

MINUTES OF REGULAR TRUSTEE MEETING HELD JUNE 13, 2023

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TATE TOWNSHIP MET IN REGULAR SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: TRUSTEE REED, TRUSTEE REDDEN, TRUSTEE WILSON AND FISCAL OFFICER KATHY BRANNOCK.

RES. REDDEN TO APPROVE MAY 9, 2023 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY WILSON. ROLL CALL: MR. REED, YES, MR. REDDEN, YES, MR. WILSON, YES.

RES. REDDEN TO APPROVE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD MAY 23, 2023. SECONDED BY WILSON. ROLL CALL: MR. REED, YES, MR. REDDEN, YES, MR. WILSON, YES.

RES. REDDEN TO APPROVE MAY, 2023 BILLS. SECONDED BY WILSON. ROLL CALL: MR. REDDEN, YES, MR. REED, YES, MR. WILSON, YES.

RES. REDDEN TO APPROVE MAY, 2023 PAYROLL, EFT'S, AND WITHHOLDINGS. SECONDED BY REED. ROLL CALL; MR. REDDEN, YES, MR. REED, YES, MR. WILSON, YES.

RES. REDDEN AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF APPORTIONMENT OF THE UNDIVIDED LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND (LGF) FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2024 THROUGH 2029. SECONDED BY REED. ROLL CALL; MR. REDDEN, YES, MR. REED, YES, MR. WILSON, YES.

FISCAL OFFICER PRESENTED TO THE TRUSTEES THE FOLLOWING MAY 2023 REPORTS: APPROPRIATION SUMMARY, FUND SUMMARY, REVENUE SUMMARY, PAYMENT LISTING, PAYROLL REPORT, AND BANK RECONCILIATION.

ZONING-OLD BUSINESS

MAY ZONING REPORT WAS PRESENTED. TRUSTEES WERE UPDATED ON ZONING VIOLATIONS. 5 ZONING PERMITS WERE ISSUED.

ROAD/CEMETERY-OLD BUSINESS

MAY CEMETERY REPORT WAS PRESENTED. THERE WERE 9 BURIALS IN JUNE, 8 FOOTERS WERE ORDERED, 4 GRAVES WERE SOLD. SEVENTEEN FOOTERS WILL BE POURED THIS MONTH.

THE SHELTER PARKING LOT IS LEVELED AND ROLLED. THE DOWNSPOUTS WILL BE INSTALLED.

2 CULVERTS WERE SET IN PRIVATE DRIVEWAYS. BERMING AND PATCHING WORK WAS DONE ON MACEDONIA ROAD.

TOWNSHIP CLEAN-UP DAYS ARE JULY 7TH AND 8<sup>TH</sup> FROM 7 A.M. TO 5 P. M. AT THE MAINTENANCE BUILDING ON SPRING STREET. A SMALL FEE, THAT IS DETERMINED BY TIRE SIZE, WILL BE CHARGED FOR TIRE DISPOSAL. BATTERIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED AT THE TATE TOWNSHIP CLEAN-UP DAYS. HOWEVER, O-REILLY'S IN BETHEL WILL ACCEPT ANY BATTERIES FOR DISPOSAL.

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OFFICER PIKE-NOT IN ATTENDANCE

MAY REPORT WAS PRESENTED BY AN ASSOCIATE. THE REPORT SHOWED THAT DEPUTY PIKE RESPONDED TO 74 CALLS, WROTE 24 NEW REPORTS, RESPONDED TO TWO TRAFFIC CRASHES, AND CLOSED 28 REPORTS.

DEPUTY PIKE WILL BE AT THE CLEAN-UP DAYS TO HELP VERIFY TOWNSHIP RESIDENCY.

FIRE CHIEF-OLD BUSINESS

MAY FIRE REPORT WAS PRESENTED: 134 RUNS (27 FIRE/107 EMS)

10 MORE FIRE HYDRANTS WERE INSTALLED SINCE THE LAST MEETING MAKING A TOTAL OF 49 TO DATE.

A MEETING WITH THE BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY MORNING. THIS IS REGARDING THE CHAIN SAW ACCIDENT.

ZONING-NEW BUSINESS

NEW COMPLAINTS WERE PRESENTED TO TRUSTEES.

THERE WAS A BZA MEETING HELD ON JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup>. THE BOARD APPROVED THE REQUEST TO CHANGE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3439 STATE ROUTE 125, BETHEL, OHIO FROM R-3 TO C-3. MOTION BY WILSON TO ACCEPT ZONING CHANGE FROM R-3 TO C-3. SECONDED BY REDDEN. ROLL CALL: WILSON, YES, REDDEN, YES, REED, YES.

TRUSTEE REED READ A LETTER FROM DAVID BRANNOCK RESIGNING FROM THE ZONING APPEALS BOARD. THE TRUSTEES ARE SEARCHING FOR A PERSON TO FILL THE OPENING.

