

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF PERRY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

MEETING
HELD JUNE 18, 2024

PERRY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES MET IN REGULAR SESSION, CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:39 PM BY CHAIRPERSON LARRY SIDENER. KEVIN COX PRESENT, GREG KESSEN, PRESENT. ROLL CALL BY FISCAL OFFICER. THE TRUSTEES' PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED.

CHRISTINA STOMBAUGH, FISCAL OFFICER –

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

JOHN ITEN, INTERIM POLICE CHIEF – JOHN GAVE THE TRUSTEES AND FISCAL OFFICER A LIST OF OLD, USED POLICE EQUIPMENT THAT NEEDS DISPOSED OF.

COREY LEHMAN, ROAD SUPERVISOR - ABSENT

JOHN BREWSTER, ZONING INSPECTOR – JOHN HANDED IN TWO LETTERS OF RESIGNATION FROM ZONING BOARDS. THE LETTERS WERE READ BY LARRY SIDENER (LETTERS ATTACHED). JOHN BREWSTER STATED THAT HE RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM A ZONING COMMISSION BOARD MEMBER TO SCHEDULE A MEETING TO START THE DISCUSSION ABOUT POSSIBLY ADDING DATA CENTERS TO INDUSTRIAL ZONING. THE MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY, JUNE 27TH AT 6:30 PM AT THE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME BUT THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS AT THIS MEETING.

KEVIN RADER, FIRE CHIEF – THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO TRY TO RECRUIT PART TIME STAFF THROUGH MARKETING. TO THIS DATE, THEY HAVE SAVED OVER \$30,000 IN OVERTIME BY FULL TIME AND THE CHIEF COVERING AT TIME AND A HALF. THERE HAS BEEN OVER \$2,000 SAVED BY ADJUSTING THE FULL TIMERS SCHEDULES TO COVER FOR VACATIONS. THE CREWS HAVE WAXED ALL THE TRUCKS FOR THE SUMMER AND REPAINTED THE LINES IN FRONT OF THE BAY DOORS. ALL 256 HYDRANTS HAVE BEEN CHECKED. THREE ARE OUT OF SERVICE AND RADER WILL GET WITH COREY IN THE ROAD DEPARTMENT TO GET THEM BACK IN SERVICE. THE LADDER TRUCK IS HAVING YEARLY REQUIRED NFPA TESTING ON THURSDAY. ON JUNE 18TH FROM 9-NOON THEY WERE AT GUARDIAN DISCUSSING HAZARDS AND SHUT OFF VALVES LOCATIONS. CHIEF RADER WILL BE REVIEWING THEIR PRE-PLAN. KEVIN COX ASKED CHIEF RADER ABOUT PROBLEMS CONNECTING TO A HYDRANT BY A RESIDENT. CHIEF RADER RESPONDED THAT THE HYDRANTS IN THE MOBILE HOME PARK USE A DIFFERENT ADAPTER AND THERE IS NO ISSUE.

LARRY SIDENER SPOKE BEFORE PUBLIC COMMENTS ABOUT HARASSING PHONE CALLS AND THE ZONING BOARD MEMBERS RESIGNING. HE SAID HE HAS COME TO HATE POLITICS AND WANTS TO GET ALONG WITH THE OTHER TRUSTEES. HE SAID THERE HAVE BEEN TOO MANY OUTSIDE INFLUENCES. GUYS THAT HAVE FARMED TOGETHER MOST OF THEIR LIVES ARE FIGHTING. ZONING BOARDS DON'T NEED INTERFERENCE FROM TRUSTEES OR ANYONE OUTSIDE THE TOWNSHIP. LARRY STATED THAT HE IS OPEN TO CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ZONING BOARD MEMBERS. EVERYONE NEEDS TO SHOW RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER. HE ASKED THE RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COMMENTS TO THE TRUSTEES AND TO KEEP REMARKS SHORT. HE AND THE OTHER TRUSTEES HAVE ALL SWORN TO PROTECT THE RESIDENTS OF PERRY TOWNSHIP AND THAT IS WHAT THEY ARE TRYING TO DO.

