



**Berkshire Township Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 12th, 2023**

Call to Order: Mike Dattilo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Determination of a Quorum/Roll Call: Trustees Mike Dattilo, Rod Myers, and Paul Disantis in attendance; Also, present Donielle Owen, Meeting Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of meeting minutes:

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 8th, 2023, Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Rod Myers and was approved 3-0.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11th, 2023, Special Meeting. The motion was seconded by Rod Myers and was approved 3-0.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19th, 2023, Special Meeting. The motion was seconded by Rod Myers and was approved 3-0.

The next Trustee meeting: July 10th, 2023, at 1454 Rome Corners Road at 7:00 p.m.

Announcements: Rod Myers made the motion to approve / announced the selection of candidate Tyler Lane for the open position of Berkshire Township Administrator. Mike Dattilo seconded. Motion approved 3-0.

Old Business: There were 13 individuals who expressed interest in being part of the new Parks Committee. Trustees have reviewed and put forth their input to Paul Disantis. Paul Disantis announced the following new 7 members: Tim Chiles, Fred Grunewald, Jennifer Flanders, Jessica McCoy, Adam Miller, Lesley Shryock and Michelle Slawinski. The selected candidates will be contacted for more information regarding the future Parks Committee Meeting. Paul Disantis motioned to approve. Rod Myers Seconded. Motion approved 3-0.

Discussion with Andrew Bossart of Bradley Payne – registered municipal advisors on financing of maintenance building expansion:

Andrew Bossart (Bradley Payne) provided information to the Trustees regarding sample structures for different types of bonds; Rod Myers asked if there will be two bonds or one; Andrew Bossart (Bradley Payne) confirmed that there can be one bond issued for the Maintenance Project portion and then the bond can be re-evaluated for the additional projects that are to be determined. Mike Dattilo asked if there is a penalty for an early pay off and Andrew Bossart (Bradley Payne) confirmed that there is not. Andrew Bossart (Bradley Payne) stated that once an amount is approved then a draft term sheet will be drafted and will take 30-45 days (about 1 and a half months) to process. Once the bids are received from the various banks, the proposals will all be shared with the Trustees for selection and approval. The Trustees are in agreement that \$2,000,000.00 will cover the cost of the building improvements.

New Business:

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve the issuance and sale of up to \$2,000,000.00 of building improvement bonds against **ORIGINAL Resolution #2023-2-2 / NEW Resolution #2023-6-8**, which was previously approved on February 13, 2023, for up to \$7,000,000.00 of building improvement bonds via Bradley Payne – registered municipal advisors. Paul Disantis seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve **Resolution #2023-6-1** DECLARATION OF NUISANCE AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE, PURSUANT TO R.C. 505.87, ON REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1881 Blayney Road, Sunbury, OH, 43074 (Delaware County Permanent Parcel #417-110-01-067-001). Rod Myers seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve **Resolution #2023-6-2** DECLARATION OF NUISANCE AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE, PURSUANT TO R.C. 505.87, ON REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9683 Cheshire Road, Sunbury, OH, 43074 (Delaware County Permanent Parcel #417-133-01-018-000). Rod Myers seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve **Resolution #2023-6-3** changes to Berkshire Township Zoning Resolution as recommended by the Berkshire Township Zoning Board on June 1, 2023. Rod Myers seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

- David Weade discussed that there are small changes to the definitions of the current Zoning Regulations for better clarification of: Agrotourism, Hotel, Small Solar Farms and Bike Paths; Improvements were also made to the PMUD Sections-Multi Family for the vinyl siding on a building to be broken up with 30% being stone/brick. The final draft was reviewed by legal representative Jen Huber. The changes will be made official 30 days from the approval of the Trustees.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve **Resolution #2023-6-4** for the payment of \$9,885.34 of assessment of Delaware County Auditor Parcel I.D. TOWNSHIP RD R-O-W as associated with the Dustin Road Watershed Drainage Improvement Petition per Ohio Revised Code Sec. 6131 of March 7, 2023. Paul Disantis seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve Resolution **#2023-6-5** for the payment of \$28,326.87 of assessment of Delaware County Auditor Parcel I.D. 99999902000000 as associated with the Dustin Road Watershed Drainage Improvement Petition per Ohio Revised Code Sec. 6131 of March 7, 2023. Rod Myers seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve Resolution **#2023-6-6** a purchase order in the amount of up to \$4,000.00 payable to Kevin Justice Trucking. This is for tailgating gravel drop for all cemetery roads to be topped as needed. Rod Myers seconded. The motion was approved 3-0.

Mike Dattilo made a motion to approve Resolution **#2023-6-7** a purchase order in the amount of \$3,397.50 payable to OPN Seed. This is for seed which will be used for creation of a 6-acre wildflower meadow in the now open grass area across parking lot from the Berkshire Township Hall.

- **Jane Adkins-S. Galena**

Jane Adkins stated that she is a regular walker on the walking path located at Berkshire Township and has seen many residents walking on the path as well. Jane is in favor of having seeds planted to create a wildflower garden even if some areas needed to be dug up it would still be beneficial to continue with planting the seeds as it would attract butterflies, bees, birds and nature lovers. The cost would still be a savings, and this would be a great chance to do something great for the residents and would appreciate the support of the Trustees to have the prairie garden planted this year.