ROAD/CEMETERY-NO NEW BUSINESS

OFFICER PIKE-NO NEW BUSINESS

FIRE CHIEF-NEW BUSINESS

THE 1994 HEAVY RESCUE TRUCK HAS A SEVERE LEAK.

THE TWO JEEPS HAVE HAD POLY TANKS INSTALLED WITH THE HELP OF THE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT.

THE REAR WHEEL ON THE 2013 AMBULANCE IS LEAKING.

CREWS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF CONDUCTING HYDRANT FLUSHING. HYDRANTS MUST BE FLUSHED ANNUALLY. BTFD IS ONE OF 3 DEPARTMENTS IN CLERMONT COUNTY WITH AN ISO RATING OF A 3.

A MEETING WAS HELD IN BATAVIA REGARDING THE PIPE LINE PROJECT. WORK WILL BEGIN IN THE NORTH IN BATAVIA AND MOVE SOUTH. THE GREEN SIGNS ARE TO IDENTIFY GAS LINE ACCESS ROADS FOR EMERGENCY RUNS.

BOB REDDEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE TOWNSHIP RECEIVED A GRANT FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR TWO YEARS OF TATE TOWNSHIP CLEAN-UP DAYS.

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THE GRANTS COVER 75% OF THE COST TO THE TOWNSHIP FOR THE DUMPSTERS AND TRUCKS. THE TOTAL GRANT AMOUNT IS \$16,800.

THE TOWNSHIP RECEIVED MORE THAN \$10,000 WORTH OF TREES THROUGH THE TAKE A ROOT PROJECT. THE GRANT PROVIDED TREES THAT ARE ASIAN LONGHORN BEETLE RESISTANT TO TATE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS. 175 TREES WERE HANDED OUT. ONLY 2 TOWNSHIPS IN THE COUNTY RECEIVED THE GRANT. TATE TOWNSHIP HAD THE HIGHEST RESPONSE IN THE STATE. SINCE THE RESPONSE WAS SO GREAT THE DIRECTOR HAS COMMITTED TO ANOTHER DELIVERY NEXT YEAR.

THE TOWNSHIP RECEIVED A SECOND GRANT FOR THE CEMETERY SHELTER. THE TOTAL GRANT MONEY IS NOW \$20,000, WHICH IS COMPRISED OF \$10,000 FROM THE CLERMONT COUNTY PARKS AND \$10,000 FROM DUKE ENERGY.

TRUSTEE REED GAVE AN UPDATE ON CHOICE ONE ENGINEERING ZONING DRAFT. THE DRAFT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO OUR LEGAL COUNCEL FOR REVIEW. TRUSTEE WILSON EXPLAINED THAT IT COULD TAKE A MINIMUM OF 3 MONTHS TO HAVE THE RESOLUTION APPROVED IN ORDER TO GIVE THE TOWNSHIP THE ABILITY TO REGULATE THE 49.99 AND UNDER MEGA WATT SOLAR PROJECTS. UNTIL SENATE BILL 52 WAS PASSED EARLIER THIS YEAR THE TOWNSHIP HAD NO POWER TO STOP SOLAR FARMS. HOUSE BILL 501 GIVES THE TOWNSHIP THE ABILITY TO REGULATE SMALL SOLAR FACILITIES UNDER 50 MEGA WATTS.

TRUSTEE WILSON EXPLAINED TO MR. SINGLETON THE NEED FOR A BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS. ANY CHANGE OF USE MUST GO BEFORE THE ZONING BOARD FOR APPROVAL.

APPLICATIONS AND PAYMENT, DONATED BY LYNN BUEDE, WILL BE SENT TO THE FARM BUREAU FOR THE TRUSTEES TO BECOME MEMBERS IN ORDER TO MEET WITH THEIR REPRESENTATIVE REGARDING PUBLIC UTILITIES/SOLAR FARMS. JERRY SINGLETON VOICED HIS DISAGREEMENT THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE TO BECOME MEMBERS FOR THE FARM BUREAU TO COME OUT AND SPEAK.

BETTY ANN MARX ASKED HOW CITIZENS WILL BE EDUCATED. TRUSTEE WILSON STATED THAT HE HAS BEEN APPROACHING FARMERS. FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SENT OUT QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS FOR THEIR INPUT.

TRUSTEE REDDEN ASKED OUR LEGAL COUNCEL, WHO WAS IN ATTENDENCE, IF THE TRUSTEES COULD PASS A MORITORIUM TO REGULATE ANY SOLAR PROJECT. HER RESPONSE WAS NO, THE TOWNSHIP HAS NO AUTHORITY TO PASS A MORITORIUM.

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TRUSTEE WILSON ASKED IF THE ISSUE COULD BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT. THE ANSWER WAS NO. GREG SCHULER STATED THAT EVEN IF AN ISSUE WERE TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT IT WOULD NOT BE BINDING.

