool

BETHEL TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION (ZC):

The Bethel Township Zoning Commission (ZC) did not meet for the months of April or May, but did meet in June to review the following cases:

Case ZA-01-16: Mrs. Phyllis Hanson, 4485 Scarff Rd. Rezoning 3.154 acres from Parcel A01-030200 from A-2 to R-1AAA, leaving 11.631 acres A-2. (Approved)

Case ZA-02-16: Mr. Thomas Burrowes, 9885 Palmer Rd. Rezoning 10.3 acres from Parcel A01-020400 from A-2 to A-1, leaving approximately 138 acres A-2. (Approved)

These cases are pending Trustee approval.

BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA):

The Bethel Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) did not meet in in April, May or June.

The ZC meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM and 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, 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 Ohio Revised Code.



Fire and EMS 2016:

4/1/16—7/1/16: EMS 103 Fire 39 Total 142

YTD: EMS 169 Fire 72 Total 241

Knowing a few fire safety grilling tips will help everyone have a safe summer.

- Only use your grill outside. Keep it away from siding and deck rails.
- Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.
- Open your gas grill before lighting.
- Keep a three-foot safe zone around your grill and campfire. This will keep kids and pets safe.



Township Purchases Two Brandt Properties

In June, the Bethel Township Trustees voted to purchase two adjacent properties in Brandt. This purchase offers the opportunity to clean up two blighted properties and improve the area. The former “Molly Burger” restaurant and the Odd Fellows Hall are located on the southeast corner of US 40 and Second Street and are adjacent to the current Township property.

Both buildings are in extremely poor condition and Township employees have been busy cutting back overgrown trees, removing junk vehicles, and filling several dumpsters with debris.



Currently, the plan is to demolish the Molly Burger restaurant within the next few months. After the Odd Fellows building has been cleared out a bit more, we can better evaluate the possible options for it.

The purchase price for each property was \$12,500. The money for these properties came from the 3.8 mill levy fund. The Molly Burger building has been uninhabited since the mid-1980s and the Odd Fellows building since the mid-1990s.

Recycling Update—what we accept at our Recycling Center



- Plastics, 1-7
- Aluminum Cans & Aluminum Foil
- Metal Cans—soup cans, vegetable cans
- Paper—office paper, magazines, flyers, phone books, newspaper
- Cardboard—corrugated boxes, food boxes. No food waste on the cardboard—i.e. NO PIZZA BOXES!

4.9 mill Fire & EMS Levy on the Ballot in November

This November, the Township will be replacing a fire levy on the ballot. The current 2.0 mill levy has been in place since 1999 and has been renewed every five years since then. The REPLACEMENT 4.9 mill levy on the ballot in November will replace the current 2.0 mill levy. It will cost an additional \$115.35 per year based on a \$100,000 home. Funds from this levy will pay for replacement of a 13 year-old ambulance, repairs to the breathing air system, gear for the firefighters, uniforms, fuel, insurance and training, as well as payroll for our personnel.

Many residents believe that our fire department is still a “volunteer” department; this is no longer the case. In 1997, our fire department shifted from a paid/volunteer status to a paid Fire/EMS Department during the hours of 6 AM to 6 PM. In 2010, due to lack of volunteers and slow response times, the paid night crews were brought on station as well. While we do not employ any full time firefighters or EMS, we have over 30 highly trained part-time members of our department. Most of our members work another job and many of them rotate between multiple fire departments in the area. We strive to have four staff members at the station 24/7. We have incredibly quick response times—less than 2 minutes to respond to the emergency and approximately 7 minutes to your door.

Continuing education is important to our department. All members are required to have multiple hours of continuing education training per certificate they hold. For example a paramedic/firefighter needs 86 hours of continuing education for paramedics and 18 hours of continuing education for fire every three years. The training is extremely diverse from controlled burns to cardiac care to auto extrication. The Fire Department has responded to the community by lowering response times, having personnel “on station” 24 hours a day/seven days a week, maintaining equipment so that it exceeds its expected lifespan, attending public service events, being present at all home fall outdoor athletic events at Bethel Schools, and serving our community with skill and compassion. The men and women who work in our department are highly dedicated and, like most things, the cost for personnel and equipment has risen over the years. The last increase in Fire Levy funds was requested for and received in 1999.



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.BETHELTONNSHIP.ORG

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

July

- 4 Independence Day, Township Offices Closed
- 6 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 12 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 19 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 26 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 28 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM

August

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

September

- 5 Labor Day, Township Offices Closed
- 7 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 13 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 20 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 22 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 27 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM

Please note:

The Board of Trustees meets in Workshop Session on the 1st and 3rd Tues-

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