

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Blendon Township Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held March 26

20 25

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Trustee Shinaberry.

Trustee Shinaberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present

Trustee Shinaberry, Trustee Heichel, Trustee Ciamacco, and Joann Bury, Fiscal Officer.

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

Statement from the Board

Trustee Shinaberry read a statement on behalf of the Board regarding the recent vandalism and theft in the township:

"We have been made aware of some totally unacceptable behavior in Blendon Township, Minerva Park, and other nearby areas, where someone is vandalizing personal property of residents involving stealing flags, signs, and defacing cars with scissors. We, as a Board, want to be very clear that this behavior is not and never will be acceptable. We condemn this type of behavior in any situation, including when directed at an individual or group. Our police department is working on finding the individual responsible for this offensive and shameful behavior, and we are sad to see this unacceptable behavior in our township."

Police Chief Belford also provided an update on their progress in finding the individual responsible.

Westerville City Schools Presentation

Nicole Marshall did a presentation on behalf of Westerville City Schools called "Fully Fund the Fair School Funding Plan". Information about this presentation can be found on our website at www.blendontwp.org.

Public Comment

Time was permitted for meeting attendees to make comments.

Trustee Comment

Trustee Ciamacco— None to report.

Trustee Shinaberry— Trustee Shinaberry stated that she represented Blendon Township at the Franklin Co. Township Association and Franklin Co. Public Health District Advisory Council meetings on March 18th. The Health Advisory Council meeting gave the 2024 Annual Report in a very informational presentation, including data from things like water quality evaluations, school food safety inspections, medical home visits, and addiction services. They also handed out free COVID test kits and naloxone treatments, which she gave to Administrator Myers to have available in the Administrative Office. They said to reach out if we want more.

The Senior Center is hosting a Free Health Fair on April 2 from 9 AM -12 PM. There will free assessments, raffles & prizes, and over 30 exhibitors.

Lastly, she discussed a free service called The Community Care Program for Blendon Township and Westerville residents. It's a daily telephone check-in service for homebound, handicapped, or elderly residents. Once a person is enrolled, a computer will call the home every day at a pre-determined time. If everything is OK, the person answers the phone and follows the message instructions. If they don't answer the phone, your emergency contact and the Westerville Communications Division will be called and first responders will be sent to the home to check on the person. She stated that it sounds like great program for seniors or handicapped residents, especially those who live alone, so please pass the word about this service. Karen Lewis is the coordinator and her phone number is 614-901-6602.

Trustee Heichel— Trustee Heichel provided an update to the residents and Parks Advisory Committee regarding their wish list for our community parks and green spaces. She expressed her gratitude for their work and shared her appreciation for their efforts. She is currently researching the suggestions that were presented to the Board at the previous meeting. Trustee Heichel also reminded the committee that the Blendon Zoning Compliance Director, along with Trustee Ciamacco and high-level representatives from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), has been working on updating Blendon's zoning codes over the past 9 to 10 months—particularly as they relate to native, natural, and biodiverse gardening. At this time, she did not feel comfortable voting on some of the items presented by the committee, as the Board must ensure that any decisions align with the updated zoning codes agreed upon with the Zoning Committee.

Fiscal Officer Report

Minutes—Fiscal Officer Bury asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the Regular Meeting Minutes from the March 12, 2025 meeting. Trustee Shinaberry motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes on March 12, 2025. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Approval of Purchase Orders—Fiscal Officer Bury asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the Purchase Orders presented. Trustee Shinaberry motioned to approve Purchase Orders as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Bills—Fiscal Officer Bury asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the bills presented. Trustee Shinaberry motioned to approve the bills. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Approval to January 2025 Bank Reconciliation—Fiscal Officer Bury asked to the other Trustees if they had reviewed the January 2025 bank reconciliation. Trustee Shinaberry moved to approve as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

4079 Executive Parkway update—Fiscal Officer Bury stated that the building sold slightly above the appraised value. They are happy with the sale and can now focus on addressing the remaining obligations.

Administration/Human Resources

Resolution 2025-14 Finding of recovery re-payment agreement— Administrator Myers asked the Board for approval of the Resolution. Trustee Heichel moved to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Blendon Township met in regular session on March 26th, 2025.

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to consider the acceptance of a payment plan for the Findings for Recovery issued by the State of Ohio on December, 10th 2024 for a total amount of \$103,045.50 against former Township Administrator Bryan Rhoads. The Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) has already remitted \$7,787.70 to the Township General Fund as part of Faithful Duty insurance coverage. The remaining \$95,257.80 is to be paid by Mr. Rhoads pursuant to the agreement made through the Franklin County Prosecutors Civil Division.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that effective March 26th, 2025, the Blendon Township Board of Trustees will accept the 100% repayment of the remaining \$95,257.80 as outlined in the payment agreement negotiated by the Franklin County Prosecutors Civil Division.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby adopts and approves the agreement on file with the Township and authorizes Township Administrator Pat Myers to sign that agreement on behalf of the Board of Trustees, along with any changes or amendments thereto, provided that the approval of those changes and amendments by the Township Administrator and the character of those changes and amendments are not being inconsistent with this Resolution or adverse to the Township, and shall be evidenced conclusively by the Township Administrator execution of the agreement.

Trustee Shinaberry seconded. All voted yes.

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City of Columbus Annexation— Administrator Myers addressed questions that have been brought up regarding an annexation with City of Columbus. It is parcel 100-000007 that is owned by the City of Columbus and located in the southern portion of Hoover Dam. Residents will not be affected by this annexation, as there are no residents on this property. The City of Columbus has the right to annex since its their property. They are also looking at annexing the northern part.

Native Grass— Administrator Myers, Zoning Director Eric Moore, and Code Compliance/Administrative Specialist Jeff Tutorow met with the township lawyer to discuss the new language for the code they have been working on. Once they have a draft finalized, it will be sent to the Board for review. If they like it, there will be three public hearings for public comment on that language. After this, any changes can be made and brought to the Board for a vote.

Maintenance/B&G/Parks/Cemetery

Matt Newman reported that during the month of March, they had the salt barn full, winterized all the winter equipment and got them put away, brought out spring equipment, worked on cemetery spring clean up, and added 10 garden plots to the community garden after it sold out. He also reminded everyone of the Community Clean Up on April 25th, 26th and 27th. Document shredding will occur onsite on the 26th from 10 AM—2 PM. Drug Take Back Day will also be on the 26th from 10 AM—2 PM.

Police

Chief Belford announced a presentation and Q&A event for the upcoming Police Levy. This will be held on April 7th at 6:30 PM at 6330 S. Hempstead Rd. Chief Belford and Fiscal Officer Bury will be in attendance.

Fire

Deputy Chief George Sorge said they completed training last Saturday, thanks to Frazier General Contractors, who let them use their building, located at the former Roush used car building. That building is getting ready for demolition this week.

Announcements

Wednesday, April 9, 2025, 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.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Trustee Shinaberry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 PM. Trustee Ciamacco seconded the motion. All voted yes.

Approved by: 
Cathy Shinaberry, Chairperson

Approved by: 
Joann Bury, Fiscal Officer