



The Board of Trustees of Bath Township met on Tuesday, **March 19, 2024**, in the Township Boardroom, 2880 Ada Road, Lima, Ohio.

Members Present: Brad Baxter
Mike Meeks
Lisa Fillhart

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with Trustee Baxter leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Having reviewed the minutes of the March 5, 2024 regular meeting, a motion was made by Trustee Fillhart, seconded by Trustee Meeks to approve them without addition or correction. A roll call vote was taken with Trustees Baxter, Meeks & Fillhart voting in the affirmative. The motion was approved.

UNDER FISCAL OFFICER'S BUSINESS

The following resolutions were taken up:

RESOLUTION 03-19-24-01: Declaring the property owned by Laura Smith, located at 1624 Findlay Road in Bath Township, Allen County, Ohio a nuisance.

- Ken Meyer made a presentation to the Trustees regarding his attempts to work with the property owner to resolve the issues outlined in his report. Mr. Meyer also provided photographs of the property. Mr. Meyer provided a review of the process for the Trustees to act and answered questions about the same posed by Trustee Baxter.
- Trustee Meeks requested an opportunity to meet with the property owner and attempt to resolve the Township's concerns. Trustee Meeks also requested that the Board of Trustees received notice in advance of any future requests for declarations of public nuisance.
- A motion to table the resolution was made by Trustee Baxter, seconded by Trustee Meeks. With all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the motion was approved.

RESOLUTION 03-19-24-02: Approving the payment of \$1,095.96 to EMSAR for preventative maintenance, parts, and repairs to the fire department power cots and load systems, to be paid from the EMS Fund.

- No further report or information provided.
- A motion to approve the resolution was made by Trustee Baxter, seconded by Trustee Fillhart. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 03-19-24-03: Approving the purchase of a 4' x 8' x 1 ½ " Sandblasted Precision Board Double Sided Sign from Fultz Sign Company for the sum of \$4,800.00 to be paid from the general fund.

- Trustee Fillhart noted this was an enjoyable project to work on.
- Fiscal Officer Carroll noted, and Trustee Baxter confirmed that funding for this project was made possible by an insurance claim as the previous sign was damaged.
- A motion to approve the resolution was made by Trustee Baxter, seconded by Trustee Fillhart. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 03-19-24-04: Approving the payment of \$5,900.00 to K&D Masonry for the installation of footers & posts for a new sign to be installed in front of the Bath Township House located at 2880 Ada Road, Allen County, Ohio.

- Trustee Baxter stated that to allow for future expansion and to ensure the stability of the replacement sign, they felt it in the best interest of the Township to include masonry foundations and supports for the new sign.
- A motion to approve the resolution was made by Trustee Fillhart, seconded by Trustee Meeks. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 03-19-24-05: Appointing Dustin Ingle to the Zoning Commission Board to serve an unexpired five (5) year term ending December 31, 2025.

- Mr. Baxter advised that this resolution was a formality to journalize the appointment they approved by motion at the March 5, 2024 meeting.
- A motion to approve the resolution was made by Trustee Baxter, seconded by Trustee Fillhart. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 03-19-24-06: Authorizing the payment of \$1,467.45 to RD Holder Oil Company for gasoline and diesel fuel for the fire department. Further, designating payment as follows: \$733.72 from the EMS Fund and 733.73 from the Fire Fund.

- Trustee Baxter gave an overview of this expense as a transparency measure given the fire department levy campaign.
- A motion to approve the resolution was made by Trustee Baxter, seconded by Trustee Fillhart. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 03-19-24-07: Appointing Brad Baxter to serve as Bath Township's Delegate to the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission Board and to appoint Lisa Fillhart to serve as Bath Township's Alternate Delegate.

