

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
JULY 2, 2024- REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of

Meeting

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held Minutes of BOARD OF TRUSTEES – BATAVIA TOWNSHIP 20

The Board of Trustees of Batavia Township met for July regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at the Batavia Township Community Center.

CALL TO ORDER

Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by John Ellis, Jennifer Haley, Fiscal Officer, gave the roll call for the Board of Trustees. Present were: Mr. Parsons, Mr. Perry, and Mr. Sauls. Also present were Karen Swartz, Township Administrator, Taylor Corbett, Planning and Zoning Director, Cody Smith, Service Director, and Sheriff Deputy Benkelmann.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MINUTES, AND FINANCIALS

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees approve the July 2, 2024 agenda as presented. Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	Motion carried

Mr. Perry motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees approve the June 4, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Mr. Sauls seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Perry	yes	Motion carried

Ms. Haley reviewed the financials and there was discussion.

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees approve the June, 2024 Financials as presented. Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	Motion carried

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORT

Deputy Benkelmann gave the Batavia Township crime stats for June, 2024.

The Batavia Township Deputies took 154 offense reports, a decrease of 7.5% compared to May. Those consisted of 25 violent crimes, 44 property, 8 personal crimes, 14 drug and alcohol related crimes, 57 informational reports, and 6 juvenile related offenses. Theft was the highest crime type.

The Clermont County Sheriff Deputies took 127 offense reports, 159 of the incident reports. There were 16 traffic arrests, 53 warnings, 107 warrant services, 535 civil services, 87 assists to other departments, 42 adult arrests, 18 juvenile arrests, and 194 business checks. We took 98% of the incident reports as well as 82% of the offense reports. There was \$400 in recovered property. There were 696 neighborhoods patrolled. The high number was due to many car thefts in the County. We had five total overdoses.

Deputy Benkelmann gave advice to deter car thefts. Do not leave your keys in your car, keep cars locked, keep valuables out of site, keep a well-lit house outside, and cameras being the best recommendation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Sauls gave an update for Central Joint Fire & EMS District. There was a special meeting last week to authorize the employment of two paramedics and three EMTs. The attendance at the meeting was very low.

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Mr. Parsons gave the update for Batavia Union Cemetery. There is a meeting tomorrow. We approved, jointly with the Village, to get the paving completed in the Union Cemetery.

SERVICE DIRECTOR REPORT

Cody Smith, Service Director, gave the June report.

Ryan power washed all the fences around the cemeteries.

We performed work orders for driveway culverts and ditching throughout the Township.

We replaced a door on the Sauls building.

We had a sinkhole on Breckenridge Drive.

The 2024 Kenworth has the snow and ice package on it.

The paving was completed in Mt. Holly Preserves.

The paving on Union Chapel was completed.

The Greenbriar Guardrail was installed. It is now much safer in that area near the VFW.

We updated the landscaping around the Sauls building. New plants are on order.

There was a sinkhole on Olive-Branch Cemetery Road. It was a forced sewer main that caused the sinkhole.

The paving at Midland turned out very nice.

We performed hydro-excavating on Lucy Run.

We sealed decorative concrete at the park.

Cody spoke about paving expenses. There was discussion.

PLANNING AND ZONING DIRECTOR/INSPECTOR REPORT

Taylor Corbett, Planning and Zoning Director gave the June report.

There were four homes sold in Forest Grove, one in Billingsley, zero in Rosewood, three in Derby Place, and zero in Heritage Farms. There was one multi-family unit granted.

The average of homes sold for the Township in June is \$446,489.

We had 14 zoning permits for June 2024.

Total permits were 257 for June 2024.

The Zoning Inspector, Jim Decamp, addressed and resolved many zoning complaints.

Taylor addressed Zoning Resolutions. A tree is on a property in Estrella. Concerning the HOA, a resident wants a tree removed from their front yard. Taylor will submit a letter conveying the consensus of the Trustees to remove the tree.

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Karen Swartz, Township Administrator, gave the June report.

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Karen met with a Omnia Representative, a cooperative purchasing program about our janitorial supplies.

We were awarded the capital bill for 2024. Karen reviewed all the projects.

Karen spoke about the gas aggregation which expires in October 2024. Residents can opt out of the gas aggregation.