GUESTS:

DAVE SHEPHERD – HE ASKED ABOUT THE ZONING MEETING THAT THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO BUT NO ONE IS ABLE TO COMMENT. IT WAS STATED THAT THE PUBLIC HEARING WILL COME AT A LATER DATE. HE ASKED WHO MAKES THE DECISION IF THE LANDOWNERS AREN'T ABLE TO COMMENT. THE PEOPLE THAT OWN THE PROPERTIES AROUND THE PROPOSED SITE SHOULD HAVE A SAY. JOHN BREWSTER STATED THAT THERE WILL BE TWO MEETINGS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS AT A LATER DATE. LARRY SIDENER THEN ASKED JOHN BREWSTER IF THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY AT THE END FOR A REFERENDUM VOTE FROM RESIDENTS. JOHN STATED THAT NEXT THURSDAY IS JUST TO DISCUSS POSSIBLY ADDING DATA CENTERS TO THE ZONING BOOKS. DAVE THEN ASKED IF THE DATA CENTER COULD USE EMINENT DOMAIN IF THEY WANT MORE LAND.

MIKE MATHYS – HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW MANY ACRES ARE IN THE PROPOSED AREA. HE SAID AT FIRST THEY WANTED 350 ACRES AND NOW HE'S HEARING 700 ACRES.

LORETTA HICKS – MOTHER OWNS PROPERTY DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM INDUSTRIAL. SHE WANTS TO KNOW IF THAT WILL INCREASE OR DECREASE THE PROPERTY TAXES. KEVIN COX IT SHOULD NOT CHANGE THEIR TAXES AT ALL.

MICHELE KOHLHORST – SHE IS CLOSE TO THE PROPOSED PROPERTY AND IS WORRIED ABOUT THE NOISE FROM A DATA CENTER. SHE DIDN'T HEAR ANY COMMENTS FROM THE PROPOSED COMPANY OR THE OFFICIALS FROM ALLEN COUNTY. SHE STATED THAT BREESE, HUME AND GREELEY CHAPEL ARE COUNTRY ROADS AND IF THIS IS ALLOWED IT WILL BE RUINED. SHE ALSO SAID THAT THE LAND IS ALREADY UNDER CONTRACT.

JENNIFER GOLDEN – JENNIFER ALSO STATED THE PROPERTY IS UNDER CONTRACT AND WILL BE CLOSING IN A MONTH OR TWO.

TAMMY MCDONNELL - SHE STATED THAT A COUPLE MEETINGS AGO THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO TELL THE NAME OF THE COMPANY TRYING TO BUY THE PROPERTY AT THE NEXT MEETING. SHE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THIS IS A FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC COMPANY. WILL THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS NEED TO BE INCREASED TO HELP WITH ANY ISSUES?

JOE MCDONELL – HE IS CONCERNED WITH THREATS AND RESIGNATIONS. HE FEELS LIKE HE ISN'T GETTING ALL THE FACTS JUST AS WITH THE SCHOOL TAX ISSUE WHEN HIS PROPERTY TAXES WENT UP WHEN HE WAS TOLD THAT THEY WOULDN'T. HE IS AFRAID THAT THAT MAY HAPPEN AGAIN AND IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING.

ADAM HAUNHORST – HE IS FROM REGIONAL PLANNING IS HERE FOR CLARIFICATION IF NEEDED.

LYNN BODINE -

LISA HEITZ – SHE ASKED THE TRUSTEES TO ADD DATA CENTER TO ZONING.

NICK HEITZ – HE BELIEVES THERE WILL BE SOMETHING IN THAT AREA SOON ANYWAY AND DATA CENTERS ARE LESS OF AN EVIL THAN OTHER THINGS THAT ARE ALLOWED.

NORM CAPPS – NORM STATED THAT THE PEOPLE THAT ARE WORRIED THAT THEIR TAXES MAY GO UP THAT THERE IS 75 MILS ON THE BOOKS. THE TAX RATE IS 53 MILS FOR THIS YEAR BECAUSE THE TAX BASE HAS EXPANDED IN THE TOWNSHIP. TWO OF THE CURRENT TRUSTEES HELPED TO APPROVE A LONG-RANGE PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP YEARS AGO AND THE PROPOSED LAND HAS BEEN ZONED INDUSTRIAL SINCE THE TOWNSHIP FIRST HAD ZONING. THIS HAS BEEN THE LARGEST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT THAT THE TOWNSHIP HAS SEEN. HE SAID THAT 99.5% OF PERRY TOWNSHIP WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS TYPE OF PROJECT. WHY SHOULD THEY BE PENALIZED BECAUSE A FEW PEOPLE DIDN'T DO THEIR HOMEWORK BEFORE RELOCATING?

