

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Blendon Township Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 18148

Held September 18

20 24

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairperson Heichel. She welcomed everyone in attendance.

Trustee Heichel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Roll Call: Present

Chair Heichel, Vice-Chair Shinaberry, Trustee Ciamacco.

Also in attendance were John Belford, Police Chief; Matt Newman, Service Department; Pat Myers, Administrator, and Deputy Fire Chief Westerville/Blendon Fire Dept.

#### Public Comment

Time was permitted for meeting attendees to make comments.

#### Trustee Comments

**Trustee Ciamacco**— Trustee Ciamacco stated that she along with Adam Sears (our code compliance officer) have a meeting scheduled this week with Jeff Johnson with ODNR. He is the Division Chief of Natural Areas and Preserves. Adam and Trustee Ciamacco have been meeting with numerous professionals and have had discussions over the past several months pertaining to native, sustainable, and biodiverse growth within a residential community. Once they have enough information and a viable path forward, they will be ready to draft a resolution.

Trustee Ciamacco also asked that residents continue to send her their Aqua Water bills and hardship letters because she cannot fight the water rates and hikes without their help.

**Trustee Shinaberry**— Trustee Shinaberry stated that the entry deadline has passed for Blendon Blooms and that they appreciate the entries that were received. She said that she knows the drought has affected gardens this year, but we did get some good entries. The staff will be reviewing the submitted photos soon and judging which entries will win a prize. Winners will be posted on our Township Facebook page and website.

October Cleanup days are coming up October 4th-6th, which includes dumpsters, shredding (Saturday October 5th, 10:00 AM -2:00 PM), and tire disposal.

**Trustee Heichel**— Trustee Heichel stated that they have noticed that many residents are turning to electronic communications to connect with the township. She shared that residents can sign up to receive monthly email notifications, including public safety notifications, emergency alerts, and other important information, directly from the trustees and department leaders. Additional notifications will be sent from time to time for time-sensitive matters. This method of communication allows them to directly engage with their constituents and reach them quickly and easily with a variety of information. The email list and its information will not be sold, given, or shared with anyone. Visit our website to sign up at [www.blendontwp.org](http://www.blendontwp.org), go to the "contact us" button in the upper right corner, and see Register for Blendon Township Email Notifications.

#### Fiscal Officer Report -Introduced by Chairperson Heichel

**Minutes**—Trustee Heichel asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the Minutes from the September 4, 2024, meeting. Trustee Shinaberry made a motion to approve the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes on September 4, 2024. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Trustee Heichel asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the September 5, 2024, meeting minutes. Trustee Shinaberry made a motion to approve the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes on September 5, 2024. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

**Approval of Purchase Orders**—Trustee Heichel asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the Purchase Orders presented. Trustee Shinaberry moved to approve Purchase Orders as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

**Bills**—Trustee Heichel asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the bills presented. Trustee Shinaberry made a motion to approve the bills. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

#### Administration

**Resolution 2024-33**— Administrator Myers requested that the Board pass Resolution 2024-33, which would accept changes to the current cemetery structure from April 10, 2024, effective September 18, 2024. The wording changes clarify the definition of resident and nonresident rates and also adds language under the Monuments and Foundations stating all engraved wording needs to be appropriate. If the purchaser has a question they can speak to Administrator Myers who will in turn discuss the requested engraving with the trustees before a decision is made. Trustee Heichel made a motion to pass the resolution as presented, and Trustee Shinaberry seconded.

Discussion: Trustee Ciamacco stated that there may be some additional changes in the near future. Currently, cemetery deeds are not recorded, but that may soon change. From her research, in October of 2023, The Knox County recorder enacted House Bill 33/ORC 517.07. Trustee Ciamacco understands that the Ohio Recorders Association is meeting this week to discuss this further with all Ohio county recorders, as many of them are unaware of the changes and how they will work. She felt that this is great news as it can be very difficult and time-consuming to get a copy of cemetery deeds if you misplace or lose them. If they are recorded, she said they should be able to go to the recorder's office for a copy. She will keep everyone advised as they know more. She also stated that there may be a cost associated with recording the deeds. This could ultimately require another resolution in the future.

Trustee Shinaberry thanked Administrator Myers for making revisions to the resolution.

Trustee Heichel asked Trustee Ciamacco for clarification regarding the cost. Trustee Ciamacco stated that the charge to record the deed would be charged to the person who wants their deed recorded. That cost is required by the Franklin County Recorders Office. She is unsure how much it will be and if it will be mandatory or optional.

