

Pierce Township Trustees  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2023

The Board of Trustees of Pierce Township, Clermont County, Ohio met for their Regular Meeting at 6:30p.m., Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 950 Locust Corner Rd. Cincinnati, Ohio 45245.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Pete Kambelos called the meeting to order. Trustee Nicholas Kelly, Trustee Allen Freeman and Chairman Pete Kambelos were present at roll call. Attorney Katie Barbieri, Fire Chief Craig Wright, Police Chief Paul Broxterman, Service Department Director John Koehler, Planning & Zoning Administrator Eddie McCarthy, Fiscal Officer Debbie Schwey were also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Attorney Katie Barbieri led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Kambelos ask for a moment of silence for the commemoration of the fourth-year anniversary of Clermont County Sherriff's Deputy Bill Brewer's death in the line of duty.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Fiscal Officer Schwey made the motion to approve the January 11, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes and January 5, 2023 Special/Work Sessions Meeting Minutes. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve and seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND ACTIONS:**

Chief Broxterman recognizing Chief John Adams and LandSAR members of Ohio LandSAR on the assistance with the recent missing persons search on behalf of the police department, trustees and residences.

Administrator Williams requests a motion to appoint Planning and Zoning Administrator to the position of Director of Community Development and Planning effective February 19, 2023. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Resident Pete Kay brought to the trustees, the discuss of a Wall of Fame and a memorial to George Carpenter to be name the first recipient. Administrator Williams to start a memorial committee.

Chad Shaffer and Brad Seiter from Duke Energy brought forward to the trustees regarding the Bethel to Batavia Gas Line project. A small portion of the gas line goes thru the eastern part of the township.

Joe Garrett of Tre-Bel Energy reported to the trustees the current energy rates will running out. The current contract will be up in May this year. He is looking to do a 2-year contract for

electric but the gas contract is every 12 months. Mr. Garrett will be looking at rates for the coming year and will be bringing that information to the Board.

Sam Morton and Jay Stewart, Kleingers Engineering provided an overview of the St. Rt. 125 Corridor Plan. A presentation was presented by Mr. Stewart that was divided into 4 different nodes. Showing key intersections and development with those nodes.

Resident Carl Hartman who represents Super Sam's at the corner of White Oak Rd., Lewis Rd. and St. Rt. 125, stating there are a lot of accidents there that it is a safety component.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION:**

Joseph Malloni would like to see White Oak Rd. and Bradbury be patrolled more.

**DEPARTMENTAL CELEBRATIONS & UPDATES:**

Police Dept.- Police Chief Broxterman nothing more to report.

Fire/EMS-Fire Chief Wright reported repairs on 3 warning sirens are almost complete. Chief Wright talked about House Bill 509, the goal of this legislation is to make the State of Ohio the best place to work, live and start a business.

Service/Streets/Cemetery-Service Director Koehler recognized his staff, when someone is off the service department men pick up for each other. Getting prices to remove trees on Cole Rd. that are starting to fall over.

Parks-President Doug Dresie of the parks committee reported on plans for setting up 2 movie nights and summer concert. Reviewing the parks masterplan. Filling of the Easter Eggs is set for every Saturday, starting February 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. Looking to do an ice cream social, circus, joining the SPCA for dog walking. Looking at putting pickle ball courts at Spencer Shank Park, wanting to get feed- back from the community.

Planning & Zoning Activity-Planning & Zoning Administrator McCarthy reported 2 dates have been set for Land Use Plan review, open house for public input. Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Amelia Library starting at 5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. and Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at the townhall, starting at 5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m.

Administration- Administrator Williams reported the township received the demolition permit for 45 Maple St. The process should take about 4 days.

Looking at a couple of options/places for the employee luncheon. Looking to have the luncheon towards the end of March.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Administrator Williams requests a motion for Resolution 2022-049, a resolution revising the employee personnel policies and procedures manual for Pierce Township. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

The fiscal office included and provided a cash summary by fund, a bank reconciliation report, receipt account report and an appropriation status report to the Board of Trustees.

A couple of weeks ago, we became aware through a television news story that potentially two wells monitoring groundwater at the former Beckjord coal plant property were either damaged or missing for several months in 2022. The wells are an important monitoring feature of the plant, specifically with respect to testing for contaminants in groundwater and measuring water levels to determine whether coal ash residuals are potentially impacting our drinking water supply. Although the plant owner notified the Ohio EPA of these issues neither Pierce Township nor Clermont County were made aware of these issues. If what has been described is accurate (and we are neither judge, jury, nor executioner), this creates significant concern as groundwater contamination could potentially have multigenerational impacts on Pierce Township and Clermont County citizens. Obviously, we have fiduciary responsibility to our citizens and are obligated to act with great prudence. For the aforementioned reasons, I hereby motion that our Administrator be instructed to prepare and send a letter to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency as well as the Ohio Public Utilities Commission requesting that Pierce Township be advised when matters involving the Beckjord coal plant remediation are brought to the attention of the respective agencies.