RON SPENCER – HE THINKS IT'S A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR PERRY TOWNSHIP EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T LIVE IN THE TOWNSHIP. HE SAID MOST OF THE THINGS THAT HE HAS HEARD PEOPLE SAY ARE NOT TRUE AND THERE IS A LETTER CIRCULATING ABOUT HIM THAT HE SAID WAS ABSOLUTELY FALSE.

YVONNE MARS –

SCOTT FLOYD –

DON JONES -

NANCY JONES – SHE IS A 1971 PERRY GRADUATE AND HAS LIVED IN THE TOWNSHIP MOST OF HER LIFE. SHE DOES NOT WANT THE DATA CENTER IN HER BACK YARD. SHE STATED THAT IF THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT IS ZONED INDUSTRIAL THEN MAYBE THE REALTORS SHOULD TELL THEM.

MIKE REYNOLDS – HE STATED THAT IT WOULD BENEFIT THE TOWNSHIP WITH TAX MONEY BECAUSE THIS IS THE BIGGEST THING TO COME TO PERRY TOWNSHIP. MIKE SAID THAT EVEN WITH AN ABATEMENT THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY GO AWAY. ALSO, THE TRUSTEES WOULD GET TO NEGOTIATE.

LAURA KESSEN – SHE STATED THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLE SPEAKING FOR THE DATA CENTER EITHER DON'T LIVE IN PERRY OR ARE PROFITING FROM GREED; BUT THE ONES WHO DO LIVE THERE DON'T WANT IT. THERE ARE OTHER PROPERTIES THAT ARE ALREADY SET ASIDE FOR INDUSTRIAL. IT DOESN'T NEED TO COME OUT TO COUNTRY LIVING. SHE LOVES THE WILDLIFE. SHE BUILT OR BOUGHT WHERE THEY WANTED TO LIVE, NOT IN AN INDUSTRIAL PARK.

STEVE HUNT – THEY CHOSE TO LIVE IN A RURAL AREA. THERE ARE INDUSTRIAL PARKS AND OTHER AREAS THAT WOULD BE OF BETTER USE FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT. HE ASKED IF THE DATA CENTER LANGUAGE DOESN'T PASS WILL THAT KILL THE PROJECT? THE MONEY MIGHT BE GOOD FOR THE TOWNSHIP BUT IT COMES AT THE EXPENSE OF EVERYONE THAT LIVES THERE. HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE ZONING AMENDMENT.

PAUL HOLLOWAY – HE'S LIVED HERE HIS WHOLE LIFE. THE PEOPLE THAT ARE FOR IT WON'T BE HERE IN 50 YEARS. HE DOESN'T WANT AN INDUSTRIAL PARK IN HIS BACKYARD.

EMILY HOLLOWAY -

LAKEN WARRIS – HER FAMILY LIVES ON CHARLEDON. THEY HAVE A BIG PARTY PLANNED FOR JULY 4TH AND SHE WANTS TO KNOW IF THEY CAN CLOSE THE ROAD FOR A COUPLE HOURS ON SATURDAY, JULY 6TH FROM 4 PM – MAYBE 10 PM OR 11 PM. GREG KESSEN STATED THE ROADS DEPARTMENT AND POLICE MAY BE ABLE TO CLOSE THE ROAD. KEVIN COX STATED THAT WOULD NOT BE OUT OF LINE. THE TOWNSHIP HAS DONE THAT BEFORE. BETWEEN 8TH AND 9TH ON CHARLEDON SHE STATED THEY OWN 5 HOUSES AND THERE ARE 5 HOUSES ON THE STREET.

