



Bethel Township Board of Trustees  
August 1, 2023  
Workshop Meeting Minutes

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

**Bethel Schools:** Superintendent Chrispin attended the meeting and provided some updates.

1. He wanted to follow up on the backpack school supply program. Trustees discussed later in the meeting (see below).
2. New elementary school dedication will be Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 A.M. Township Trustees and staff were invited to attend the festivities.
3. Administrator Ehrhart noted that all that is left for the Fire Dept to do at the new school is final inspection. Everything has passed with flying colors so far. He would like to have a “pull off” area added to the stadium drive so the medic does not block the entire drive. Fire dept has a training session at the school later today.
4. The dedication of the new stadium will occur at the first home football game on September 1. Details are still being worked out.
  - Fiscal Officer Watson asked about the bathrooms and if they would be in by next year. Supt Chrispin stated that it will be port-a-potties for this year. Trailer style restrooms were considered but are very expensive.

**Admin Items:**

1. Land Use Plan Meeting
  - Next meeting will be Monday August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 P.M.
2. Grant updates
  - Ohio Ambulance Transportation Program Grant: Assistant Fire Chief Josh Schiebrel applied for and received a \$20,000 grant for personnel from leftover ARPA funds. Requirement is employment during the COVID pandemic and all of our Firefighters/EMS qualify so the grant will be equally divided between them. Each will receive approximately \$833.
  - Administrator Ehrhart prepared a letter of thanks to the Tipp City Foundation for the grant for the fire safety training house. It should be here in a couple of months.
3. Bee City USA
  - The resolution has been approved by the Bee City Organization so will be on the agenda for a vote at the upcoming regular Trustee meeting.
4. Regular meeting is on Tuesday August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - Need to reschedule due to the special election being held the same day. Meeting will be moved to Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
  - Trustee Reese asked that the date change be posted on the website to give folks some advance warning. Administrator Ehrhart stated he would update the website this afternoon and will include it in the TextMyGov alert this Friday.
  - Trustee Black mentioned that he saw resident Lorna Furderer who told him there was a tree down on Palmer and she submitted a TextMyGov notification. Administrator Ehrhart stated he should have received an email alerting him to the issue, but he did not. He will check into it. Trustee Black

stated he drove Palmer Rd but did not see any trees down. He removed a limb and picked up a dead deer on Singer Rd.

#### 5. Pending Minutes Review

- Administrator Ehrhart stated they are working on getting some of the unfinished minutes out for review. Trustee Reese stated the minutes for the July workshop meeting were out for review right now. Trustee vanHaaren mentioned she would review them later in the day.

### Trustee Items:

#### 1. Trustee Reese:

- Update on EMS call
  - Fire Chief Ehrhart did some research on the issue with transporting to Springfield Regional. There is a Springfield branch in Enon which caused some confusion as it is not on the list. There will be training done now and annually to ensure everyone is aware of the list of hospitals and the transport guidelines. The new hospital in Enon will also be added to the list.
  - Trustee Reese asked about the second hospital in Springfield that is not on the list and what happens if someone requests to be transported to it. Answer is, per the transport guidelines, the supervisor on duty should be contacted.
  - Guidelines consider many factors when choosing a destination such as severity of injuries, trauma, and the likelihood of staying overnight.
  - Mrs. Mangan commented that it was not the best answer she could have heard, but it seems that it will get straightened out and hopefully will not happen again.
- Annexation Agreement
  - Administrator Ehrhart checked into the options and consequences of leaving the annexation agreement in place. Attorney Peter Griggs feels there are no consequences if it is still in place and that we have a starting point should an agreement be discussed in the next round of annexation. It can always be amended.
- Trunk or Treat
  - At the last Land & Lifestyle Preservation Committee (L&LPC) meeting, during discussion of community events, it was suggested that the community have a Trunk or Treat event rather than just having Trick or Treat night. Due to the distance between houses in the Township, it is difficult for kids to go door to door. A Trunk or Treat event would allow the community to get together in one place to trick or treat.
  - Trustee vanHaaren stated the school is doing a fall festival "Boo"ths or Treats on October 27<sup>th</sup>. She suggested the L&LPC work with the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

#### 2. Trustee vanHaaren:

- School Supply Drive
  - Bethel PTO has a list of school supplies needed in addition to what the kids have on their lists. These items are typically those that may get used up (for instance, Kleenex) before the year is over. The Township will have a drop box at the fire station for folks to donate supplies.
- Community Events
  - Resident Jerry Hirt stopped by and has asked to put a banner up on the Township vacant lot on 40 to advertise a dinner for the Methodist Church across the street.
  - Trustee vanHaaren felt it if was Bethel Hope which is non-denominational, or Bethel Schools, she would be ok with it. But, we might be opening a can of worms in that we would have to put a sign out for anyone who asked for it. Trustee Black said we should just not do any. Trustee Reese said it would be ok with her because it is open to the public and a community event and it is for a non-profit organization. But, she also agreed that we would have to do it for everyone if we do it for one.
  - Final decision was to not allow any advertisement signs on the Township lot.

**Ongoing Items:**

1. Huber Heights Annexation
  - No annexation updates at this time.
  - Huber Council is focusing on hiring a new City Manager.
  - New Carlisle City Manager, Randy Bridge, is leaving and going to Carlisle.
2. Massage Parlor regulations are still with the Prosecutor for review. No updates at this time.
3. Land Use Plan Update was addressed above in Admin Items #1.
4. Trees on Singer
  - Need to meet and agree on a plan.
  - A resident at the corner of Pisgah & Agenbroad has a concern with the ditch on Pisgah. The dirt is eroding and his electric dog fence is coming out of the ground. Administrator Ehrhart and Trustee Black will go and take a look.
5. 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. Zoning Administrator Arnold
  - Not in the Township, but the gas station at the corner of 235 and 40 is moving forward and should be up and running by the end of the year.
  - There was some discussion on the construction and all of the businesses going in in Huber on 202.
  - There will be zoning cases in August.

**Adjournment** (final) time called by Fiscal Officer Watson at 10:00 A.M.

**Minutes prepared** by Trustee Reese

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Don Black, Chair

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Julie Reese, Trustee

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Beth vanHaaren, Trustee

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Deborah Watson, Fiscal Officer