- Trustee Baxter gave an overview of the Township's requirements to designate a representative and alternate every two years. Trustee Baxter gave an overview of their participation in various committees and boards.
- A motion to approve the resolution was made by Trustee Meeks, seconded by Trustee Baxter. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 03-19-24-08: Approving Suever Sweeping, LLC to provide street sweeping with operator and mobilization at a rate of \$155.00 per hour for 2024. Bath Township will provide water and dumping locations at no cost to Suever Sweeping, LLC

- Trustee Baxter stated this was discussed at the March 5, 2024 meeting and that we are now formalizing our decision to enter into this contract.
- A motion to approve the resolution was made by Trustee Baxter, seconded by Trustee Fillhart. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the resolution was approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The fiscal officer reported account balances as of **March 18, 2024**

First National Bank	2,670,683.73
StarOHIO balance	107,503.33
Total amount of all funds	2,778,187.06

<u>ARP FUNDS:</u>	
The ARP Funding Balances are as follows:	
Total Funds Received (2021)	\$496,457.46
Total Funds Received (2022)	\$497,135.04
Total Funds Received	\$993,592.50
Total Funds Disbursed:	\$840,970.45
Total Funds Reserved:	
Fire Dept Payroll	\$15,071.13
Fire Hydrant Replacement	\$2,132.65
Total Available/Remaining Balance	\$127,018.27

Advances from the General Fund to the Fire Fund (to be repaid): \$26,180.13

< Financial Report Continued >

BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Breakdown of bills for approval:

Payroll Total 03/20/24:	\$28,224.84
Expenditures/Bills	\$68,663.89
Total	\$96,888.73

- A motion to approve and pay the bills as well as the March 20, 2024 payroll was made by Trustee Fillhart, seconded by Trustee Meeks. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the motion was approved.

The following reports were provided to the Trustees prior to the meeting for the review:

- Payment Listing 03/31/24
- Fund Status 03/31/24
- Revenue Status 03/31/24
- Cash Flow Detail by Funs 03/31/24.

Mr. Baxter, Mr. Meeks, and Mrs. Fillhart confirmed they received these reports.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- The bank reconciliation for February 2024 was completed.
- First half TPPT payments from the Allen County Auditor in the amount of \$60,744.28 were received and entered in UAN.
 - This is a 24.87% decrease from the first half 2023 payment. It appears that the amount collected and payed over to the Township has been steadily decreasing.
- The Assistant Fiscal Officer and I will be finalizing our permanent appropriations later this week. These are due to the Allen County Auditor by April 1st.

CORRESPONDENCE

- We received a letter from Allen County Auditor RE: previous collected but undistributed motor vehicle & local government funds were being paid forward to the township for years 2015, 2016, 2018 – The funds were received & posted to UAN,
- An email was received from commissioner Beth Seibert regarding the OneOhio settlement funds.
 - Discussion was held and it was decided that Trustee Fillhart will represent Bath Township and she will respond to Commissioner Siebert's email.
- Allen County Public Health: Notification of annual meeting on Wed. March 27, 2024 at 7 PM, RSVP requested.
 - Trustee Baxter represents the township on this board but is unable to attend this meeting. Trustee Fillhart will try to attend on behalf of the township.
- Received a notice from US Bankruptcy Court In Re Endo International, PLC, et al.

TRUSTEES BUSINESS

Mr. Baxter

- Attended a tax incentive review meeting. Advised that this is a review of projects & businesses that are receiving tax abatements. The purpose of this review is to ensure that the businesses are upholding the commitments they made to receive tax abatements. There are currently four business with abatements (Proctor & Gamble, Nelson Manufacturing, TK Sarno LLC, and the Beer Barrell). The obligations and commitments made by these commitments are being met and their abatements were continued. Fiscal Officer Carroll added for the public that these abatements are not permanent and expire after an agreed upon period.
- Presented a report regarding Mr. Tony Collins's project at Lost Creek and advised that is making progress on his project and that we may see some homes under construction this spring. Mr. Clearance Roller from the public asked a question regarding which section of Lost Creek would likely see the construction. Ken Meyer advised it was the section along Bryn Mawr.
- Mr. Baxter called for an executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, promotion, or compensation of a public official.

Mr. Meeks

- Attended a tax incentive review meeting, deferred the report out on the meeting to Trustee Baxter. Mr. Meeks did clarify for the public that when a company receives abatements, they are still paying some level of property taxes.

