

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**MINUTES OF THE
XENIA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES:**

**REGULAR MEETING
December 1, 2022 6:01 P.M.**

NOTE: These minutes are a summary of the discussion and are not a word for word account of the discussions. The proceedings were electronically recorded. The meeting was held at the Xenia Township Office, 8 Brush Row Road, Xenia, Ohio. This was a Regular Trustee Meeting advertised annually and on the Xenia Township website within 24 hours of scheduling this meeting.

Beginning in January, all Trustee Meetings will be offered to the public via Zoom with the invitation credentials on the website the day before. Zoom meetings will be offered but quorum can not be met by Zoom.

Chair Steve Combs called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

All participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Steve Combs, Trustee Chair; Scott Miller, Trustee; Jeremy VanDyne, Trustee; and Jacqueline Robinson, Fiscal Officer.

In attendance: Alan Stock, Administrator

Ms. Robinson presented payroll.

Mr. Combs moved to approve the payroll s presented. Mr. VanDyne seconded the motion Roll Call: Mr. Combs–aye, Mr. Miller – aye, Mr. VanDyne - aye. Motion PASSED by roll call of 3-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-196

Ms. Robinson presented bills.

Mr. Miller moved to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Combs seconded the motion Roll Call: Mr. Combs–aye, Mr. Miller – aye, Mr. VanDyne - aye. Motion PASSED by roll call of 3-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-197

Move to open the Trustee Public Hearing on Xenia Township’s potential stance on Senate Bill 52. Senate Bill 52 was passed in July of 2022, and allows County Commissioners in the State of Ohio to designate restricted areas where Solar and Wind cannot be located in their County. Xenia Township Trustees would like to listen to your comments as to whether Xenia Township should petition the Greene County Commissioners to exclude our Township from Utility Solar and Wind. Mr. Combs moved to open the public hearing. Mr. VanDyne seconded the motion.

Trustee Combs read the following statement before public input began: Because of the larger crowd this evening, all comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. No minutes may be joined to other speakers’ minutes. Has everyone who desires to speak turned in their intention paper? We will hear from Xenia Township Residents first, for limiting utility scale 50 MW and higher, then Xenia Residents against limiting utility scale 50 MW and higher. When all Xenia Township Residents are heard, we will follow the same process for Non-Residents.

Mr. Stock, Administrator called the first Xenia Township Resident speaker.

Lynn Arnette, 2470 Clark Run Road, Xenia, Ohio, stated that she is for farm land and for the type of community that we now have in the township. She went on to say that she would like to limit utility scale solar and wind because she would like to keep the farm lands, farm lands and not to change the community that we have now.

McKim Barnes, 2330 Clark Run Road, Xenia, Ohio, stated that he would like Xenia Township to remain free of utility scale solar and wind facilities.

Terry Fife, 2330 Clark Run Road, Xenia, Ohio, stated that utility scale solar and wind should be at the local level, by people that live and work in that community where projects are proposed. She went on to state that 87% of Xenia Township is in the Agricultural District and is home to a number of Greene County's 817 farms. She further stated that utility scale solar and wind is not farming and that they will alter the landscape and dishonor the Agricultural heritage. Ms. Fife then stated that Xenia Township is known for prime soils, scenic and historic waterways and that it is our responsibility to ensure future generations are able to enjoy them. She went on to state that there has not been enough studies to ensure there will not be any long term consequences from utility scale solar and wind. Lastly, she stated that she would like Xenia Township to be excluded from utility scale solar and wind facilities.

Patricia Fife, 1139 Bradfute Road, Xenia, Ohio, stated that the energy demands are increasing and that we all collectively have an addiction to fossil fuels. She went on to state that by asking Greene County to restrict energy production via utility scale solar and wind would paint the township into a corner. She stated that fossil fuels are costing us in air and water quality, wildlife, threat to human health, impact economy and our general well-being. Ms. Fife went on to ask the Trustees not to support a resolution that would limit solar and wind energy productions.

Mark Fife, 1139 Bradfute Road, Xenia, Ohio, stated that he would like the Trustees to vote "NO" on any proposal that would limit solar and wind energy production. He went on to state that solar and wind energy are the best way to slow down climate change. He also stated that Senate Bill 52 only limits solar and wind, but not nuclear fusion. Mr. Fife stated that renewable energy will make us energy independent and will enabling farmers to lease their land for renewable energy will help stabilize local farmers. He went on to ask what would happen if farming corn and soy becomes unprofitable, or the next generation does not want to farm. Mr. Fife stated that it is the responsibility of the property owners to make their own decisions on renewable energy on their properties.

Trustee Combs asked if all Xenia Township residents had a chance to speak.

Mr. Stock, Administrator called the first Xenia Township Non-Resident speaker.

Will Urschell, 2624 Ketki Court, Xenia, Ohio, stated we will be transitioning from fossil fuels just like we transitioned from horses. He went on to state that he would hate to see Xenia Township residents lose a potential investment in utility solar and wind energy. He further stated that the land could be redeemed` back into farm land.

Joe Krajicek, 2369 Tarbox Cemetery Road, Cedarville, Ohio, statement was inaudible due to background noise, non-township resident, that owns land in Xenia Township. Stated that he was against limiting utility solar and wind.

Nichole Marvin, 1334 Bradfute Road, Cedarville, Ohio, stated that the Xenia Township residents will be the ones that will be left to clean up the messes left by the developers of the utility solar and wind facilities. She further stated that we collectively need to reevaluate our consumption of energy usages, not install utility solar and wind. She went on to ask the Trustees to pass a resolution restricting utility solar and wind.

Trustee Combs closed public comments.

Trustee Combs asked for comments from the Trustees.

Trustee Miller stated that he would like to have an opportunity to read and decipher the information before making a decision.

Trustee VanDyne stated that he would need more information to make a decision.

Trustee Combs stated that both sides presented well. He went on to state that none of the Trustees had made a decision on the matter at had before the meeting and would take all the information and statement into consideration before making a decision.

Mr. Combs moved to adjourn at 6:48pm. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Combs – aye, Mr. Miller – aye, Mr. VanDyne – aye. Motion **PASSED** by roll call of 3-0.

Xenia Township Board of Trustees

Date Approved: _____

L. Stephen Combs, Chair

Resolution # 2022-_____

Attest:

Scott Miller, Trustee

Jacqueline Robinson, Fiscal Officer

Jeremey VanDyne, Trustee