BRAYTON VANVORCE -

CAL KLINKMAN -

RYAN KLINKMAN –

ANDREW KLAUS – HE LIVES ON GREELEY CHAPEL. HE CHOSE TO LIVE IN PERRY TOWNSHIP AND THE PROPOSED DATA CENTER WILL RUIN HIS WAY OF LIVING AND HIS HAPPINESS. HE IS DEMANDING FINANCIAL REPARATION FOR TAKING AWAY HIS COUNTRY SETTING. HIS HOUSE IS A FINANCIAL BURDEN AND SOMEONE WILL PAY HIM. HE HAS WORKED AT A DATA CENTER CONSTRUCTION SITE IN NEW ALBANY. HE FEELS SORRY FOR THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE TO LIVE AROUND A DATA CENTER. HE STATED THAT THE FULL TIME PEOPLE THAT WORK FOR PERRY TOWNSHIP DON'T HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE. MOST OF THE MONEY THAT WE WOULD GET WOULD GO TO THE SCHOOL WHICH HAS A 70% OPEN ENROLLMENT THAT WE PAY FOR. YOU GUYS THAT MAKE THESE DECISIONS ARE FUNDED.

CASSIE BETTS-

WALLACE SCHOOLER-

RHEETA BURRELL-

KELLY SCHOOLER – SHE EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO GO OVER THE SCHOOL TAXES BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T TRY TO TRICK ANYONE. PERRY SCHOOLS HAS A 50% OPEN ENROLLMENT. SHE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW IF THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT REZONING OTHER LAND OR JUST ADDING DATA CENTERS AS ANOTHER PERMITTED USE TO THE EXISTING AREA. KEVIN COX STATED THAT IT HAS BEEN ZONED INDUSTRIAL FOR 40 YEARS.

TOM EWING -

MARC PESCOSOLIDO – HE HAS BEEN A PERRY RESIDENT FOR ABOUT 40 YEARS AND PAYS ABOUT \$80 PER WEEK IN PROPERTY TAX WHICH HE THINKS IS A LOT. HE IS ON THE SCHOOL BOARD FOR APOLLO AND MONEY GETS TIGHT FOR SCHOOLS AND THE TOWNSHIP. THE TAX REVENUE FROM THIS PROJECT WILL BE GOOD FOR THE TOWNSHIP AND RESIDENTS. THE REVENUE FROM THIS PROJECT WILL HELP KEEP THE TAXES LOW AND THE REVENUE WOULD HELP THE GENERAL FUND. HE STATED THAT IT IS A SMALL CHANGE TO THE ZONING LANGUAGE.

VIVIAN WILSON – SHE ASKED THE TRUSTEES TO CONFIRM WHAT LAND THEY ARE LOOKING AT. IT WAS STATED THAT IT IS HEITZ AND REYNOLDS PROPERTIES WHICH ARE RIGHT IN HER BACKYARD. SHE TAKES GREAT OFFENSE THAT SHE DIDN'T DO HER HOMEWORK WHEN SHE BOUGHT THE PROPERTY THAT WAS ZONED INDUSTRIAL. SHE PAYS TAXES TO PERRY TOWNSHIP. SHE WAS TOLD BY THE REALTOR THAT IT IS ZONED INDUSTRIAL BUT NOTHING HAS GONE IN IN YEARS. SHE SAID SHE FEELS SICKENED BY THE WAY SOME PEOPLE ARE TREATING OTHERS, CAUSING RESIGNATIONS AND FIGHTING. THE RESIDENTS NEED EVERYONE TO WORK TOGETHER ON THIS. SHE ASKED THE TRUSTEES: “ WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT, THE DATA CENTER OR THE RESIDENTS”?

GINGER HOLLAR –

RONALD WIETERMAN - THEY LIVE RIGHT ACROSS FROM THE PROPOSED SIGHT AND JUST PAID \$30,000 FOR TILE WORK. HE STATED HE BETTER NOT GET RUN OFF WATER OR HEAR NOISE.