- **Liz Neroni-Preservation Parks Delaware County**

Liz Neroni stated that she would like to be a resource and is in favor of this wildflower garden as native plant habitats are very important. There are a lot of financial and maintenance benefits in lieu of just having turf. She stated that she feels this project is very doable. Paul Disantis requested that Liz Neroni attend the Parks Committee meeting in which she replied that she'd be happy to do that. Rod Myers asked what the cost would be to remove the current turf as he believes it will be very expensive to prepare that area and to also maintain it. Liz Neroni confirmed that the grass would need to be killed off and then once a clean slate is established the seed would be planted prior to a snowfall. Liz Neroni also stated that the native plants would not need to be fertilized and once they're established and there is a great opportunity to have beautiful plants all year long. Liz Neroni stated that it would take about 2 years to have everything established. Rod Myers confirmed that once approved there wouldn't be anything done until the fall and that the field would need to be baled or burned.

- **Logan Dunn-Franklin County Metro Parks** stated the best way to get the field ready would be to do a burn off and that is typically done within a window during the fall and spring. Logan Dunn stated that a burn off is the most ideal solution. The site prep prior to seeding is very important with herbicide treatments. Logan Dunn stated that a partnership can be made with a Parks Department to provide a burn with zero cost and that a burn of 6 acres would

only take about 15-20 minutes and is done with all safety precautions in place. Mike Dattilo asked how much a burn would cost; Logan Dunn stated that if a partnership with a local park district was made then the burn cost could potentially be zero.

- **Michelle Slawinski-Parks Committee Member**

Michelle Slawinski asked if there needs to be 6 acres, or can the area be less? Logan Dunn stated that the area can be smaller, but more is always best. Michelle Slawinski stated that having a blending of the proposed park area and the wildflowers would be make a great area.

Rod Myers stated that by fall there should be a better idea of what the Parks Committee decides on that area.

- **Susan Staton-240 Domigan Road**

Susan Stanton stated that she was pleasantly surprised while on the walking path with the birds and peaceful nature of the area. Susan Stanton provided the Trustees with resources for programs targeted at helping wildlife. Susan Staton stated that there are many local resources regarding native plant life, certifications for garden and wildlife.

- **Mary Howard-1765 S. Galena**

Mary Howard stated that this project is adjustable and can be modified which should do no harm in proceeding.

- **Mike Dattilo-Trustee**

Mike Dattilo stated that he brings his own dogs to the path and recognized that residents are using the area a lot more. The more people that walk the path may bring about more ideas like planting donated trees and having memorials. Mike Dattilo stated that he has supported this project from the start and hopes that more people will also enjoy it.

- **Rod Myers-Trustee**

Rod Myers stated that he was against the idea of the wildflower area at first but now believes it's a great idea and he will approve if the area is maintained properly.

DISCUSSION:

Paul Disantis stated that the changing of zoning codes (mentioned in the May meeting) will need to be initiated by the Trustees and Zoning Commission and then put in writing the amendments to the changes of the comprehensive zoning plans. Paul Disantis stated that the new Township Administrator, Tyler Lane will be instructed to start that project once he starts his employment.

o **Susan Blessing-Dustin Road**

Susan Blessing asked for a timeline of when the project would be started. Rod Myers stated that is will be lengthy process to change everything and until Tyler Lane accepts the position of Township Administrator and begins employment it will be difficult to give an accurate timeline.

Paul Disantis stated that there will be a "special" payment to the BZA Members that voluntarily attended the April 6th Zoning Committee Meeting, as there was an informative portion of the Zoning Meeting that they were made aware of. The BZA Members that attended will receive their normal payment for attending. Paul Disantis made a motion to pay those members. Rod Myers Seconded. Vote: 2 Approvals and 1 Denial.

Public Participation:

Tyler Slawinski (need address as wife is on Park Committee)

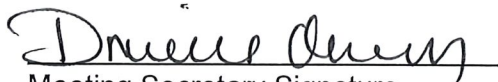
Tyler Slawinski stated that his wife is on the newly formed Parks Committee and being and that he is an IT Professional and has noticed that the Township website has a lot of information that is open for issues. Paul Disantis stated that he will discuss any issues with Tracy George.


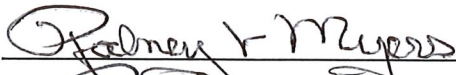

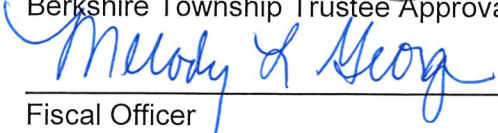
Paying of bills:

Mike Dattilo made a motion to pay all bills and authorize P.O.'s since the May 8, 2023, meeting. Rod Myers seconded. Motion approved 3-0.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Mike Dattilo a motion to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Paul Disantis seconded. Motion approved 3-0.


Meeting Secretary Signature




Berkshire Township Trustee Approvals

Fiscal Officer