

BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
8600 BLOUGH AVE SW ♦ P.O. BOX 161 ♦ NAVARRE, OH 44662
PHONE: 330-756-9207 ♦ WEBSITE: bethtwp.com

January 2, 2024 Minutes

Veselenak opened the Tuesday, January 2, 2024 work session at 5:30 pm. Veselenak stated that the applicants that were contacted for an interview would be called in alphabetical order for their interview.

Veselenak called the Tuesday, January 2, 2024 meeting to order. The pledge was recited by everyone present. Upon Role Call the Result was:

VESELENAK HERE

URBACH HERE

Veselenak made the motion to accept the December 18, 2023 minutes as the Trustees have read them through email. Seconded by Urbach. All in Favor: YES Veselenak made the motion to accept the bills. Urbach seconded the motion. All in Favor: YES The bills are in the amount of \$20,701.45. Veselenak placed a copy of the ORC section 503.24 that explains the process we have to go by to appoint a Trustee on the desk and she explained what it was and stated that anyone is more than welcome to review it. Veselenak made the motion to go into executive session to continue the interviewing process. Seconded by Urbach. All in Favor: Yes

Executive session began at 6:07 pm

Urbach made the motion to return to regular session at 7:43 pm. Seconded by Veselenak. Upon Role Call the Result was:

VESELENAK YES

URBACH YES

Matics asked if a decision was made. Urbach stated yes there was and that this was a hard decision and that he appreciated everyone coming in for the interview. There was more than one person qualified and we have to make a decision tonight. Valerie Feucht stated she had a question. He sent in a resume, referring to her husband, Ron Feucht. He was never interviewed? He was second when he ran in the election. Why was he not interviewed? Urbach stated that he was not the only one who wasn't interviewed. Feucht stated she asked a question and wanted an answer. Veselenak stated the interview process is that Jim and I are not allowed to communicate outside of here. We had to both agree on who to interview. Feucht stated, on her way out the door that this isn't the last you have heard, social media was awesome. Ron Feucht said, so the question that I have is, do I have the right to know your vote on who approved who for the interviews. Matics stated they both email her separately and she contacted the candidates. Feucht stated, this is public record so he should be able to know your vote on who wanted to interview him and who doesn't want to interview him so the public can know that also. Both Urbach and Veselenak stated that neither one of them requested to have him interviewed. Veselenak stated the reason she did not is because she had a conversation with you asking how Mark was doing and Veselenak said that everyone has the right to run. You then called Veselenak and said that you had to go to the Fire Board and what I had to do. I did not think that was a good thing that you were trying to take control over me. I am a grown woman and I can do this. The public voted for me to do this and I think we are doing a good job. Veselenak stated she just did not want the kind of hostility. Veselenak stated that another reason she did not want to interview him was because after Veselenak was elected, you called me and said the only reason I won was because you went to every Soehnlén and told them to vote for me. So you almost took responsibility for me winning this seat. You don't know the campaign I ran from home. All the hand written letters I wrote and sent out to every single person in the township. I did not think I could work well with you. If you are on the ballot in two years and it comes up, I will work with you because I have to. That is why I did not want to interview you. Feucht stated that was fair. In my defense of sixteen years of being a paramedic and volunteering my time to our township and our fire department. I was the one who spear headed the new EMS Center for the fire department. I have a lot of friends there. Rick and I are still really good best friends. Renee when I made

BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
8600 BLOUGH AVE SW ♦ P.O. BOX 161 ♦ NAVARRE, OH 44662
PHONE: 330-756-9207 ♦ WEBSITE: bethtwp.com

the comment was because I have a lot of knowledge in that service and that business. Veselenak stated, but there are other things going on there. The whole inside of my building burnt. I am your equal in that for the reason you want on the fire board. I am not going to sit here and have this conversation with you. We have been put through the mill. We have made our decision. Before all of this, I thought maybe you were a good candidate and you did a good job but you can't just call someone and say you are going to do all these things when you get in. I lost all respect for you Ron. What have I done that you couldn't do? There's a lot of loose ends that were not tied up. Feuchth stated that all these comments need to be in the minutes. Veselenak stated that "you asked". Feuchth responded that he was glad Veselenak got that out of her system and that now he knows. You can't fix something if you don't know. That's how the world works. Urbach asked Feuchth if he had anything else? Feuchth responded, no and he thanked them both and told them he loved them.

RESOLUTION #2024-03

Urbach made the motion for the resolution to appoint Ronald L. Lambert to fill the position of Trustee for the term ending 12/31/2028. Veselenak seconded the motion. Upon Role Call the Result was:

VESELENAK YES

URBACH YES

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Denny Wheeler, who lives on Brinker informed the Trustees about an accident that happened on Brinker just east of his home last Tuesday. A lady went off the road and almost ran into his father-in-law's house. There were two cars that went off close to the same area last summer. Wheeler asked the Trustees if they could possibly have a guardrail installed at that area. It is a good drop off and he doesn't see how the cars have not flipped. Veselenak asked for the address. Wheeler responded it's between 7564 and he thought 7270. Urbach said he will call Wheeler and they can go and look at it tomorrow. Urbach will take pictures and get the information to Stark County Engineers. Strubel said Scott Bassinger is who you want to contact. Strubel also said you may have to install some fill due to there not being enough to hold the posts. He will go out and look at it. Strubel said the road also slopes a little there. Veselenak asked Wheeler if he changed any of the landscape by the road when he built. Wheeler stated, no.