JANET LAUF – HER LAND IS PART OF THE INDUSTRIAL AREA AND IS NOT FOR SALE. SHE IS A PERRY GRADUATE AND HER PARENTS OWNED THE PROPERTY SINCE 1962. IF YOU DON'T WANT TO FARM THE LAND BECAUSE IT IS ZONED INDUSTRIAL THEN LET SOMEONE ELSE FARM IT. SHE DOESN'T WANT IT

BECAUSE YOU CAN'T RAISE LIVESTOCK. SHE SAID THAT THERE ARE OTHER INDUSTRIAL AREAS WHERE IT CAN GO. SHE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT ELSE IS UP THEIR SLEEVES. SHE TALKED ABOUT NOT SEEING ANY DOLLARS YET AND WANTS TO KNOW HOW MANY JOBS IT WILL CREATE.

MELISSA AND PAUL BUSICK – SHE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE PERIOD OF TIME THAT MAY BE OFFERED FOR ABATEMENTS WHEN THE SCHOOL AND THE TOWNSHIP WON'T SEE ANY MONEY. KEVIN COX STATED THAT WILL HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED. SHE STATED FOR WHATEVER TIME THAT WE DON'T SEE ANY TAX BENEFIT IT WILL BE RUINING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THAT AREA.

SHARON MUELLER – SHE WANTS TO KNOW HOW IT WILL AFFECT THEIR FARM THAT THEY'VE HAD FOR A LONG TIME. SHE SAID SOMEONE IN THE ROOM MUST KNOW THE NAME OF THE COMPANY AND SHE WANTS TO KNOW WHO IT IS. LARRY STATED THAT IT CAN'T BE DISCLOSED YET.

JOE WIREMAN – WANTED TO KNOW WHO STANDS TO BENEFIT AT THE END. HE ALSO ASKED IF IT IS ZONED INDUSTRIAL ARE THE CURRENT OWNERS PAYING TAX ON AGRICULTURAL OR INDUSTRIAL? KEVIN COX STATED THEY ARE PAYING AGRICULTURAL TAXES.

CATHY CLEMENTZ – SHE WONDERS WHY THIS COMPANY IS DRAGGING THEIR FEET. SHE ALSO WANTED TO KNOW IF THE NEW OWNERS WOULD BE ABLE TO SELL IT TO ANOTHER COMPANY. SHE IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE NOISE LEVEL. SHE REMINDED EVERYONE THAT ONCE IT IS DONE IT CANNOT BE REDONE.

FRANK CLEMENTZ – HE KNOWS THAT THEY ARE BEING TOLD TO DO THEIR DUE DILIGENCE AND THE TRUSTEES ARE BEING TOLD THE SAME THING. THE FRONT ROW OF THE OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING THE PROS AND CONS, LIKE THE MONEY THE SCHOOL IS GOING TO GET, BUT THE CONS HAVEN'T BEEN DISCUSSED BY THE COUNTY OFFICIALS. HE UNDERSTANDS THAT THEY ARE JUST TRYING TO GET DATA CENTER ADDED TO THE ALREADY INDUSTRIAL ZONED LAND BUT THAT WOULD BE PERMITTED IN ALL INDUSTRIAL ZONING. HE WOULD PREFER IT BE PLACED IN THE INDUSTRIAL LAND ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD. ONCE IT'S BEEN DONE IT CAN'T BE UNDONE.

ERIC POHJALA –

JASON STOMBAUGH – HE ASKED HOW MANY ACRES WE ARE LOOKING AT. THE ANSWER FROM THE TRUSTEES WAS 358 ACRES. HE THEN ASKED IF THEY ARE WANTING 700+? JASON THEN SPOKE ABOUT THE WAY LARRY SIDENER'S SON WAS TALKING IN A JANUARY MEETING ON BEHALF OF THE LANDOWNERS WHO HE FARMS FOR. HE ASKED MR. SIDENER IF HE WORKS FOR SOUTH WARSAW FARMS AND IF THAT CREATES A CONFLICT OF INTEREST BECAUSE HE FARMS THAT LAND WITH HIS SON. LARRY STATED THAT, IF YOU DON'T LIVE WITH THE PERSON, HE HAS BEEN TOLD THAT IT IS NOT AN ETHICS VIOLATION BUT THAT HE WOULD CHECK INTO IT TO VERIFY. LARRY THEN SAID HE HAD TO VERIFY THAT, SINCE THE CHAIRMAN OF ZONING APPEALS HAS A SISTER-IN-LAW THAT IS AN OFFICIAL, IF THAT WAS AN ETHICS VIOLATION AND WAS TOLD THAT IT IS NOT BECAUSE THEY DON'T LIVE IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD. LARRY'S SON THEN STATED THAT THE FARM BUSINESS ONLY PROVIDES SERVICE TO JANET LAUF AND FAMILY, WHICH IS NOT THE LAND THAT IS CURRENTLY ZONED INDUSTRIAL.

