



**GERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON MAY 18, 2021**

**The meeting was held at the German Township Hall located at 12102 St. Rt. 725 West, Germantown, OH 45327 and virtually using WebEx.**

The meeting was called to order by Board President Tyler Rehmert at 7:00 pm. In attendance were:

**President Tyler Rehmert**

**Trustee Jacob Stubbs**

**WebEx Facilitator Halie Sewell**

**Fiscal Officer Mark Heistand**

**ONLINE ATTENDEES:**

Name	Name	Name	Name
Road Superintendent Jeremy Holbrook	Deb and Mark Cross	Mark Keener	Abigail Hale-Dennis

The Germantown Press was notified of the Special Meeting on 4/17/21 at 2:12 pm.

Mr. Rehmert led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Heistand read the announced purpose of the Special Meeting: In accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 4504.181, to hold a second **Public Hearing** concerning proposed **Resolution 2021-19: A Resolution to Levy an Annual License Tax Upon the Operation of Motor Vehicles on the Public Roads and Highways in the Unincorporated Territory of the Township for any Authorized Purpose.** The proposed tax shall be at a rate of five dollars per motor vehicle on all motor vehicles the district of registration of which is located in the unincorporated area of the Township. ORC 4504.181 defines Authorized Purpose to include, among other items, "paying for construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance, and repair of township roads, bridges, and culverts." If approved by the Trustees at the meeting, Resolution 2021-19 shall be effective 30 days thereafter.

**SECOND PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2021-19:**

- Mr. Rehmert made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Stubbs, to remove RESOLUTION 2021-19 from the table. The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Rehmert read in its entirety **RESOLUTION 2021-19: A RESOLUTION TO LEVY AN ANNUAL \$5 LICENSE TAX UPON THE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON THE PUBLIC ROADS AND HIGHWAYS IN THE UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR ANY AUTHORIZED PURPOSE, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 4504.181.** He then read the process to be followed in order to levy the \$5 permissive motor vehicle tax as outlined in O.R.C. 4504.181 (B), (C) and (D). He stated that Notice of this Public Hearing was published in the

Germantown Press on 4/22/21 and 4/29/21. He noted that the First Public Hearing was held on 5/10/21. He then explained the process that would be followed during the Public Hearing.

- Mr. Rehmert made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Stubbs, to open the Public Hearing. The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote.
- Road Superintendent Jeremy Holbrook gave the following presentation on the proposed tax.

“In 2019 the Ohio Legislature passed House Bill 62, which included the addition of Section 4504.181 to the Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax. This addition gave Ohio Townships the authority to levy an additional \$5.00 per vehicle registration within the unincorporated portion of the Township. The Ohio Department of Public Safety estimates that this tax will generate an additional \$21,000-\$25,000 yearly for German Township. If passed, this money could only be used for ‘planning, constructing, improving, maintaining, and repairing public roads, highways, streets, and for the maintaining and repair of bridges and viaducts.”

“Currently there are 5 sections enacted under the Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax. The total tax is \$25.00 per vehicle registration. That tax is split between Montgomery County (\$23.50), and German Township (\$6.50) per vehicle.”


“As the Board is aware, the German Township Road & Service Department is grossly underfunded. Between November of 2016 and November of 2018, the Board of Trustees placed an additional 2 MILL Road levy on the ballot 4 times. All 4 times it failed. The Road Department desperately needs this additional funding to continue to maintain the Township Roads.”
- Mr. Rehmert asked for Public Comments on the proposed \$5 per vehicle tax.
- **Mark Cross, 7444 S. Stivers Road:** Dr. Cross read a statement in support of the proposed tax. He noted the Township maintains 37.6 miles of roads, a distance that a drive from Township Hall south on I-75 would extend nine miles beyond Ikea. He noted that all recent Township road levies have failed, except for the renewal of the joint levy with Germantown. He stated that \$21,000 collected by the tax would only pay for one mile of chip seal. He noted that repaving a road costs \$100,000 per mile. He asked that in the future the Trustees transfer available General Fund money to the Road Department.
- **Abigail Hale-Dennis, 13091 Oxford Road:** Ms. Hale-Dennis stated that the Township roads need work and are underfunded. However, she preferred that the Trustees not adopt the proposed \$5 tax. She felt that motor vehicles are taxed too much at all levels of government. She felt that more funds should go to the Road Department from the General Fund. She thought the 2020 Workers Compensation refund should have gone to the Road Department and didn’t understand why that didn’t happen.
- **Mark Keener, 7865 Jamaica Road:** Mr. Keener spoke in support of the proposed tax. He noted that the proposed tax was not much of an increase. He felt that the Road Department puts its funds to good use. He asked that the Trustees approve the tax, but then repeal the tax if a new road levy should ever be passed by the Township. He felt this is a temporary stop gap measure.
- After asking for any additional Public Comments and hearing none, Mr. Rehmert made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Stubbs, to close the Public Hearing. The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote.
- The Trustees discussed the timeline for submitting an approved RESOLUTION to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles. It was noted that the deadline for submission is 7/1/21 to be effective with the 2022 vehicle registration year. Mr. Stubbs reported that he spoke with Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Nathaniel Peterson who indicated that the Trustees could approve the RESOLUTION at

the June meeting and still meet the BMV deadline. Accordingly, the Trustees agreed to delay a vote on RESOLUTION 2021-19 until the June meeting when all three Trustees are present.

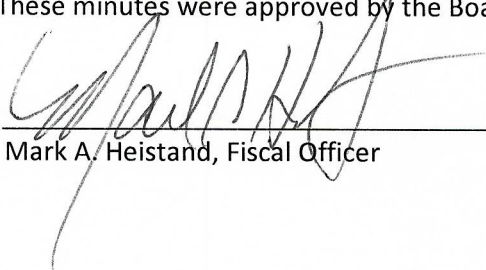
- Mr. Rehmert made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Stubbs, to table RESOLUTION 2021-19 pending a vote at the 6/14/21 Trustees Meeting. The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote.
- **Visitor Mark Keener:** Mr. Keener asked if the vote on RESOLUTION 2021-19 needed to be unanimous. Mr. Rehmert replied that the prosecutor's office confirmed that a simple majority vote is all that is required to adopt the Resolution.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:**

- With no further business, Mr. Rehmert made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Stubbs, to adjourn. The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote. The Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Signed:   
Tyler Rehmert, President, Board of Trustees

Attest: These minutes were approved by the Board of Trustees at the June 14, 2021 meeting.

Signed:   
Mark A. Heistand, Fiscal Officer