

## BATH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 2, 2021

This regular meeting of the Bath Township Board of Trustees was held at the Bath Township Hall and live-streamed on Facebook Live-Bath Township, Greene County, OH. Mr. Pitstick called the in-person meeting to order at 7:00pm with the pledge and roll call. Other township personnel in attendance were Mrs. Lester, Mr. Bales, and Mrs. Brown on Zoom.

Mrs. Lester made a motion to approve the amended agenda adding “May 21 special meeting minutes”; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried. Mrs. Lester made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting replacing the word “allegations” with “statements” in the Audience Comments section; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried. Mrs. Lester made a motion to table action on the minutes of the May 21<sup>st</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup> Special meetings until the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried. Mrs. Lester made a motion to approve the payment of bills totaling \$33,038.78 and the transfer of \$3,475.70 from the checking account to the Perpetual Care savings account; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried.

### STAFF REPORTS:

- Mr. Pete Bales, Township Administrator, reviewed several items in his report to the Trustees, dated June 2, 2021. (See attached.)
  - He has submitted the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual as well as a Social Media Policy to Assistant Prosecutor Haller and to the Board for review and comments. He plans to have the whole document ready for discussion at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and a resolution ready for adoption.
  - He attended the MVRPC Technical Advisory Committee meeting on May 20. One topic of discussion was the Regional Safety and ODOT Safety program updates. The Miami Valley is higher than the national average on crashes, averaging one fatal crash every five days, 26% of those involve alcohol. Another item—MVRPC has launched a job board on which member communities can post vacancies.
  - The aerial lift truck and the dump truck with snowplow and salt spreader are on display in the parking lot. Mr. Bales is waiting to hear from a representative from Gov Deals to finalize the posting and begin the auction. Information will appear on [GovDeals.com](http://GovDeals.com)
  - **Road Department report from Mike Rhoades:** They continued with park mowing and trimming along with debris clean-up on Lower Valley and Union Road. Weather permitting, guardrail and sign spraying should begin this week. John R. Jurgensen has completed milling the roads in Country Acres. They are having issues with their paving equipment, but hope to start paving this week weather permitting.
  - **Cemetery report from Teresa Phillips:** There have been 9 burials since last report and two pending so far this week. They are far behind on pouring foundations, but are now preparing to start. They have over 60 orders and anticipate more. Mrs. Phillips recommended continuing to have Joe’s Landscaping do the trimming throughout the summer. Mr. Bales will continue to talk about the need once the new employee starts in July. Mrs. Phillips reported on the increasing number of decorations being placed in the grass and around headstones. Per Article III of the Rules and Regulations: For economy of maintenance during growing season (March 1<sup>st</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup>) it is required that No flowers or decorations may be placed in the grass, on top of graves or around the headstone foundations to allow for mowing and trimming. Mr. Bales reported that the cemetery employee who has been off work since mid-January has returned on light duty.
  - **Questions** from the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting:
    - In response to Mrs. Venable’s question about whether the Board had consulted with an environmental attorney about the biodigester, Mr. Bales stated that representatives from the township and Attorney Michael Bly had formal and informal discussions with Mr. Randy Heldt, who is an environmental attorney, but is not licensed in the State of Ohio.

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

### NEW BUSINESS:

- The Board reviewed the Fund Summary Report through May 31. Payment and Receipt reports and Appropriation and Revenue Status reports were emailed to the Board.
- Mrs. Lester made a motion to approve Resolution 34-2021 providing for a Supplemental Appropriation in the General Fund—Park-Contracted Services \$3,069 for Reclamite and

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Administrative-Other Professional & Technical Services \$7,500 to provide for the increased percentage for the Township Administrator to be charged to General Fund; and in the Cemetery Fund-Contracted Services \$16,000 for Reclamite; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried.

- Mrs. Lester made a motion to approve Resolution 35-2021 establishing a Capital Projects Fund for the accumulation of \$75,000 for the resurfacing of parking lots and driveways at the Township Facilities including the Bath Township Hall, Road Department Complex, and the Bath Township Park by the end of year 2023, money to be derived from the General Fund; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Mrs. Lester noted that this is a fund where the money is accumulated and held for the purpose of accomplishing the project by the end of 2023. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried.
- Mrs. Lester made a motion to approve Resolution 36-2021 establishing a Capital Projects Fund for the accumulation of \$165,000 for the purchase of a 10-ton single-axle dump truck fully equipped with snowplow and salt spreader by the end of year 2029 and derives money from the General Fund as monies are available; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE: none**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORTS:**

Mrs. Lester thanked the VFW Post 6861 and the American Legion Post 526 for the Memorial Day Ceremonies at Byron and Fairfield Cemeteries.

## **Audience Comments:**

- David Anderson, Byron Road, commented on various cemetery issues: delay in pouring footers, all employees not trained to use all equipment, no safety program.
- Lori Venable, Sunset Canyon Court, addressed the Board about how her remarks at the last meeting were recorded in the minutes. She requested that the word "allegations" be changed to "facts" and that her entire statement be included or else she would be repeating it at every meeting until that happened. The essence of her statement is as follows. She represents over 540 residents who demand Mr. Pitstick's resignation. He forwarded residents' emails to Cari Oberfield when they asked him for help about the odors. He has been disrespectful. He misrepresented the extent of the Morrow County biodigester spill. That Mr. Pitstick benefits financially from the biodigester. That he is under an ethics investigation. That he can only vote on about 50% of township issues due to conflicts of interest and that he has lied to and violated the trust of his constituents. She also stated that there was an email from Cari Oberfield asking if Mr. Pitstick and Mr. Ross were going to report to the Ohio Ethics Commission in an attempt to start an investigation on Mrs. Lester. Mrs. Venable also stated that Mr. Bales makes more per hour than the Greene County Prosecutor.
- Karla Sams, Erie Avenue, stated that there is a lack of transparency in the actions of the Board.
- Carolyn Buckey, Arabian Drive, made a statement in opposition to the installation of lagoons by Renergy. Mr. Pitstick noted that the EPA permit has been pulled and the ponds will not be constructed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mrs. Lester made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to consider the discipline of a public employee per ORC 121.22(G)(1); seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried. Time 7:24pm. Mr. Pitstick stated that the Board would probably take action following the executive session.

Mr. Pitstick called the regular meeting back to order at 7:55pm.

Mrs. Lester made a motion to accept Mr. Bales recommendation to suspend Seth Treon for one day without pay; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Mrs. Lester made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Pitstick. Roll call: two ayes, no nays, motion carried. Time 7:57pm.

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Elaine M. Brown, Fiscal Officer

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Tom Pitstick, Chairman