CRAIG SHAW – HE ASKED WHAT A MILL GENERATES? GREG KESSEN ANSWERED \$90,000 – \$100,000. HE THEN STATED THAT THE TRAFFIC IS GETTING BAD AT THE PEPSI PLANT ON GREELEY CHAPEL AND 4TH STREET. THERE ARE CARS PARKED AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD IMPEDING TRAFFIC. LARRY SIDENER SAID THEY WOULD CHECK WITH THE ZONING INSPECTOR ABOUT WHERE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY IS. THE FARMERS ARE ALSO HAVING ISSUES GETTING DOWN THE ROAD AND INTO ADJOINING FIELDS. THE TRUSTEES SAID THEY WOULD TALK TO THE NECESSARY PEOPLE TO TRY TO GET THE ISSUE FIXED.

SCOTT STOMBAUGH -
CHRIS KIRKENDALL –

KIM KIRKENDALL – SHE HASN'T BEEN OUT HERE AS LONG AS THE REST OF HER FAMILY BUT STATED THAT LARRY USED TO WORK FOR HER PARENTS. WHEN HER MOM BOUGHT THEIR PROPERTY ON GREELEY CHAPEL IT WAS NEVER MENTIONED THAT IT WAS ZONED INDUSTRIAL. THE TRUSTEES TOLD HER THAT THAT PIECE OF LAND IS NOT ZONED INDUSTRIAL.

BOB PHILLIPS -

TODD GARDNER – HE OFFERED CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TRUSTEES AND STATED THAT IT ALL FALLS ON YOU GUYS. HE FEELS IN THE MIDDLE BECAUSE, LOOKING AT THE RESULTS OF THE LAST TWO CENSUS REPORTS, PERRY TOWNSHIP HAS SHRUNK BY 200 PEOPLE. HE STATED THAT WE ARE A DYING TOWNSHIP WHICH MEANS THE COST OF EVERYTHING WILL GO UP FOR THE REST OF US. HE HOPES IF THIS DOES

HAPPEN THAT WE CONSIDER THE SCHOOLS, FIRE AND POLICE AND NOT GIVE SUCH LARGE TAX ABATEMENTS BECAUSE THE TOWNSHIP NEEDS MORE FUNDING. HE LOVES LIVING IN PERRY TOWNSHIP AND FEELS THAT THE PEOPLE WHO SERVE THE COMMUNITY THROUGH ALL SEASONS AND AT RISK TO THEMSELVES DESERVE BETTER. HE HAS LIVED IN PERRY TOWNSHIP FOR OVER 20 YEARS. HE SAID THIS IS THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE IN THE COUNTY AND HE HOPES FOR A BETTER FINANCIAL FUTURE FOR THE TOWNSHIP.

GREG PARRANTO- HE HAS LIVED ON YODER ROAD FOR 19 YEARS. HE IS A DOCTOR NOW BUT SPENT MORE THAN 20 YEARS AS A COMMERCIAL REALTOR IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS THE KIND OF DEVELOPMENT THAT MANY COMMUNITIES WOULD WANT TO GET. HE SAID 22 YEARS AGO WHEN HE WAS LOOKING FOR LAND HE CHECKED THE ZONING MAP BUT DOESN'T EXPECT MOST PEOPLE TO DO THAT. THE PROPOSED SITE HAS BEEN ZONED INDUSTRIAL FOR A LONG TIME AND HE WOULDN'T SUPPORT THIS IF THEY WANTED TO REZONE AGRICULTURAL LAND. CELL PHONES WERE NOT A THING 40 YEARS AGO AND NEITHER WERE DATA CLOUDS, WHICH IS WHERE THE STUFF IS STORED THAT IS ON YOUR PHONE. THE ONLY PROPOSAL IS TO ADD DATA CENTERS AS AN OPTION ALONG WITH THE MANY OTHER THINGS THAT COULD GO IN RIGHT NOW. WE NEED TO INCREASE THE TAX BASE SO WE CAN SUPPORT SCHOOLS, POLICE AND LOCAL THINGS WITHOUT IT COMING OUT OF THE LANDOWNERS' POCKETS. INDUSTRIAL LAND IS TAXED AT A MUCH HIGHER LEVEL THAN FARM OR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.

