

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



## BROWN TOWNSHIP REGULAR SESSION

Held: April 18, 2022

The Brown Township Board of Trustees convened in regular session on Monday, April 18, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:48 p.m. in the second-floor meeting room at 2491 Walker Rd Hilliard, Ohio 43026. Trustee Dever called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Ms. Pamela Sayre	Present	Mr. Joseph Martin	Present
Mr. Gary Dever	Present	Ms. Becky Kent	Present

Also in attendance was Barbara Hoover, Assistant to the Trustees. Tracy Hatmaker called in to the meeting.

### Approval of Minutes

Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022 Regular Session. Trustee Martin seconded the motion. Voting results: Dever: aye, Sayre: aye, Martin: aye. Motion approved.

### Fiscal Actions

Bills were presented for payment. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the payment of bills. Trustee Sayre seconded the motion. Voting results: Dever: aye, Sayre: aye, Martin: aye. Motion approved.

The Trustees previously reviewed the April 2022 payroll report. Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the payroll report. Trustee Martin seconded the motion. Voting results: Dever: aye, Sayre: aye, Martin: aye. Motion approved.

The Trustees previously reviewed the bank reconciliation and the supporting financial reports for the month of March 2022. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the bank reconciliation. Trustee Sayre seconded the motion. Voting results: Dever: aye, Sayre: aye, Martin: aye. Motion approved.

### Sheriff's Report

Brown Township's Community Liaison, Deputy Haren, was present for the meeting. He provided a summary of Brown Township calls for 3/21/2022 – 4/18/2022. Total calls for service during the period were (69). There were (7) reports taken and (0) citations issued. Deputy Haren reported that HB408 will cut down on catalytic converter theft if passed. The Franklin County Sheriff's office had a big drug bust in Prairie Township. There have been multiple complaints about speeding on Morris Road.

### Norwich Fire Department Report

Fire Chief Baird was present. During March 2022, there were (3) Fire runs and (14) EMS runs in the unincorporated area of Brown Township. There were also (3) Fire runs and (7) EMS runs in the incorporated area of Brown Township.

Fire Chief Baird updated the board on a problem with the floor in the bunkroom at Station 82. He also reported that calls are up 30% in 2022 from 2021. Finally, the board learned that Norwich uses a different vendor (Oracle) for their elevator service at the other stations. They will provide a quote for Station 82 so the board can consider switching vendors.

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### Tracy Hatmaker's Report (submitted)

#### BDAWG Meeting

The meeting went by pretty quickly. Some people had only planned on an hour.

Michelle from Hilliard participated by phone. She discussed their capacity study and the comprehensive planning process they're going through right now. She said that they are planning on 1776 additional units in their growth area and she anticipates a green belt just beyond their planning area (Brown). She said that this green belt would be at least partially secured by allowing developments in the growth area to provide off site open space in the green belt. She said that they felt that this was a great opportunity to help pay for the green belt. I pointed out that 1776 additional dwelling units and ancillary uses were part of the price. She agreed. I also mentioned our objection to using offsite locations for open space offsets, especially if they're in a different planning subarea. Michelle also said that they would start bringing cases to the Accord Panel for comments about this plan. (Sorry, I don't recall any dates of project names.) Myself and other members of the BDAWG group pointed out that this was a policy discussion that should go through BDAWG. Michelle seemed to agree.

The Columbus Economic Development Director attended and explained how they were processing and collecting revenues under the Darby Accord Revenue Agreement. It sounds like They're doing a pretty thorough job of it. We talked about the Open Space Advisory Committee's roll in the use of such funds. Nothing conclusive came of that.

There was some discussion of challenges of implementing the plan now that its been around for some time. The Columbus folks seemed to think things were fine as they are. I agree, but said that any changes to the policy should be done in an open and systematic way by the whole group. Jim Schimmer, as he has for years now, said that he expected there to be problems with the County levy agencies as revenue is diverted and wondered aloud if the Accord should be abandoned. (This is a habit of this.) However, the group agreed that there was unanimous support for the Accord.

Everybody scattered at that point as three or four of them had appointments/parking meter deadlines.

The group agreed to meet again in about a month, but there hasn't been any progress made on scheduling this meeting to-date.

#### Station 82 Expansion and Renovation

M+A Architects shared three concept plans for this project. A concept involving an additional 2,000 SF, one involving an additional 4,000 SF and a third involving an addition of about 8,600 SF. Each option also involved renovations to the existing footprint. The first option does not address many of the Fire Department's needs. While the second option did a better job of this, it came up short in some areas and the group didn't seem to think that it was a good long-term solution. Much of the group's discussion on how to tweak the third option in order to make it work. This discussion addressed how the living quarters could be rearranged to aid with response time and how best to incorporate community space and space for use by sheriff's deputies. The architects will take the group's comments back and return with one or two final concepts for discussion. Based on rough per SF cost estimates, it looks like this will be a \$3.0M to \$3.5M project.

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Pam and I have been looking at financing options for the project. We have had an initial discussion with representatives of the Columbus Franklin County Finance Authority about issuing bonds using a program that allows us to use their bond rating to issue debt. They are estimating that the Township would be interest rates ranging between 3.95% on 15 year bonds and 4.2% on 30 year bonds. I had a brief conversation with a representative at the Ohio office of USDA Rural Development who indicated that they have 2% loans that we would be eligible for. (I need to learn more about this.) Pam and Becky are checking into 5/3 rates. In addition, I am going to reach out to a someone that I've worked with in the past on bond issues to see if we could get a better deal if we issued our own bonds.

### Trail Planning

I reached out to MORPC about scheduling a discussing some weeks ago, but haven't heard back.

### Audience Participation

Melissa Brinkerhoff, a Brown Township resident, voiced environmental concerns about drainage projects in Brown Township.

### Newsletter

The deadline for the Summer 2022 newsletter is June 15. Proposed articles include a catalytic converter warning and part 2 of Brown Township's history.

### Roads

Estimates have been received for crack seal on Darby Knolls. Trustee Martin is still waiting on an estimate for Golfview Court. He will bring quotes for all road repairs to the May meeting for approval.

### New Business

#### Trash Service

The monthly fee for waste removal has increased in the past year. Trustee Sayre has contacted Alpha to get a quote and Fiscal Officer Kent will contact Republic to see if Brown Township is currently under a contract.

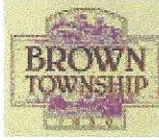
#### Clean up Township Hall

There are quite a few things that need thrown away in the township hall. Trustee Dever will schedule a dumpster to be brought on May 14 so the trash can be removed.

#### Future of the Maintenance Building

Trustee Sayre will contact Franklin County to see how much a contract would be for mowing the sides of the roads and plowing in anticipation of the current crew retiring. This could free up the garage side of the Township Hall for another purpose.

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### Adjournment

With no further business, Trustee Martin asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Sayre made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Martin seconded the motion. Voting results: Dever: aye, Sayre: aye, Martin: aye. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

  
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Gary Dever, Chair

  
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Becky Kent, Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the Trustees/ Fiscal Officer of Brown Township concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.