

Board of Trustees

Gary Biggs

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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

4.9 mill Fire & EMS Levy on the Ballot in November

Bethel Township Fire Department is funded by a series of dedicated, voter-approved property tax levies. Due to state law, the rate of these levies is reduced over time so that the revenues generated by the levy do not increase as the value of properties increase. Therefore, as the cost of delivering these services increases (personnel, supplies, materials, equipment, etc.), the Township must periodically seek an increase in the approved tax levy.

Voters in the Township last approved additional funding for Fire and EMS in 1999. That was seventeen years ago. In 2015, we went on 560 calls for service and in 2014 we had 592. Our response time for those two years was approximately 90 seconds to get out of our door and on average seven minutes to your door. We are running an important service in 2016 on a paycheck from 1999. In addition to the impact of inflation in the operations of the Fire Department, the overall response activity is steadily growing. This is due to a steady increase in calls for fire, rescue, and emergency medical services (EMS).

In November, you will be asked to vote on a 4.9 mill *replacement* levy with increase. The current levy is 2.0 mills. The Township has always tried to make Fire/EMS levies last as long as possible. If this levy passes, our focus will be on replacing aging equipment and upgrading staffing, allowing us to keep up with the demand. Our current system utilizes a modified volunteer program at night. The rigorous certification, continued training and commitment required to be a firefighter and EMS responder is making it almost impossible to maintain this current "volunteer" system. The passage of this levy would allow the department to staff 24 hours a day/7 days a week with on station part-time employees (our daytime program is already part-time).

In the past seventeen years, funds projected to be generated by the 1999 levy did not completely materialize due to an unanticipated drop in property values, increased delinquencies, and the elimination of tangible personal property taxes. If voters approve this levy request, they will pay an additional \$115.35 per year, or \$9.61 per month, for every \$100,000 of home value. If voters approve the additional levy in 2016, it would not go into effect on tax bills until 2017.

Voting Locations in Bethel Township

Tuesday, November 8th, voters in Bethel Township will head to the polls. The only local issue is the 4.9 Replacement Fire and EMS Levy. Bethel Local Schools has no issues on the ballot. Voting locations:

- **Bethel West and South Central** vote at the new West Charleston Church of the Brethren - 4817 SR 202.
- **Bethel South East and East** vote at the First Baptist Church - 8870 SR 571.
- **Bethel Huber Heights** votes at the Fire Station in Brandt. This precinct does **not** vote on township issues, but does vote on Bethel School issues.

If you have additional questions about your precinct, your voting location or ballot language, please contact the Miami County Board of Elections at (937) 440-3900 during normal business hours.



Beggars Night
Monday, October 31
6 pm to 8 pm

Don't Forget to Vote!!
Tuesday, November 8

Polls are open
6:30 am to 7:30 pm

Zoning Update

Zoning Certificates Issued:

ZC-27-16	8730 Heilman Dr.	Pole Barn
ZC-28-16	6235 Pisgah Rd.	Room Addition
ZC-29-16	7785 Ross Rd.	In-Ground Pool
ZC-30-16	6575 E. Walnut St.	Accessory Building
ZC-31-16	7995 E. St. Rt. 571	Agricultural Building
ZC-32-16	7298 St. Rt. 571	Covered Porch Addition
ZC-33-16	4930 Scarff Rd.	Detached Garage
ZC-34-16	7285 S. Palmer Rd.	Detached Garage
ZC-35-16	4350 E. St. Rt. 571	Non-Commercial Sign
ZC-36-16	6821 US Rt. 40	Lean-To
ZC-37-16	4400 S. Rudy Rd.	Pole Barn

BETHEL TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION (ZC):

The Zoning Commission (ZC) did not meet in July. They did review the following cases in August and September:

ZA-03-16: Ms. Christine Miller, 7340 Ross Rd. Rezoning 13 acres zoned A-2 to one 10-acre parcel to A-1 and one 3-acre parcel to R-1AAA located at 8130 Palmer Rd. (Approved)

ZA-04-16: Ms. Jeannine Friend, 6010 E. US Rt. 40. Rezoning 2.933 acres zoned A-2 from a 20.937-acre parcel to B-3 with the remaining parcel to remain A-2 at 6160 E. US Rt. 40. (Approved) This case is pending Trustee approval.

BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA):

The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) met in July and August. They did not meet in September. They reviewed the following cases:

<u>V-03-16</u>	6185 Dayton-Brandt Rd.	Pole barn larger than permitted (Approved)
<u>V-04-16</u>	6821 US Rt. 40	Lean-to on east side of building (Approved)
<u>V-05-16</u>	4191 US Rt. 40	Sign (Approved)

The BZA will meet in October to hear the following cases:

<u>V-08-16</u>	5015 St. Rt. 201	Lot smaller than permitted
<u>CU-02-16</u>	6365 St. Rt. 201	Second residence on parcel
<u>V-09-16</u>	6365 St. Rt. 201	House smaller than 1500 square feet

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 PM 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:

7/2/16—9/27/16:	EMS 105	Fire 38	Total 143
YTD:	EMS 272	Fire 108	Total 380

Please JOIN US for the

Bethel Township Fire Department Open House

Saturday, October 15 from 2 to 5 PM.

Please drop by and meet the firefighters, climb in a fire truck, paint a pumpkin or just enjoy the delicious food.

October is National Fire Prevention Month. The Open House will be held at the Fire Station in Brandt (8735 South Second Street). For more information, call 845-4274.

Winter Plowing Information

The winter months will soon be here and it's hard to believe when the temperatures are still in the 60's. During snow and ice storms, the Bethel Township Road Department makes every effort to keep roadways as safe as possible for drivers. Please note that in an effort to reduce costs, we will not plow between the hours of 1 AM - 5 AM unless storm conditions dictate otherwise.

Plowing Responsibilities

The Bethel Township Road Department maintains approximately 26 miles of the 75 miles of roadway within the township. Other government agencies or private concerns maintain the other 49 miles.

- Bethel Township — (937) 845-8472 — maintains Sullivan, Ginghamburg-West Charleston, Newberry, Windham, Flick, Pisgah, Agenbroad, roads in Brandt and Wiley Industrial Park, Mann, Cobaugh, Singer, Haskett, Winterhill, Scarff (south of New Carlisle Road), New Carlisle Road and Heilman.
- The Ohio Department of Transportation — (937) 339-1921 — maintains all state routes: 201, 202, 40 and 571.
- The Miami County Engineer's Office — (937) 440-5656 — maintains County roads: Studebaker, Rudy, Ross, Scarff (north of New Carlisle Road), Palmer and Dayton-Brandt.
- Mobile home parks have streets maintained by the owners of the park.

Please JOIN US for a free Spaghetti Dinner on Wednesday 10/26 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at Bethel Township Fire Station in Brandt to learn more about the 4.9 mill replacement levy on the ballot in November. Drop by, enjoy some delicious spaghetti, get your questions about the levy answered and talk with the firefighter and EMS personnel who serve our community. For more information, call 845-4274.



Fire Levy Millage in Surrounding Communities

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 4.9 mill *replacement* with increase levy on the ballot in November will replace the current 2.0 mill levy. It is extremely important to the township and the fire department that we use funds in a fiscally responsible manner. Please take a look at the chart below listing the millage, population and number of runs per year for surrounding communities. As you can see, we currently have the lowest millage but the second highest call volume.

Township	Fire/EMS Levy Millage	Population	Runs/Year 2015
Bethel	2.00	4821	560
Spring Creek	3.70	1948	177
Concord	3.70	10295	690
Lost Creek	4.00	1676	117
Brown	5.00	1595	102
Fletcher	5.00	695	N/A
Staunton	5.00	2090	129
Union	5.20	5241	492

Funds from this levy, if it passes, 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 and payroll for our personnel.

Many residents believe that our fire department is still a "volunteer" department; this is no longer the case. 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. Our response times are quick — approximately 90 seconds to respond to the emergency and, on average, 7 minutes to your door.

The Fire Department is committed to providing all residents of Bethel Township with a high level of service: 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 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. If you have additional questions on this levy or the fire department, please contact the Township at 845-8472 or one of the township trustees (contact information is on the back of the newsletter).



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

And Like us on Facebook — Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio

October

- 5 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 11 Public Hearing for ZA-04-16 6:30 PM
- 11 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 15 Fire Dept. Open House, 2 PM—5 PM
- 18 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 25 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 26 Spaghetti Dinner for 4.9 mill Replacement Levy, 5:30 PM—7 PM
- 27 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM
- 31 Beggars Night, 6 PM—8 PM

November

- 2 Historical Society
- 8 Election Day, 6:30 AM—7:30 PM
- 8 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 15 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 17 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 22 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM

24 Thanksgiving Holiday, Township Offices Closed

December

- 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 Tuesdays of each month at 8:30 AM 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.