KATHERINE DICKSON – SHE STATED THAT SHE IS NOT SELLING HER LAND AND HAS SAID THAT MANY TIMES. SHE ASKED AT WANT POINT DO WE DO SOMETHING. WE ARE A DYING TOWNSHIP. THEIR FARM IS GOLD TO THEM. THEY WANT THE SCHOOL TO SUCCEED WITH TOWNSHIP CHILDREN AND NOT WITH OPEN ENROLLMENT. SHE STATED THAT THE PEOPLE IN WOOD COUNTY WERE OFFERED MORE FOR THEIR PROPERTIES THAN THE PEOPLE OF PERRY TOWNSHIP.

SASHA WEIGT – SHE SPOKE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED AT THE ZONING COMMISSION MEETING LAST WEEK. SHE GOT A CALL THAT OTHER BOARD MEMBERS WERE THREATENED. SHE HAS FOUR SMALL CHILDREN AND WANTS TO KNOW HOW THEIR SAFETY WOULD BE GUARANTEED.

CHUCK WEIGT – HE HAD AN OHIO CRIMINAL LAW BOOK AND REMINDED EVERYONE THAT INTIMIDATION AND THREATS TO A PUBLIC SERVANT IS A 3RD DEGREE FELONY WHICH INCLUDES ZONING BOARD MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES. HE THEN THANKED THE TRUSTEES FOR HAVING POLICE OFFICERS PRESENT TO PROTECT EVERYONE FROM FURTHER THREATS AND INTIMIDATION.

MARK SIDENER – HE APOLOGIZED AND SAID THAT OVER THE LAST SIX MONTHS HE HAS DONE HIS RESEARCH AND HE FEELS HE AND OTHERS ARE BEING VILIFIED. HE WAS ON THE PHONE WITH TWO OF HIS PREVIOUS BEST FRIENDS THAT HE HAS KNOWN SINCE PRESCHOOL AND ALSO FARMED WITH THEM. THIS COMMUNITY IS BEING TORN APART AND THE PEOPLE CAUSING IT ARE IN THE ROOM. HE HAS NO PROBLEMS WITH ANYONE. HE WANTS ANSWERS. HE SAID 800 ACRES IS WHAT THEY PROPOSED. HE WANTS "APPLE" TO DO GOOD THINGS FOR THIS COMMUNITY AND THE SCHOOL. HE QUESTIONS THE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BECAUSE A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE RELATED TO OTHERS IN THE TOWNSHIP. HE KNOWS AND HAS HAD PERSONAL OR WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH MANY PEOPLE IN THE ROOM. HIS FRIENDS AND HIM SHOULD BE ABLE TO DISAGREE WITH EACH OTHER BUT STILL LIKE EACH OTHER. THE PEOPLE THAT STARTED THIS ARE RIGHT IN THE ROOM AND HE SUGGESTED WE STAND UP TO THEM AND STOP FIGHTING AND FORGIVE EACH OTHER.

MELISSA AND TOM HOLLOWAY – SHE STATED THERE ARE OVER 40 HOUSES IN THAT MILE SQUARE. SHE ASKED WHERE THE PEOPLE IN THOSE HOUSES ARE SUPPOSED TO MOVE. IT WON'T BE PERRY TOWNSHIP BECAUSE THERE ISN'T ANY AVAILABLE HOUSING. IT IS AFFECTING A LOT OF PERSONAL RESIDENTIAL FAMILIES. THEY JUST PUT A LOT OF MONEY INTO THEIR HOUSE AND WANT TO KNOW IF THEY ARE GOING TO BE FORCED TO MOVE. THEY DON'T WANT TO BE STUCK WITH DEBT IF THEY GET A LOAN FOR MORE REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

LUKE TAVIANAO – STATED DATA CENTERS DON'T OFFER MANY JOBS. HE ASKED ANDREW KLAUS HOW MANY PEOPLE THEY MIGHT EMPLOY. THE ANSWER WAS ABOUT 6 PEOPLE WHO WOULD HAVE TO HAVE THE RIGHT DEGREE. HE ASKED IF THIS IS ALL WORTH 6 JOBS FOR OVER 40 HOMES AND PROPERTIES BEING DISPLACED. THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF UNTRUTHS THAT ARE BEING SAID. WE ALL WORK HARD FOR OUR MONEY AND WANT TO LIVE HERE. HE'S GLAD THAT HIS FARM IS NOT IN THE PROPOSED AREA.

