



Bethel Township Board of Trustees
May 27, 2025
Workshop Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Time: 6:00 PM Presiding: Trustee Reese
Roll call: Administrator Smith: Present Fire Chief Cahill: Present Fiscal Officer Ross: Absent
 Trustee Dick: Absent Trustee Reese: Present Trustee vanHaaren: Present

PUBLIC COMMENTS on item on the agenda: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Administration

1. None

Zoning

2. Property nuisances – 4 tall grass, 1 fence
3. Penalties for violating zoning code – see ORC 519.99 & ORC 519.24
 - a. Trustee Reese relayed highlights of her conversation with the Attorney.

Fire

4. Staffing – Chief Cahill discussion:
 - a. A potential training program for new recruits.
 - b. He has several new candidates applying for positions, including at least one and possibly a second that will be on the agenda for appointment at the upcoming business meeting.

Road Dept

5. West Charleston Road repairs – additional culverts
 - a. Resolution will be on the upcoming business agenda to authorize funding for the additional culverts.
6. Seasonal worker
 - a. Administrator Smith to research potential company to help out “on demand” with weed whacking and possibly mowing during busy times.

Fiscal Office

7. Meeting minutes
 - a. 5/5/2025 business meeting minutes will be on upcoming business agenda for approval.
8. Budget process
 - a. Trustee Reese relayed her conversation with Fiscal Officer Ross that the plan will be to complete the budget by June 20th, make it available for public review, and approve it at the July 1st business meeting. Trustees can review at the June 24th workshop.

9. Healthcare insurance
 - a. Discussed changing to Aetna (1) to save over \$10,000 in premiums and (2) to potentially receive a refund if actual claims are less than estimated claims,
 - b. Resolution will be on the upcoming business agenda. Effective date for switching will be July 30 or Aug 1.

Trustee Items

10. None

OLD BUSINESS:

Administration

1. Budget – 5 year plan – discussed during Fiscal Office section in new news.
2. Board retreat
 - a. Will be Friday, July 18th from 1-5 PM at the Tipp Center.
3. Walnut Street dead end – Administrator Smith to research
 - a. Administrator Smith spoke with Atty Lopez, still waiting on process.
 - b. Descriptive language from Miami County Engineer is needed for the resolution.
4. Archive Social – on hold

Zoning

5. Hook up GIS computer to the network, update GIS
 - a. Administrator Smith reported that the County has a license that we can use and that he will continue to work with the County IT person to get it set up.
6. Updates to zoning resolution text
 - a. First meeting was held May 29th.

Fire Dept

7. Expired helmets
 - a. Waiting on County Prosecutor for waiver.
8. Surplus equipment sales
 - a. List is prepared, will combine with road dept surplus, also looking at selling the old Medic.
9. Fire Dept discussion with Elizabeth Twp – no new news at this time.

Road Dept

10. No parking signs for Lisa and Gibson
 - a. Zoning Director Smith is working with Miami County to come up with plan.
 - b. Also asked Sheriff to patrol more frequently and ticket violators.
11. Surplus equipment sales – old mowers – will work with Fire Dept to create a complete list
12. Friendship Park digital mapping – on hold until Board retreat

Trustee Items

13. Short-term rental lodging tax – Administrator Smith to research if zoning regulations are required before a tax can be imposed – no new news at this time
14. Meeting room / shelter
 - a. Trustee Reese reported she is working with several Township residents to come up with a plan, working on getting volunteers to help build the shelter, and working on a grant application.
 - b. She feels we may have to start with a smaller, open shelter first then maybe build an enclosed shelter to be used as a meeting room/rental venue in the future as a phase 2 project.

15. House Bill 113 – amend ORC regarding annexation and add section 3311.222
 - a. History: Introduced Feb 18, 2025, refer to committee Feb 26, 2025. There is an analysis version of the bill (summary) available. Proponent testimony provided April 30, 2025.
 - b. No new news at this meeting as opposition testimony is not yet scheduled.
16. Position for an anti-annexation employee – no new news
17. Trustee goals and objectives – no new news
18. Review/update our Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual – no updates at this time

OTHER DISCUSSION TOPICS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS on any topic:

1. Nikki O'Quinn – Penalties for zoning violations

ADJOURNMENT motioned by Trustee vanHaaren Seconded by Trustee Reese

Vote: Trustee Dick: Absent Trustee vanHaaren: YES Trustee Reese: YES
Time: 7:07 PM

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Digital audio recording of the meeting containing discussion and public comments.

Minutes prepared by Trustee Reese


Julie Reese, Trustee, President

Absent
Kama Dick, Trustee, Vice President


Beth van Haaren, Trustee


Rhonda Ross, Fiscal Officer