All voted yes.

**Motion—CZ2024-1- Map Amendment**— Administrator Myers presented a motion to the Board regarding scheduling a public hearing before the Board of Trustees. Trustee Heichel made the motion for Zoning Case Number CZ2024-01 on October 2, 2024, at 7:30 PM at the Blendon Township Senior Center, located at 6330 S. Hempstead Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081, and further authorizes and directs the Zoning Inspector to make the amendment available for public examination and to give notice of this public hearing by publication, all in accordance with applicable law. Trustee Heichel moved to set a public hearing before the Board of Trustee for Zoning Case Number CZ2024-01 on October 2, 2024, at 7:30 PM at the Blendon Township Senior Center, located at 6330 S. Hempstead Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081, and further authorizes and directs the Zoning Inspector to make the amendment available for public examination and to give notice of this public hearing by publication, all in accordance with applicable law. Trustee Shinaberry seconded. All voted yes.

**Motion—CZ2024-2- Text Amendment**— Administrator Myers presented a motion to the Board regarding scheduling a public hearing. Trustee Heichel moved to set a public hearing before the Board of Trustee for Zoning Case Number CZ2024-02 on October 2, 2024, at 7:30 PM at the Blendon Township Senior Center, located at 6330 S. Hempstead Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081, and further authorizes and directs the Zoning Inspector to make the amendment available for public examination and to give notice of this public hearing by publication, all in accordance with applicable law. Trustee Shinaberry seconded. All voted yes.

Trustee Shinaberry moved to approve the resolution as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

**Discussion on Special Meetings**— Administrator Myers discussed the purpose of special meetings to the audience. He stated the township must post notice of these meetings 24 hours prior to the meeting with the time, date, and purpose of the meeting listed. These notices are typically posted in front of the administrative building and senior center. Special meetings are generally used with the purpose of entering into an executive session, which is a legal, off-the-record conversation pertaining to HR employment & bargaining issues, pending court actions, or buying/selling property. No minutes are taken during the executive session, and the Board cannot vote or act on any item during the executive session, as this must be done during the public special meeting once they adjourn from the executive session. This is all outlined in Ohio Revised Code 121.22. Dates and times of special meetings can vary, because of the people involved, such as staff, the police chief, legal council, and more.

**Fraud Training**— Administrator Myers stated that all employees have completed the required fraud training by the state.

**Police Levy Q&A**— Administrator Myers stated there will be a public Q&A regarding the upcoming police levy held by Chief Belford and Fiscal Officer, Joann Bury on October 7, 2024, at 6:30 PM at the Senior Center. Information will be posted to social media.

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Blendon Township Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held September 18

20 24

**Resolution 2024-34**— Administrator Myers presented to the Board the 2025 Regular Trustee Meeting Dates. There will be 2 meetings per month for a total of 24 meetings for the year. Trustee Heichel moved to approve the resolution as presented. Trustee Shinaberry seconded. All voted yes.

**Human Resources**

Administrator Myers stated that there are two new job postings due to two retirements: Full-Time Senior Center Director and Part-Time Bus Driver.

**Maintenance/B&G/Parks/Cemetery**— Nothing to report.

**Police**— Chief Belford announced the upcoming Coffee with a Cop event, which will be held on October 2, 2024, from 7:30 to 8:30 AM. at Hoover Reservoir.

**Fire**— Nothing to report.

**Announcements**

Wednesday, October 2, 2024, will be the next Board of Trustees Meeting at 6:30 PM at the same location, 6330 Hempstead Rd., Westerville, Ohio, and live streamed on YouTube.

October 2, 2024, from 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM is Coffee with a Cop at Hoover Reservoir.

October 5, 2024, is the SWACO Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection at the Westerville Public Service Department. from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM . Visit [www.westerville.org](http://www.westerville.org) for more information.

October 4, 5, and 6, 2024, is the Blendon Township Fall Community Clean up. Document Shredding will occur on Saturday, October 5, from 10:00 AM—2:00 PM.

October 14, 2024, is Columbus Day, and Blendon Township offices will be closed.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, Trustee Shinaberry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 PM. Trustee Ciamacco seconded the motion. All voted yes.

Approved by:



Jan Heichel, Chairperson

Approved by:



Joann Bury, Fiscal Officer