Staff have completed training on the cemetery software. The deeds are almost all in the system.

The garage at the Victorian was burglarized.

Invoices were sent out for the baseball field spring use. We will look into options of how to communicate with the teams.

The Deputy contract expires at the end of this year. Karen reviewed the expenses and projected costs. This will be a three-year contract.

The back old portion of the playground opened June 28th. Karen gave an update about the area. The splashpad work is continuing. Sidewalks will be poured in the next few days.

Choice One is working on the bid documents for paving the parking lot.

The pond has been stocked.

The parking regulations have been rolled out and will be in effect starting July 4th.

June 16th was our first Movie-In-the Park and it was a great success.

Part of the 2024 Park Grant included installing AEDs which are available to anyone at the park. 911 is aware of these. Also included in this grant we will get additional cornhole boards.

PUBLIC HEARING

6:05 p.m. Case B-03-24ZPD from “A” to “PD”, 190 Judd Road, PIN 032021B070 and 032021B0612.

Jonathon Wochoer swore in all public participants and gave a summary of the case.

Matt Mains with Drees Homes spoke about the development, planned features, amenities, and products they offer.

Mr. Wochoer stated we did receive a letter from Richard Record.

Chris Wren, 308 Judd Rd. had concerns about the tree use type and the heavy use of Judd Road and suggested a traffic survey. Batavia Township does not own Judd Rd, they maintain it.

Sarah Potter, 304 Apple Rd. commented about the heavy use of roads, infrastructure of the property, and if there was an environmental impact study.

Dee Smith, Judd Rd. commented about traffic issues.

Tim O’Connor, Barton Dr. shared concerns about more traffic issues.

Tony Smith, 103 Judd Rd., shared concerns about traffic issues and all the accidents.

Tanya Capehart, 135 Judd Rd. is concerned about traffic issues.

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Connie O'Connor, 4230 Barton Dr. had questions about how decisions are made about more development.

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees approve the zone change for **Case B-03-24ZPD** from Agricultural to Planned Development with conditions on the staff report. Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	Motion carried

There was a break at 7:14 p.m.

The meeting was back in session at 7:26 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 07-01-2024

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees adopt **Resolution 07-01-2024**, establishing assessments for abatement of nuisance certifying same to Clermont County Auditor.

PROPERTY ADDRESS	PROPERTY OWNER	AUDITOR PARCEL ID#	AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENT
12 Hitchcock Lane Amelia, Ohio 45102	James Vernon Cason 12 Hitchcock Lane Amelia, Ohio 45102	050103B002.	\$958.73
23 Hitchcock Lane Amelia, Ohio 45102	Mary E. Giwer 39 Mallard Drive Amelia, Ohio 45102	032022E004W.	\$258.73

Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	Motion carried

Resolution 07-02-2024

Mr. Perry motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees adopt **Resolution 07-02-2024** authorizing the abatement, control, or removal of vegetation, garbage, refuse, or debris for the following properties:

PROPERTY ADDRESS	PROPERTY OWNER	AUDITOR PARCEL ID#
3980 Judd Road Amelia, Ohio 45102	David Scott & Jennifer Anne Taylor 3980 Judd Road Amelia, Ohio 45102	032023D051.
2519 Herold Road Batavia, Ohio 45103	Courtney R. Pemberton 2519 Herold Road Batavia, Ohio 45103	022011F063.

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4238 Summit Road
Batavia, Ohio 45103

Cheryl Gay Campbell
4238 Summit Road
Batavia, Ohio 45103

012011A033.

Mr. Sauls seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Perry	yes	Motion carried

Resolution 07-03-2024

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees adopt **Resolution 07-03-2024** authorizing the Township Administrator, Karen Swartz, to enter into a Natural Gas Aggregation Supplier Aggregation for a term not to exceed 12 months and at a rate at or below the current Duke Energy GCR rate. Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	Motion carried

Resolution 07-04-2024

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees adopt **Resolution 07-04-2024** authorizing expenditures from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ARPA Resolution in the amount of \$104,313.00, as designated in Resolution 05-10-2022 using the standard allowance. Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	Motion carried

Resolution 07-05-2024

Mr. Perry motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees adopt **Resolution 07-05-2024** Authorizing the Township Administrator, Karen Swartz, to execute any agreements to enter the New National Opioid Settlement Program. Mr. Sauls seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Perry	yes	Motion carried

