



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

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

Admin Items:

1. Land Use Plan
 - Mapping is complete.
 - Waiting on final draft from Joe Tuss.
2. Regular meeting is on Tuesday September 12th, 2023
 - Tax rate certificate (for next year's tax rate) will be on the agenda for a vote.
 - Trustee vanHaaren will be out of town for the meeting. It was decided that since we have two public hearings on zoning cases and Trustee Black must recuse himself from one, a special meeting will be held Thursday, September 7th at 6 pm specifically to hold the public hearings and move the zoning cases along. Administrator Ehrhart will post the meeting info immediately to the website and send out a TextMyGov alert to those subscribed.
3. Pending Minutes Review
 - Fiscal Officer Watson distributed three sets of minutes last week for review. Trustee vanHaaren said she is ok with them. Trustee Black and Trustee Reese have not had a chance to review them yet.

Trustee Items:

1. Trustee Reese:
 - Trunk or Treat
 - After some discussion, it was decided that since Bethel PTO is holding a "Boo-ths or Treat" event on Friday October 27th, we would not hold a separate trunk or treat event. Trustee vanHaaren will check with the PTO about having a booth at the PTO event.
 - Pickleball Courts
 - Administrator Ehrhart checked into some options and provided literature on pickleball courts.
 - Trustee Reese stated there is a township resident who will help us with options, designs, specs and grants. She will set up a meeting with Administrator Ehrhart to get the ball rolling.
 - Administrator Ehrhart stated the playground equipment at Friendship Park will likely need to be replaced soon. Estimate for this is around \$80,000.
 - Also discussed was an open picnic shelter. Estimated cost for this is \$20k-\$25k. Trustee Reese enquired if we could build one "barn-raising" style to involve the community and cut the cost.
 - She also asked if an enclosed shelter had been considered which could be rented out to raise funds for other items at the park and could be used to hold meetings (similar to New Carlisle). Administrator Ehrhart explained that the plan was to build a community center as part of the new firehouse/township building plans. Trustee Black said he would rather save the money and build a large community center in the future.
 - Administrator Ehrhart mentioned we can get a plan done for free with options on where to place shelters, courts, fields, etc. Trustee Reese asked to be involved in this planning.
 - Trustee Black and Trustee vanHaaren both felt the playground equipment and picnic shelter should be prioritized before a pickleball court.

- Administrator Ehrhart asked about the two softball fields. Discussion was to get rid of one of them since they no longer seem to be frequently used.

2. Trustee vanHaaren:

- School Supply Drive
 - Only three items were donated at the Township Building location. Trustee vanHaaren will take them up to the school.
- Newsletter Item Ideas
 - Firehouse open house date is October 15th, 2-4pm.
 - Trick or Treat is Thursday, October 26th.
 - Article featuring Friendship Park.
 - Continue publishing a few zoning regulations in each newsletter.

Ongoing Items:

1. Huber Heights Annexation
 - Huber Heights has hired a new City Manager, Richard Dzik.
 - New Carlisle City Manager, Randy Bridge, decided to stay at New Carlisle.
2. Massage Parlor regulations are still with the Prosecutor for review. No updates at this time.
3. Trees on Singer
 - Administrator Ehrhart will set up a meeting with MetroParks.
4. 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:

None

Adjournment time called by Trustee vanHaaren at 10:02 A.M.

Minutes prepared by Trustee Reese

Don Black, Chair

Julie Reese, Trustee

Beth vanHaaren, Trustee

Deborah Watson, Fiscal Officer