

DARBY TOWNSHIP
February 12, 2024
MEETING MINUTES

The Darby Township Trustees met in regular session on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. at the Darby Township Hall with the following township official's present: Dennis Blumenschein, James Scheiderer, David Huber, and Connie Priday. Also present was Scott Smith, Nathan Cunningham, Larry Burchett, Brenda Lucas, Mary Lou Morris, Peggy Williamson, Mark Marsh, Mike Rausch, Jennifer Plahovinsak, David Gruenbaum, Samantha Hobbs, and Steve Francis.

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

The minutes from the January 15, 2024 regular meeting of the Darby Township Trustees were emailed to all Trustees prior to the meeting. Mr. Blumenschein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Huber seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as presented.

Sheriff's Report:

Deputy Swayve was in attendance. He had no information to share with the Board.

Township residents/visitors' business/concerns:

Unionville Center Mayor Larry Burchett and several Council Members were in attendance and thanked the Darby Township Trustees for the purchase and installation of the solar power speed signs on Middleburg Plain City Road.

Zoning Inspector Report:

Mr. Smith

- Permits Issued:
 - No permits were issued
- The monthly report was discussed, with Mr. Smith providing detailed follow-up information on open items.
 - Discussed the pool fencing requirements for the Kill family. Mr. Smith noted they are grandfathered under the old Zoning Resolution and are not required to put a fence up.
- Items to follow-up on:
 - Will contact residents on Raintree in regards to the dirt pile.
 - Will speak to homeowners on Andrews Drive in regards to sand in the right-of-way
 - Continue to follow-up on the Flores property
 - Will contact McDaniel's about unsightliness of the property.
 - Will check on concerns at 16294 & 16325 Riverbirch
- Legal Notices for BZA and BZC meetings – A suggestion was made that a legal notice be placed in the JT listing monthly meetings for the BZC and if the meetings are not needed they would be canceled. This will be discussed at the February 26th meeting with the BZA, BZC and Union County Soil and Water.

Pleasant Valley Fire District:

- Mr. Scheiderer shared the February 2024 Pleasant Valley Fire District meeting information.

Old Business:

- 1) *Township Website Traffic* - Mr. Huber distributed the report and provided detailed information from the report.
- 2) *Darby Township Handbook* – Ms. Hobbs indicated that she can assist with the completion of the handbook. She has been hired to assist Mr. Gray in the Union County Prosecutor's Office.
- 3) *Richwood Bank Positive Pay* – No exceptions were reported for the month of January 2024.
- 4) *Township email accounts* – Each Trustee, Fiscal Officer and Zoning Inspector now have Township email accounts, which are managed through Richwood Marketing at a cost of \$10.00 for each account (\$50.00/month). Monthly payment for the accounts will be made via ACH.

- 5) *2024 Darby Township Road Inspection* – Mr. Blumenschein provided information on the road inspection, which was completed on February 3rd. He will contact the Union County Engineer's Office and provide them with the roads that need to be worked on this Spring/Summer.
- 6) *Other Business* – Mr. Huber indicated that he met with LUC and discussed with them Darby Township's annual sign fee. LUC advised to eliminate that charge. Mr. Huber will work with Richwood Marketing to remove that fee from the Darby Township website.

New Business

- 1) *Possible Grants available through the Union County Health Department* – Darby Township is working with the Union County Health Department on possible grants for the Township. Suggested items for the grant application include: additional playground equipment, rubber mulch, possible basketball court and/or pickleball courts, and a shelter house. Information will be forthcoming.
- 2) *OTA Conference Review* – Mr. Scheiderer and Mr. Huber attended the conference, and felt the information received was very educational.
- 3) *UCTA Annual Banquet* – Mr. Blumenschein, Mr. Huber and Mrs. Priday will plan to attend the meeting on Thursday, March 7th at Der Dutchman. Mr. Scheiderer is unable to attend as that is the same night as the Pleasant Valley Fire District monthly meeting. Each Trustee and the Fiscal Officer will personally donate \$20 for the purchase of gift cards from Scheiderer Greenhouse and The Flour Barn for the raffle at the banquet.
- 4) *Memorial Day*
 - a. Band – Mrs. Priday has confirmed the Fairbanks Band participation in the parade and program.
 - b. Speaker – Mr. Blumenschein has arranged for Mr. Salvatore Petrovia to be the speaker.
 - c. Lighthouse Church – Mrs. Priday has been in contact with the Lighthouse Church and they plan to assist with the picnic lunch after the program. Mayor Larry Burchett indicated that the Township may use the Unionville Center Green for the luncheon.
 - d. Honor Guard – Mr. Sam Fetty and Mr. Joey Newell have agreed to serve as Honor Guard again this year.
- 5) *No Smoking/Vaping Signs/Handicap* – The Township will order *No Smoking* and *Handicap* signs. The no-smoking/vaping signs will be posted outside the building, inside the building and near the playground.
- 6) *Tour of Honor – Unknown Memorial at Old Darby Township Cemetery for 2024 Season* – This will be discussed during the April 8th meeting.
- 7) *Any other business*
 - a. Mr. Blumenschein provided information he received from Quality Lawn Company in regards to weed control. Information will be forthcoming.
 - b. Mrs. Priday distributed the Ohio Township Association Risk Management anniversary coverage information. A discussion ensued. Mr. Huber questioned if the Township had enough liability insurance on the playground. *After the meeting Mrs. Priday followed up with Ms. Wendy French, OTARMA, and the Township has \$3,000,000 coverage. Mr. Huber and Mr. Scheiderer examined the playground equipment and indicated they felt the coverage amount was adequate.*
 - c. Sheriff Jamie Patton was in attendance and provided information on the staffing in the Sheriff's Office. He noted that the Union County Commissioners have approved a pay raise for the deputies and a new salary range that is enabling him to fill the vacant positions. He indicated that he will be on the March 19th ballot as he is running for re-election.

Cemeteries

- Mr. Huber made a motion to charge non-residents a fee of \$1500 for a single burial plot. Mr. Blumenschein seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Scheiderer, yea, Mr. Blumenschein, yea and Mr. Huber yea. Motion unanimously passed.
- Mr. Scheiderer shared information on a company that can clean old cemetery headstones, so the information on the stones would be readable. A discussion ensued. Mr. Scheiderer will meet with them on February 29th and provide follow-up information during the March meeting.

Playground

Mr. Huber provided the playground report to Mrs. Priday.

The Trustees replaced the fence caps. A discussion was held on possible new playground equipment with the Trustees reviewing the proposal from Kinetic. Mr. Huber will follow-up with Kinetic. 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