

Bethel Township Board of Trustees
March 20, 2012
Workshop Meeting

The Bethel Township Board of Trustees met in Workshop Session Tuesday, March 20, 2012. The Workshop Meeting was to start at 8:30AM, but was delayed for over an hour while Administrator Gebhart and Planning Director/Assistant Fire Chief Ehrhart responded to a working structure fire at 6728 US 40 in Brandt. The Workshop Meeting began at 9:35AM at the Bethel Township Meeting Room, 8735 South Second Street, Brandt. Members present were Beth van Haaren, Cliff Wray and Jerry Hirt.

Staff Attendees: Michael Gebhart-Township Administrator
 Andy Ehrhart-Director of Planning & Zoning/Assistant Fire Chief

The meeting was called to order by Trustee van Haaren.

Township Fiscal Officer Deborah Watson was ill and not in attendance. Administrator Gebhart informed the Board that Mrs. Watson would meet with each Board member individually prior to the Boards March 27, 2012, Regular Meeting to discuss the Township's budget for 2012.

Planning Director/Assistant Fire Chief Ehrhart discussed his zoning enforcement plan for 2012.

Administrator Gebhart discussed this year's roadside mowing program. The Mo-Trim grass cutting device is still inoperable. Gebhart has discussed roadside mowing with QuickMow, Inc. of Millersburg, Ohio who also does Miami County's roadside mowing, as well as several other townships within Miami County. Gebhart advised that that QuickMow would cut the roads three (3) times this year at a cost of \$1,650.00/per cut. He also advised that he had received a quote from Koenig Equipment of Tipp City for almost \$53,000.00 to replace the damaged Mo-Trim cutting device and a new tractor to mount it on. Administrator Gebhart believes that a claim should be made on the damaged Mo-Trim grass cutting device to our insurance OTARMA. Gebhart also stated that he is looking into a grant to replace the mower through a USDA Rural grant, but was not sure if the Township would qualify. The Board instructed Gebhart to prepare a resolution to accept QuickMow's contract, while exploring an insurance claim, the possibility of auctioning off the old John Deere tractor and USDA Rural grant.

Administrator Gebhart and Planning Director/Assistant Fire Chief Ehrhart discussed this year's application for a State of Ohio EMS grant. This would be a no match grant and the Township applies for this grant each year. It helps with continuing education and EMS supply purchases. The Trustees instructed Gebhart to prepare a resolution approving the grant application for the March 27, 2012 meeting.

Gebhart then gave a quick update on the newsletter deadline, as well as discussing a competitive quote for printing of the newsletter. It was decided by the Board that service and pricing from our current printer was very competitive and good and did not warrant a switch at this time. The Board also agreed on a new newsletter submission policy for all non-profits in Bethel Township who wished to have information published in the Township's newsletter. The Board believes that the primary purpose of the newsletter is to inform residents of items related to their government and its operations. The Board decided that if there was space in a newsletter for such a submission it would be 150 words or less.

Gebhart also discussed seeking bids for the Brandt Sewer hook-ups of the firehouse and Township building. He hopes to have several bids as soon as possible.

The Township has received notice from the State of Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control of a permit request from Hidden Lakes Golf Course to sell beer only Monday through Saturday. This was voted on by residents several years ago to allow the permit. The Board saw no reason to object. Administrator Gebhart also advised that he had received the annual Division of Liquor Control notice of all permits for June 1, 2012. If the Trustees' wished to object to any renewals prior to June 1, 2012, they must do so in writing.

Gebhart also discussed the Miami County Engineering Department's annual road meeting date for 2012 had changed from June to April 12th. He will RSVP for staff and Trustees' attending. Gebhart also shared the Engineer's annual bridge inspection report and invitation to participate in the County's annual resurfacing program.

Administrator Gebhart discussed reconvening the 3.8Mil Levy Committee in April to consider placing the 3.8Mil Levy renewal on the ballot in November 2012, which would be a year early. Due to the state of the economy and its impact on the residents of the Township, all believed that if a replacement levy at a lower millage rate could be placed on the November 2012 ballot, it would help ease the tax burden on Township residents a year early, while still allowing for the fight against annexation to occur. Gebhart is awaiting millage numbers from the County Auditor before a specific reduced millage rate is discussed.

Administrator Gebhart requested an executive session for legal and personnel at 10:40AM. Mrs. van Haaren entertained a motion to enter into executive session. Trustee moved the motion and Trustee Wray seconded. The vote being taken as:

MR. HIRT	YES
MR. WRAY	YES
MRS. van HAAREN	YES

At 11:00AM, Mr. Wray moved a motion to come out of executive session with Mr. Hirt seconding. The vote being taken as:

MR. HIRT	YES
MR. WRAY	YES
MRS. van HAAREN	YES

Action Items:

There were none.

Administrator Gebhart provided the following informational items.

Friday, March 23rd @ 10:00AM: Resolution requests and department reports for the March 27, 2012, Trustee Meeting are due.

March 22	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, Township Meeting Room, 6:00PM (if needed)
	Zoning Commission Meeting, Township Meeting Room, 7:30 PM (if needed)
March 27	Trustee Regular Meeting, Township Meeting Room, 7:00PM
April 3	Trustee Workshop Meeting, Township Meeting Room, 8:30AM (if needed)
April 4	Historical Society Meeting, Township Meeting Room, 7:00PM

April 10 Trustee Regular Meeting, Township Meeting Room, 7:00PM
April 17 Trustee Workshop Meeting, Township Meeting Room, 8:30AM
Miami County Planning Commission Meeting, Safety Building in Troy, 7:30PM
April 24 Trustee Regular Meeting, Township Meeting Room, 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned at 11:05AM

Mr. Jerome Hirt, President

Mr. Cliff Wray, Vice-chair

Mrs. Beth van Haaren, Trustee

Deborah Watson, Fiscal Officer