Resolution 07-06-2024

Mr. Perry motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees adopt **Resolution 07-06-2024** appointing two members, Taylor Corbett and Karen Swartz, for the Tax Incentive Review Council for 2024. Mr. Sauls seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	Motion carried

Payment Authorization

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees authorize the following payments:

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VENDOR	\$ AMOUNT	FUND	PURPOSE
AED TEAM/Shok Enterprises	\$6,180.00 Purchase Order # 34-2024	General – 2024 Clermont County Park Grant	2-AED Cabinets and 2-AEDs for Park located at 1535 Clough Pike
WAJONES Truck Bodies & Equipment	\$104,499.00 Purchase Order # 46-2023 \$101,396.00 TN \$3,103.00	ARPA Funds	Snow and Ice Package for 2024 Kenworth
Columbus Kenworth, Inc.	\$129,068.00 Purchase Order # 35-2023	ARPA Funds	2024 Kenworth Dump Truck T480
Security Fence	\$24,848.75 Purchase Order 28-2024	ARPA Funds	Snyder Road
Security Fence	\$13,600 + \$67,115 22-2024 & 43-2024	ARPA Funds	Greenbriar Road
Deere & Company	\$116,989.84 Purchase Order # 25-2024	ARPA Funds	6110M John Deere Tractor
TOTAL	\$462,300.59		

Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Perry	yes	Motion carried

Resolution 07-07-2024

Mr. Perry motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees adopt **Resolution 07-07-2024** authorizing Park Grant Application from the Clermont County Port Authority for the Capital Grant relative to Park Improvements totaling \$189,919, with a \$50,000 local match. Mr. Sauls seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Perry	yes	Motion carried

Administrator Authorization

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees authorize the Township Administrator, Karen Swartz, to execute a Cooperative Acceptance Agreement with CINTAS for Workplace Solutions through the OMNIA Cooperative Purchasing Program for a term of 60 months. Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	Motion carried

Administrator Authorization

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Mr. Perry motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees authorize the Township Administrator, Karen Swartz, to execute an agreement with West Clermont Soccer Association for the use of the fields at the Batavia Township Community Park located at 1535 Clough Pike, Batavia, Ohio 45103. There was discussion. Mr. Sauls seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	Motion carried

Membership Renewal

Mr. Sauls motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees renew the annual membership to the APA (American Plumbing Association), which includes the Ohio Chapter for Taylor Corbett in the amount of \$399.00. Mr. Perry seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Parsons	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Perry	yes	Motion carried

Donation Approval

Mr. Perry motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees donate \$500.00 to the VFW Post 3954, P.O. Box 1, Batavia, Ohio 45103, for Memorial Day Services for 2024. Mr. Sauls seconded the motion. On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	Motion carried

CEMETERY DEED

Cemetery Deed for Frank Hager and Martha Hager, Lucy Run Cemetery, Lot 27, Graves 3 & 4.

CJFED Member At Large Appointment

Mr. Perry motioned the Batavia Township Board of Trustees appoint Jennifer Haley as Member At Large to CJFED Board of Trustees. This is for a 2-year period. Mr. Parsons seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Parsons discussed the reduced or lack of funding coming from properties in the Village of Batavia due to the incentives and Committee Reinvestments Areas (CRA) that the Village Council has approved on new properties. These new properties are not contributing tax dollars to the Fire District Levy, Local Schools or other levied services. This puts the burden on Batavia Township Residents disproportionately. Trustee Parsons stated that we don't have any control over the other funding but requested the Fire Board to evaluate the funding and ensure that funding is proportionate to all the residents. Trustee Parsons stated that this is why the Joint Fire Board was created over 20 years ago, and that we are in the same situation again with disproportionate funding within the district. Trustee Sauls and Trustee Perry commented that they supported evaluating the issue. Karen will forward a list of documents that she needs from CJFED to Jennifer.

On the roll being called:

Mr. Perry	yes	
Mr. Sauls	yes	
Mr. Parsons	yes	Motion carried

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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Sauls motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Parsons seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.



Rex A. Parsons,
Chairman



Jennifer Haley,
Fiscal Officer