URBACH REPORT

- 1) Urbach reported he did contact Stark County Recycling concerning the tires but they have not gotten back to him yet.
- 2) Urbach said he got with Strubel to discuss the paving of Seeman and Student. Urbach will send the information to the Engineers for an estimate when he gets home tonight. Strubel asked if the Trustees wanted him to measure Riverdale, Bardel and Kemary for chip and seal. The response was yes. Strubel asked to have the driveways and mailboxes feathered and if possible to pave in one path and to contact Strubel when the paving company is coming in, in the contract. Matics asked if Urbach got her email for the park road. Urbach said he probably did not look at it. Matics said it has Dearing's specs for the park road. Veselenak asked if we were not going to give that to Northstar. Matics responded yes but Dempsey wants a contract.
- 3) Urbach swore in Ronald L. Lambert.
- 4) Urbach said he and Owen-Merry are looking for funding for a memorial at the park. There is a park meeting on January 25th here at 6:00.

VESELENAK REPORT

- 1) Veselenak said she just wanted to say one more thing. This process was very hard. We spoke with other townships. Veselenak's thoughts on this is that if a candidate had run for the office and did not win, the people did not elect them. So that is where I am. Veselenak told Lambert that he is the most qualified individual to fill Mark's shoes. Veselenak apologized to Feuchth and said it got personal with them. Veselenak thinks she is doing

BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
8600 BLOUGH AVE SW ♦ P.O. BOX 161 ♦ NAVARRE, OH 44662
PHONE: 330-756-9207 ♦ WEBSITE: bethtpw.com

a good job and she deserves the respect. It was a really difficult process for us and for you too Ron. Veselenak stated she is just not that type of person.

- 2) Veselenak stated Scott was not here but she will go over some zoning with him.
- 3) Veselenak said she and Urbach would like to do a memorial of some sort for Dearing here at the building. We have never had a Trustee pass away while in office. Veselenak said they would do a plaque or something. She will bring some ideas and costs to the next meeting.
- 4) Veselenak brought to the Boards' attention that Brook Harless is the president of the Board of the Stark County Trustees Association and they have some really good people.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

- 1) Matics explained that the carry over balance in Huntington Bank is \$323,182.69. We will be getting the Final invoice for the new dump truck sometime this month of \$100,000.00 plus so Matics did not cut the check for the Bank of Magnolia in the amount of \$109,313.24 for the loan for the grant. Matics would like to ask for an advance from the Auditor on our property taxes instead of pulling funds from the Star Ohio Cash account which is bring in over \$1,600.00 a month. Veselenak asked if there were any penalties for the advance. Matics responded no, she did check into that.

RESOLUTION #2024-02

Veselenak made the motion for the resolution to request from the Stark County Auditor an advance payment of our Real Estate Tax Settlement in the amount of one-half of our first half settlement. Seconded by Urbach. Upon Role Call the result was:

VESELENAK YES

URBACH YES

- 2) Matics stated that a resolution is needed to appoint Vicki Owen-Merry to the park board.

RESOLUTION #2024-4

Urbach made the motion for the resolution to appoint Vicki Owen-Merry to the park board for a term of 01/01/2024-12/31/2025. Veselenak seconded the motion. Upon Role Call the Result was:

VESELENAK YES

URBACH YES

- 3) Emails received: Jason Manson emailed Stark County Commissioners resolution on the weight limit reductions, various OTA alerts, Star Ohio monthly report and various resumes which were emailed to the Trustees separately along with any that came in the mail.
- 4) I received the check today from Springwood Lake for their conditional permit that they sent on November 28th. They did cut another check prior to their meeting. Matics will call them tomorrow to see if they want it returned or shredded. Veselenak asked if Matics ever received the paperwork for Soehnlen's conditional permit. Matics responded no and that she thinks the Trustees need to think about charging the business owners the cost of each board member attending, the zoning secretary and the cost of advertising for another meeting on top of the original permit fee if the check and paperwork are not submitted before or at the regularly scheduled meeting. Something for you to think about. Urbach asked if Scott has reached out to them. Matics said she did not know.
- 5)

Monthly Financial Report - December 2023				
Huntington Bank				
Beginning Balance	\$349,763.18			
Total Receipts	\$133,399.14			
Subtotal		\$483,162.32		
Total Debits	\$139,582.40			
Huntington Bank Total			\$343,579.92	

BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
8600 BLOUGH AVE SW ♦ P.O. BOX 161 ♦ NAVARRE, OH 44662
PHONE: 330-756-9207 ♦ WEBSITE: bethtwp.com

Star Ohio				
Shepler Cemetery				
Beginning Balance	\$3,868.02			
Interest	\$18.31			
Total		\$3,886.33		
Sherman Cemetery				
Beginning Balance	\$6,713.44			
Interest	\$31.78			
Total		\$6,745.22		
Cash Fund				
Beginning Balance	\$341,722.69			
Interest	\$1,617.83			
Total		\$343,340.52		
Star Ohio Total			\$353,972.07	
UAN Subtotal				\$697,551.99
Outstanding Debits	\$423.45			
UAN TOTAL				\$697,128.54

Urbach stated the next meeting would be Tuesday, January 16th at 6:00 pm. Urbach made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Veselenak. All in Favor: YES

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Mark Dearing - President

T. Renee' Veselenak - Vice President

James J. Urbach – Trustee

Jody Matics – Fiscal Officer