

The Board of Trustees of Bath Township met on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, in the township Boardroom, 2880 Ada Road, Lima, Ohio.

**Members Present:** 

William Degen

Brad Baxter Mike Meeks

Chairman William Degen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting of October 4, 2022, were approved as presented. Motion made, seconded, and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

## FISCAL OFFICER'S BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 10-18-22-1: Approving the contract for Safety Services Dispatching between the Board of Trustees of Bath Township and the Allen County Sheriff / Board of County Commissioners of Allen County for the period of January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2025, in the amounts as follows: 2023 - \$22, 243.49, 2024 - \$22,577.14, and 2025 - \$22,915.80. Discussion: This is a dispatching service contract for Fire & Police. Chief stated using this service has saved the Fire Department over \$2,000,000. Original cost in 2019 \$26,880, 2020 \$28224 and 2021-2022 \$ 29,635. Motion made by Mr. Meeks seconded by Mr. Baxter and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 10-18-22-2: Hereby acknowledges and expresses its great appreciation for the service of William F. Degen as Township Trustee and was first appointed Township Trustee on March 15, 1994, to fill a vacated term and; whereas he was elected Trustee to a term beginning on January 1, 1996, and whereas he has faithfully provided over twenty-eight years of dedicated service to the residents of Bath Township, Allen County, Ohio, now therefore, let it be resolved by the Board of Trustees of Bath Township, that his retirement as a Trustee be approved effective October 31, 2022, and further, that the Board of Trustees of Bath Township thank Mr. Degen for his service and wish him a long and healthy retirement. Motion made by Mr. Baxter seconded by Mr. Meeks and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Land Auction Update- The property sold for \$6,000.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

The fiscal officer reported as of October 15, 2022, the checking account balance First National Bank \$3,122,656.23; Star Ohio balance \$100,199.84 for a total amount of all funds at \$3,222,856.07.

# **BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

## Breakdown of bills for approval:

Total	\$104,616.72
Expenditures/Bills	\$68,250.28
Payroll Total:	\$36,366.44

Mr. Degen moved, and Mr. Meeks seconded the motion to pay the October 19, 2022, bills in the amount of \$82,292.01. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Reports emailed to the Trustees: Payment Listing 10/19/22, Fund Status 10/19/22, Revenue Status 10/19/22, Bank Reconciliation 9/30.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

ARP FUNDS:	
The ARP Funding Balances are as follows:	
Total Funds Received (2021):	\$496,457.46
Total Funds Received (2022)	\$497,135.04
Total Funds Disbursed:	\$249,510.76
Total Available/Remaining Balance	\$744,081.74

### CORRESPONDENCE

Community Update Meeting: Presentation by Doug Olsson and Dave Stratton on the growth of Allen County. Held at 19 Hawthorne, 1000 Fetter Road, Lima, OH RSVP: Notify Fiscal Officer or Township Secretary if attending.

### TRUSTEE BUSINESS

**Mr. Degen** reported on the Allen County Health Department budget meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7;00 p. m. and Mr. Baxter confirmed he would be attending. The County Engineer will be at the township tomorrow morning to discuss drainage issues on Lee Ann Drive.

Mr. Baxter had nothing to report.

Mr. Meeks had nothing to report.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Road Superintendent Gary Jay** reported his employee is finishing his CDL schooling and will take his driving test this week. Leaf pick up will begin November 1<sup>st</sup> and the last day of pick up will be November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Chief Kitchen** reported 1450 calls for service year to date. Chief Kitchen expressed his appreciation to Mr. Degen for his continued support through his time at Bath Township.

# Zoning Inspector/Fire Inspector Ken Meyer

The Owners of 1250 Neubrecht Road have boarded up the first-floor windows and have secured all but one exterior door. The Prosecutor's office sent a letter to 3472 and the chickens have been removed. There is a meeting sponsored by the Solar Farms company tomorrow night in the Social Hall.

**Social Hall Manager Tammy Jay** thanked Mr. Degen for his years of service to the Township.

## **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

There were (29) twenty-nine from the public in attendance. Jerry Rable 3589 Sugar Creek Road asked if jobs were vacated when dispatching went to the ACSO, they were vacated. He also asked if the township has any plans to make any official plans regarding stopping solar farms. Dean Edwards 323 Loescher Road asked who completed the variance. The company has completed it and the landowner accepted and signed it. Dean discussed the flood plain issue and how it impacts landowners in the area. He also asked about semis going down Loescher Road, approximately 60 a month. He remarked about the township website and expresses hopes that the board has done some research on the solar company, they are registered in Atlanta Georgia. Kim Edwards 323 Loescher Road expressed they have worked their entire life to have this property for the rest of their life, she feels more research needs to be done. Bob Greury 3185 Loescher Road has a lot of time and money invested in their property, definitely does not want the solar farm. Shelly Burden 1710 Lutz Road feels the proposal is inadequate and is hopeful that the township can prevent this, she also feels there are safety issues. Tom Burden 1710 Lutz Road stated he has been a Bath resident all of his life and presented the Trustees with a petition signed by 60 people that are opposed to the project. He has spent a lot of time and research on this issue. He hates to think of the lost agricultural product that we could be losing and recommends that everyone do their research on this issue. He pointed out how many of these solar projects have started and not they do not have the panels to finish them. Joe Patton Lutz Road agrees on no solar farm. Matt Silver 1714 Lutz Road is right next door to the property and does not want it.

Joe Maley 3112 Loescher Road is against the proposed solar farm and feels it does not have any benefit. Rick Gross 3290 Shiloh Drive is concerned about a resident who is parking large equipment on the street. Mr. Degen remarked that the township will look into it and suggested the Allen County Courthouse would have a copy of Woodbriar subdivision rules. Ray Hurlburt 4346 Stewart Road moved here 34 years ago and spent a lot of money to have a great place. He likes the freedom and beauty of it and doesn't want to see a solar farm near him. He expressed concerns over the berm on the roadways and how the stones are plowed into his yard. The Trustees made him aware that is a county road. Rhonda Wood 4623 Stewart Road just built her dream home and now found out that a solar farm would be right across from them, she has concerns about the soil and feels the company is shady and trying to sneak this through. Michelle Poke-Warren 863 Lutz Road questioned what happens to the property if the solar farm does not go through with it, she was told it would remain as it is.

Being of no further business, Mr. Meeks moved, and Mr. Baxter seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bath Township will be held **November 1, 2022, @ 7:00 p.m.** in the Township Boardroom.

William Degen, Chairman

Brad Baxter, Vice Chairman

Mike Meeks, Trustee