ONCE OUR ATTORNEY HAS REVIEWED AND APPROVED THE CHOICE ONE ENGINEERING ZONING REGULATION THE TRUSTEES WILL HAVE DALE ARNOLD FROM THE FARM BUREAU REVIEW IT AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS.

MOTION BY REED, 2<sup>ND</sup> BY WILSON TO CALL A RECESS AT 8:24 TO SPEAK TO LEGAL COUNSEL. ROLL CALL: MR. WILSON, YES, MR. REDDEN, YES, MR. REED, YES. MEETING WAS CALLED BACK IN SESSION AT 8:41. ROLL CALL: MR. WILSON, YES, MR. REDDEN, YES, MR. REED, YES.

TRUSTEE REED RESTATED THAT THE ZONING REGULATION PREPARED BY CHOICE ONE ENGINEERING IS UNDER REVIEW. A MEETING WILL BE HELD WHEN WE RECEIVE THE REGULATION. MRS. DURBIN ASKED THAT THE MEETING BE HELD WHEN RESIDENTS CAN ATTEND. SHE QUESTIONED WHY THEY WEREN'T INCLUDED AT THE LAST MEETING. THE RESPONSE WAS THAT THE LAST MEETING WAS A SPECIAL MEETING HELD DURING WORK HOURS. THE TOPIC OF THE SPECIAL MEETING IS THE ONLY THING THAT CAN BE DISCUSSED. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS SOLELY WHETHER OR NOT TO HIRE CHOICE ONE ENGINEERING TO WRITE A ZONING REGULATION GIVING THE TOWNSHIP THE AUTHORITY TO REGULATE THE SOLAR PROJECTS UNDER 50 MEGA WATTS. CURRENTLY THE TOWNSHIP HAS NO LANGUAGE TO REQUIRE SOLAR COMPANIES TO APPLY FOR PERMITS. HOUSE BILL 501 GIVES THE TOWNSHIP THE AUTHORITY TO REGULATE SOLAR PROJECTS UNDER 50 MEGA WATTS.

ZONING INSPECTOR EXPLAINED THE PROCESS FOR A ZONING CHANGE FROM R-3 TO C-3. NOTICE IS MAILED TO NEIGHBORS SO THEY CAN VOICE CONCERNS. JAY NOBLE STATED THAT HE RECEIVED A NOTICE OF A ZONING HEARING FOR THE DEER PROCESSOR. THE ZONING INSPECTOR EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO THE DEER PROCESSOR AND TOLD HIM TO APPLY FOR A PERMIT. HE STATED THAT HE CANNOT DENY A ZONING CHANGE REQUEST BY ANYONE. LETTERS WERE MAILED FOR PEOPLE TO ATTEND THE ZONING MEETING TO VOICE THEIR CONCERNS. MR. NOBLE WAS ASKED TO ATTEND THE ZONING MEETING.

JERRY SINGLETON STATED THAT HE DOES NOT WANT MORE GOVERNMENT. HE MAINTAINS THAT IT IS NOT FOR THE FARMERS AND THAT WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER ON THIS.

RUSSELL DURBIN STATED THAT THERE ARE 4 COMPANIES SOLICITING FARMERS 2 MILES IN EACH DIRECTION. HE STATED THAT WE NEED TO SPEAK TO LEGAL COUNSEL THAT HAS EXPERIENCE.

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THE QUESTION WAS RAISED ABOUT HOW CHOICE ONE WAS SELECTED. TRUSTEE REDDEN STATED THAT THE COMPANY WRITES ALL OF THE TOWNSHIP GRANTS AND ARE A REPUTABLE COMPANY.

MRS. DURBIN STATED THAT SHE WANTS TO RENT SCHOOL BUSES AND TAKE PEOPLE OUT TO THE SOLAR FARMS SO THEY CAN SEE WHAT THEY ARE LIKE.

TRUSTEE REDDEN RESTATED THAT THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL MEETING WHEN WE GET THE FINAL REGULATION WRITTEN BY CHOICE ONE ENGINEERING.

RESOLUTION BY WILSON FOR ESTABLISHING RULE FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT TOWNSHIP BUSINESS MEETINGS. SECONDED BY REDDEN. ROLL CALL: WILSON, YES, REDDEN, YES, REED, YES. SOME OF THE RULES INCLUDED ARE: THE CHAIRPERSON MAY ENFORCE A LIMIT OF ONE HOUR FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INCLUDING A TIME LIMIT OF THREE MIUNTES FOR INDIVIDUAL SPEAKERS; THE CHAIRPERSON MAY WAIVE THE LIMIT; ALL COMMENTS/QUESTIONS SHALL BE ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRPERSON; AND NO MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAY SPEAK AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD ABOUT A MATTER THAT IS NOT WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE BOARD'S LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY OR THAT IS RELATED TO TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT OR AN ITEM ON THE MEETING'S AGENDA.

MOTION BY WILSON AND 2<sup>ND</sup> BY REDDEN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

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