

**BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Special Meeting Minutes  
June 1, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board of Trustees Chair Debborah L. Wallace called the special meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Those in attendance were: Board Chair and Trustee Debborah L. Wallace, Board Vice Chair and Trustee Tom Kretz, Trustee Jessica Dean, Fiscal Officer Ryan A. Rushing, and Township Administrator J. Alexander Zaharieff.

Trustee Wallace read the legal notice in the record:

The Beavercreek Township Board of Trustees will hold two (2) special meetings with the purpose of holding two (2) public hearings to consider the levy of an annual motor vehicle license tax, pursuant to R.C. § 4504.181, upon the operation of motor vehicles on the public roads and highways in the unincorporated area of Beavercreek Township. The tax shall be at the rate of five dollars (\$5.00) annually per motor vehicle on all motor vehicles the owners of which reside in the unincorporated area of Beavercreek Township. The special meetings and hearings will be held on Monday, June 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. and on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Beavercreek Township Community Room Lower Level of Fire Station #61, 2195 Dayton Xenia Road.

Administrator Zaharieff presented to the Board the ability for the Township to adopt a \$5.00 motor vehicle licensing tax. This new section of the Ohio Revised Code was adopted by the General Assembly as part of the transportation budget adopted in 2019. He explained that the Board has to hold two public hearings and then take action at a regularly scheduled meeting on if the tax should be adopted. The Administrator presented a few handouts the Board had in their packet which described what is the motor vehicle licensing tax, the sections of the Ohio Revised Code which permits the tax, and which sections of the code have already been enacted by Beavercreek Township and Greene County. In addition, the Administrator presented a history of revenue for the current enacted motor vehicle license tax and the various funds in which the Road Department receipts revenue and makes expenditures. If the new tax is enacted, staff estimates an additional \$36,000-\$48,000 per year. A hypothetical fund balance was presented with the new tax and without. Currently, the Road and Bridge Fund subsidizes some of the paving costs. With the additional motor vehicle licensing tax, it would reduce this subsidize. In addition, with the additional tax, it would allow the Road and Bridge Fund to be stable until 2026 before having to ask the voters for an additional levy.

Trustee Kretz asked if the fleet management program was taken into consideration when drafting the hypothetical fund balances projections.

Road Superintendent Parks stated that it was considered and factored in the projections.

Administrator Zaharieff also mentioned there are firms that conduct audits of behalf of their client to ensure motor vehicle license taxes are being remitted correctly, as the State of Ohio collects that tax on the Township's behalf and remits it back to the Township.

Trustee Kretz asked what the obligation for the Township's share of Highway 35 improvements.

Administrator Zaharieff stated approximately over \$200,000. He also stated that this tax has to be receipted in a separate fund and can only be used for capital items and not operating costs, such as salaries and benefits.

There was general discussion on various projects that Township knows are needed, but due to lack of a local match for state funding, the projects never score high enough to be awarded.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Drake Daun, PO Box 125, Alpha, Ohio

Mr. Daun opposed the motor vehicle license tax. He stated that he owns four vehicles but only drives one at a time. He stated he did not understand the need for the tax as there was a levy for roads that passed this past election. He also mentioned that this tax, as it was explained, is only for Township residents, which he feels is unfair as he would guess that a majority of traffic on Township roads are from non-Township residents. Mr. Daun also asked if the residents are able to vote on this or if this was going to be enacted by the Board. He questioned if other entities do this. He asked the Board to not approve the tax.

Dennis Phillips, 620 Phillips Drive, Beaver creek, Ohio

Mr. Phillips stated that there are a lot of taxes placed already and though it may seem small, overtime they add up. As an example, when his business purchases a new work truck, on average over \$30,000 is paid in taxes on the purchase of that truck. In addition, the gas tax and other license fees. Mr. Phillips did commend the Township on maintaining and repairing roads. He finished by saying the Township should consider concrete to enhance the lifecycle of the roads.

Brad Phillips, 620 Phillips Drive, Beaver creek, Ohio

Mr. Phillips stated that he is in attendance as his business is located in the Township so what goes on in the Township is on importance to him. He stated that taxes are getting to a point of not being feasible for businesses and taxpayers. He also commended the Township on maintaining and repairing the roads.

Trustee Wallace closed the public hearing.

**BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JUNE 1, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

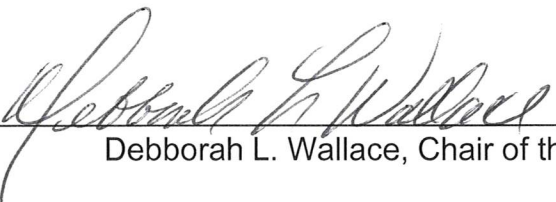
Trustee Kretz addressed the questions raised by the residents. He stated that there would not be a vote on this tax, as the Ohio Revised Code prescribed the method in which this has to be considered. Trustee Kretz stated that there are not able to toll roads and cannot have a vehicle tax per household versus per vehicle. On the question on if the Township can enact license taxes are their discretion, the answer is that the Township cannot. It has to wait for authorization by the Ohio Revised Code.

Administrator Zaharieff stated that the ballot language of levies is prescribed by the State of Ohio, so the Board is restricted on what the ballot language for levies reads.

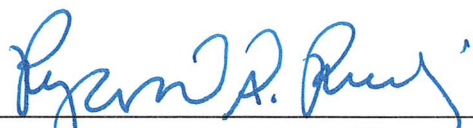
Fiscal Officer Rushing stated that the State of Ohio often uses local governments as a means to balance their budget shortfalls. As an example, prior to 2013 all levies would receive reimbursements for the property tax rollbacks that residents receive. There is a 10% rollback for non-businesses and a 2.5% rollback for home-owner occupancy, for a total of 12.5% reimbursement. These rollbacks reduce the amount of property taxes a residents pay, but are reimbursed by the State of Ohio to the taxing jurisdiction, which then allows that jurisdiction to not have to raise the tax rate in order to obtain that 12.5% loss. As the state enacts revenue sources for local governments, it is usually tied to a reduction in state shared revenue, like the Local Government Fund. Fiscal Officer Rushing stated township's use fund accounting, which restricts all revenue and expenditures to funds that can only be used for the purpose of that fund. Fiscal Officer Rushing stated that one of the realization he has is how flat revenue sources are for townships. Property taxes are the largest source of revenue for townships, and on average property taxes only grow about 1% each year. As the cost of doing business increases, maintaining the same level of service is challenging because doing the same thing next year as the Township did the previous, it will cost more.

**20200601-A:** Trustee Kretz made a MOTION to adjourn at 6:56 p.m., seconded by Trustee Dean. Fiscal Officer Rushing called the roll: Trustee Kretz, yes; Trustee Dean, yes; Trustee Wallace, yes. Motion adopted.

APPROVED:

  
Deborah L. Wallace, Chair of the Board

ATTESTED:

  
Ryan A. Rushing, Fiscal Officer

6-22-2020  
Date