Mrs. Fillhart

- Reported that she is finishing up the sign project with Chris Fultz, presented the color scheme and masonry examples for those in attendance.
- Thanked those who worked on the levy campaigns.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Road Superintendent: Gary Jay

- Reported that we have been having issues with a dump trunk. We recently received it back from our new mechanic and we are evaluating whether it is fixed.
- Reported that he will be attending the Road Program Meeting at the Engineer's Office on March 26th and/or April 10th at 11:00 AM
 - Trustee Baxter gave an overview regarding the state of township roads and how funding the road program works.
 - Mr. Jay advised he will be working with the fiscal officer to strategical plan for funding this year's program.
- Reported on some ditch and tile jobs that have been completed.

Fire Department: Chief Kitchen

- Chief Kitchen reported there have been 336 calls for service this year to date. No additional report was given.

Zoning Inspector/Fire Inspector: Ken Meyer

- Mr. Meyer submitted his report in writing, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. See the attached report for a statistical breakdown of zoning & inspection related activities.
- Reported on the Slabtown Road project advising that Scott Campbell is trying to coordinate with the Bible Road project so that both public hearing can occur on the same the evening.
- Reported on the Lost Creek project and the need for a variance in regards to sidewalks per the Developmental Controls Committee.
- Reported on the need to purchase a new computer and provided a quote from iTech for \$1,075,98. The Trustees agreed in principal and verbally authorized Mr. Meyer to proceed with the purchase without a motion.
- Mr. Meyer is completing the 2023 NFPA fire department survey.

Social Hall: Tammy Jay

- No Report

Law Enforcement: ACSO Deputy

- No Report

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

- 13 members of the public attended this meeting
- Mary McCourt (325 Bryn Mawr):
 - Requested some details and clarifications about pending construction locations. Mr. Meyer offered to share a plate map with her and advised it did not include construction in the flood zone. Inquired about the scope of the project and whether it included cleaning up the club house. Mr. Meyer advised it included a planned remodel of the clubhouse.
 - Inquired about what the response plan is for Bath Township is something happens here on the scale of the recent Tornado that struck the Indian Lake region. Trustee Fillhart outlined our response plan and Mr. Travis Fillhart (1150 Roush Road), representing Allen County EMA elaborated.
 - Asked “when the levy passes this evening, how soon are we geared up to go back to full staff?” Trustee Baxter, with input from Trustee Fillhart, gave an overview of our plans to fill current full time vacancies, hire part-time employees to assist us in getting back up in running. Funds from the levy if passed will not be collected until 2025 and thus it is not likely that we will be back to our 9 full time employees plus part time until 2025.
- Lynda Makley (3839 Yale Ave):
 - Asked the Trustees if their recent appointee to the zoning commission board was also our representative to the water board. When advised that this is the case, she commented to the trustees that she did not feel that one person should have two appointments. She requested the trustees consider using these types of appointments as a way of getting some of the townships many residents involved in the future. Trustee Baxter thanked her for her input.

Executive Session

A motion to go into executive session was made at 7:57 PM by Trustee Meeks, seconded by Trustee Fillhart. With all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the meeting was recessed to an executive session 7:58 PM for purposes of considering the appointment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, or compensation of a public official.

Upon a motion by Trustee Meeks, seconded by Trustee Baxter, affirmed by all three trustees, the executive session was terminated, and we returned to the regular meeting at 8:41 PM.

Additional Business

- A motion to provide a 4% wage increase to be received beginning with the April 17, 2024 payroll for all non-union Bath Township Employees, with the exception of the Fire Chief, was made by Trustee Meeks, Seconded by Trustee Baxter. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the motion was approved.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bath Township will be held **April 2, 2024, @ 7:00 p.m.** in the Township Boardroom.

Being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Meeks moved, and Mr. Baxter seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. With no further discussion and all three trustees voting in the affirmative, the motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned.



Brad Baxter, Chairman



Berlin Carroll, Fiscal Officer



Mike Meeks, Vice Chairman



Lisa Fillhart, Trustee