Much discussion followed. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Chairman Kambelos requests a motion to direct Township staff to prepare a fact sheet on summary of the Township's stance on large scale commercial solar installations in the community. This information is to be considered by the Board of Trustees at the regular March meeting and forwarded to the Clermont County Commissioners. Discussion followed. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Chairman Kambelos requests a motion to alter the regular April Board of Trustees meeting date from April 12<sup>th</sup> to April 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 6:30p.m. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Chairman Kambelos requests the Boards consideration to direct the staff to set a special work session on economic development issues. Trustee Freeman made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Trustee Freeman requests a motion to direct Township staff to draft a policy for Board consideration setting rules for events in Township parks sponsored by private entities. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Chairman Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion to pay the Center for Local Government Membership dues for 2023 in the amount of \$3,825.00. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion to advance \$400,000.00 from the General Fund to the Waste Levy Fund and repay back when funds are received from the County. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey requests a motion to pay W. E. Smith Construction for the Cole Road Erosion Mitigation in the amount of \$62,428.08 from the Prestwick Tif Fund. Trustee Freeman made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fiscal Officer Schwey Requests a motion for Resolution 2023-001, a resolution establishing a special assessment fund for the Glen Mary Tif. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Administrator Williams requests a motion for Resolution 2023-005, a resolution appointing required member of the Township (Chair of Board) to the 2023 Tax Incentive Review Commission. (TIRC) Trustee Freeman made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Administrator Williams requests a motion authorizing the Township Administrator to sign a temporary easement agreement with New Richmond Development Corporation, LLC for access to a strip of property abutting Pond Run Rd. to repair slippage. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Police Chief Broxterman requests a motion to purchase a 2023 white Chevrolet Traverse from Tom Gill Chevrolet for \$41,563.00. This purchase replaces the 2022 Ford Explorer which was approved at the October 12, 2022 trustee meeting. That purchase did not occur due to the dealership canceling the order. This vehicle replaces Vehicle 12, a 2011 Ford Explorer, which is no longer serviceable. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Police Chief Broxterman requests a motion to purchase a new 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe from Tim Lally Chevrolet in the amount of \$43,407.00. This vehicle replaces Vehicle 4, a 2015 Ford Explorer, which has approximately 115,000. Vehicle 4 is out of service and in need of major engine work. If the purchase is approved, the department intends on selling Vehicle 4 on GovDeals. This purchase would be in accordance with the departments six- year capital improvement plan. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Police Chief Broxterman requests a motion to purchase a Records Management System from Sundance Systems, Inc. This system is much more advanced and efficient compared to the current system the police department now uses. (OHLEG). The initial cost of the system for year one is \$22,640.00. The subsequent annual cost would be \$14,340.00. The higher cost for year one is due to data integration. The purchase would be in accordance with the departments six- year capital improvement plan. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Police Chief Broxterman requests a motion to donate a Smith & Wesson model 28-2 Highway Patrol .357 revolver, serial number N574959, to the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum. The revolver was the police departments property room and part of a November 2022 approved order from the Clermont County Court of Common Pleas to dispose of forfeited property. Trustee Freeman made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Police Chief Broxterman requests a motion to have the fiscal office set a line account for the police department receiving a subgrant award for body worn cameras from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services. The amount of funds received is \$11,615.32. Trustee Freeman made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Fire Chief Wright requests a motion to terminate the part-time employment of Firefighter/EMT Joseph Welch effective January 31, 2023. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Planning and Zoning Administrator McCarthy requests a motion to approve Resolution 2023-002, a resolution declaring a nuisance at 100 Pond View Drive in accordance with Ohio Revised Statute 505.86. Trustee Freeman made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

Planning and Zoning Administrator McCarthy requests a motion to approve Resolution 2023-003, a resolution requesting a reallocation of previously granted Community Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$178,000.00 and approval to apply for an additional \$59,500.00 in 2023 CDBG funds for demolishing the partially constructed structures at 100 Pond View Drive. The Township will pledge a 5% match towards the demolition cost. Trustee Freeman made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Planning and Zoning Administrator McCarthy requests a motion to approve Resolution 2023-004, a resolution declaring a nuisance action in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3767.41 on property located at 3603 Turnberry Drive. Building is found to be a public nuisance as a result of a structure fire causing significant damage to the home. Trustee Kelly made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Freeman. Roll call: All aye.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Chairman Kambelos reported it is time to choose a person for salute to leaders. Chairman Kambelos motion to nominate volunteer of the parks committee, who coordinates the Christmas Parade, Michelle Balside. Seconded by Trustee Kelly. Roll call: All aye.

Trustee Freeman made the motion to select Trustee Kelly to serve on the Steering Committee. Seconded by Chairman Kambelos. Roll call: All aye.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION:**

Other items of discussion were developing a noise ordinance and working with legal regarding shooting of guns on Pond Run Rd., setting special meeting date for Waste Levy, concerns for turning left out of Dollar General.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Trustee Kelly motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00p.m., seconded by Trustee Freeman.  
Roll call: All aye.

**ATTESTED:**

The Pierce Township Board of Trustees approved the foregoing minutes on March 8, 2023.

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Chairman Pete Kambelos, Pierce Township Board of Trustee

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Debbie Schwey, Pierce Township Fiscal Officer