

DARBY TOWNSHIP  
October 9, 2023  
MEETING MINUTES

---

The Darby Township Trustees met in regular session on Monday, October 9, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Darby Township Hall with the following township official's present: Dennis Blumenschein, James Scheiderer, David Huston, and Connie Priday. Also present was Scott Smith, Steve Frances, Shawn Sech, Union County Health Department.

Chairman Blumenschein called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes from the September 11, 2023 monthly meeting of the Darby Township Trustees were emailed to all Trustees prior to the meeting. Mr. Huston made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Scheiderer seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as presented.

**Sheriff's Report:**

Due to his work schedule Deputy Anspach was not in attendance, and the Trustees indicated that they had no questions for the deputy.

**Township residents/visitors' business/concerns:**

Ms. Sech shared information on the upcoming ballot Issue 2, which is to commercialize, regulate, legalize and tax the adult use of cannabis. The information she included is the: Impact on Youth, Impact on Business, and the Impact on Driving Safety.

The Trustees asked Mr. Frances if he would have an interest in serving as an alternate on the BZA or BZC. Mr. Frances indicated he would have an interest. Mr. Frances received the Darby Township Zoning Resolution.

**Zoning Inspector Report:**

Mr. Smith

- Permits Issued:
  - John Schroeffer, 9640 Unionville Road, Plain City – pool house
  - Rick DeShane, 11674 St. Rt. 736, Plain City – accessory structure
  - Benjamin Pester, 12114 St. Rt. 736, Plain City – pond
- Variance Request
  - Michael Lewis, 10385 Ketch Road, Plain City
- The monthly report was discussed, with Mr. Smith providing detailed follow-up information on open items.
- Mr. Scheiderer made a motion to approve mailing BZA term ending letter to Margaret Beck, Charles Adams and BZC term ending letter to Steve Studenmund and Neal Seaborn. Mr. Huston seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Blumenschein, yea, Mr. Scheiderer, yea and Mr. Huston, yea. Motion unanimously passed.
- A discussion was held on the right of way encroachment of three residents in Autumn Ridge. A decision was made to have Mr. Thayne Gray write a letter to the residents (Sean and Stacey Hill, 16730 Raintree Drive, Kevin and Angela Cahsman, 16725 Raintree Drive, James B. and Faye D. Cox, 16845 Raintree Drive) indicating that the right of way is the responsibility of the Township and the Township does not allow private improvements within the right-of-way in platted subdivisions. All Trustees agreed that the letter should include wording that if any damage is done to the private improvements made in the right of way by the Township the land owner is responsible for the repair. Mr. Blumenschein indicated that this is important to be documented so if the current land owners sell their property the future land owners are aware of their responsibility should any damage be done. A letter will also be sent to the Autumn Ridge Home Owners Association. . (Letter from Mr. Gray attached).

### **Pleasant Valley Fire District:**

- Mr. Scheiderer provided information on the most recent Pleasant Valley Fire District meeting.

### **Old Business:**

- 1) *Speed Sign*  
Mr. Huston had the speed sign out several times during the month of September/October.
- 2) *Speed Sign update from Union County Engineer*  
No update on the speed sign. *(The Union County Engineer Office was contacted after the meeting and have indicated that the radar units that go on the signs are on back order).* Information will be forthcoming.
- 3) *Township Website Traffic*  
Mr. Huston explained the report from Richwood Marketing on the usage of the website.
- 4) *ARPA Second Trance Funds – Updates*
  - The new playground equipment has been installed. Mr. Huston will meet with a mulch supplier this week and obtain a price for additional mulch in the playground. Information will be forthcoming.
- 5) *Recap of Fall Festival*
  - Mrs. Priday indicated that she and Mrs. Smith (Mr. Smith, Zoning Inspector's wife) volunteered at the Fall Festival. The Community enjoyed the festival and the Lighthouse Church was very appreciative of the Township's donation. Mrs. Priday asked that the Trustees consider assisting the Lighthouse Church next year with the Fall Festival.
- 6) *Other Business*

### **New Business**

- 1) *Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies (Note: This Resolution was due back to the Union County Auditor by October 1, 2023, the Resolution was received via email after the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, with all Trustees agreeing to the Resolution and signing it on September 15, 2023. Below is the motion accepting the Resolution).*
  - Mr. Scheiderer made a motion to adopt the Resolution in accordance with the provisions of law has previously adopted a Tax Budet for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024. Mr. Huston seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Blumenschein, yea, Mr. Scheiderer, yea and Mr. Huston, yea. Motion unanimously passed.
- 2) *Barb Nicol information from Darby Township Indian burial*
  - Mrs. Nicol reached out to the Ohio History Connection, Mr. Brent Eberhard, in regards to the Indian burial grounds found in Darby Township in the 1960's. She learned that the site documentation was very limited. It consisted of a 3"x5" index card. He noted that four burial pits were initially excavated by "local amateurs" and Mr. Robert Converse later found a fifth burial at the bottom of one of those pits. The fifth burial contained a flexed adult with what might be described as a deer mask, being that of the front portion of a deer skull with antlers. He noted that this was no doubt the headdress referenced in her message. The Trustees thanked Mrs. Nicol for her research. (Mrs. Nicol's email attached to the minutes).
- 3) *Review of Darby Township Cleanup Day*
  - The Trustees indicated that they felt fewer Darby Township residents participated in this year's cleanup day. A discussion ensued.
- 4) *Other*  
Mr. Scheiderer made a motion to move \$150,000 from the Richwood Bank Money Market Account to the STAR Ohio account. Mr. Huston seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Blumenschein, yea, Mr. Scheiderer, yea and Mr. Huston, yea. Motion unanimously passed.

### **Cemeteries**

- Mrs. Priday obtained house number signs for the three cemeteries from the Union County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Huston will look for sign tracks to put the signs up at each cemetery.

- A discussion was held on the fall weed control spraying by Tru Green at the cemeteries. Mr. Blumenschein will contact Mr. Bobby Hoover and share with him the Trustees disappointment on the spraying. Information will be forthcoming.

### **Playground**

Mr. Huston emailed the playground report to Mrs. Priday.

A discussion was held on the need for better weed control at the playground, and also the need to rake the playground mulch on a regular basis. Mr. Huston will look for tools to use to rake the playground. Information will be forthcoming.

### **Management Reports**

The monthly Management Reports were available for the Trustees to review and provide comments.

### **Roads**

The monthly road report was completed.

**Communications/Correspondence-** The Union County Health Department fee schedule was shared.