TRUSTEES AND ALLEN COUNTY OFFICIALS:

DAVE STRATTON – HE WANTS TO REMIND PEOPLE WHAT ALLEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DOES AND HE DOESN'T APOLOGIZE TO ANYONE FOR IT. THEY ARE TRYING TO BRING OPPORTUNITIES TO PERRY TOWNSHIP. IN 1980 ALLEN COUNTY HAD 112,000 PEOPLE. THEY NOW HAVE 102,000 PEOPLE. THEY

ESTIMATE THAT IF THAT IS NOT CORRECTED BY THE YEAR 2050, THE POPULATION WILL BE DOWN TO 81,000. IF WE CARE ABOUT THE FUTURE OF ALLEN COUNTY AND THE NEXT GENERATION, WE NEED TO CORRECT IT BY BRINGING IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS. A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE SPREADING RUMORS BUT THOSE ARE NOT COMING FROM AEDG. THE RUMORS ARE WHAT IS CAUSING THE CONFLICT WITH THE RESIDENTS. HE USED TO LIVE ON A HOG FARM IN BLUFFTON AND LOVES THE RURAL SETTING. THE LAND THAT IS BEING DISCUSSED HAS BEEN ZONED INDUSTRIAL FOR OVER 40 YEARS. THEY ARE ONLY ASKING FOR A MODIFICATION OF THE LANGUAGE TO ADD DATA CENTER. RIGHT NOW, THEY ARE ONLY TALKING ABOUT 358 ACRES AND THEIR GOAL IS TO BRING THAT OPPORTUNITY TO OUR I-2. THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS PERMISSIBLE IN I-2 THAT MAY NOT BE AS APPEALING AS A DATA CENTER IS. WHEN JILL CAME MONTHS AGO, SHE WAS CLEAR ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY. UNFORTUNATELY, SOME IN THE COMMUNITY DIDN'T GET TO BE AT THAT PRESENTATION BUT SHE DID MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THIS COMPANY WOULD KEEP THE BENEFIT TO THE SCHOOL WHOLE. THAT MEANS IS THAT IF THERE IS A TAX ABATEMENT, IT WILL NOT AFFECT WHAT THE SCHOOL WOULD RECEIVE. THEY ARE JUST ASKING TO PUT DATA CENTER IN THE TERMINOLOGY FOR INDUSTRIAL. THEY ARE NOT ASKING FOR ANY EXPANSION ON THAT AREA RIGHT NOW. IT MAY HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE BUT THAT WILL ALSO GO THROUGH THE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES. HE SAID HE BELIEVES AND WOULDN'T BE DOING THIS JOB IF HE WASN'T A PERSON WITH INTEGRITY. SOME MAY NOT BELIEVE THAT BUT HE SAID HE CAN GO HOME AT NIGHT AND KNOW THAT THEY ARE TRYING TO BRING THE BEST TO PERRY TOWNSHIP. HE ASK THAT WE USE RATIONALE TO WEIGH THE PRO AND CONS. THERE ARE CONS WHEN LOOKING AT A DATA CENTER. THE PLANS ARE TO SET IT BACK AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AND HAVE MOUNDING AND LANDSCAPING. HE CAN'T PROMISE THAT NEIGHBORS WON'T HEAR HUMMING BUT THEY HAVE SAID THEY WILL BLOCK THE NOISE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. THEY WANT A LARGER AMOUNT OF LAND SO THEY CAN SET IT BACK FROM NEIGHBORS SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO SEE OR HEAR IT. MOST OF THE CALLS COMING INTO THE AEDG OFFICE FROM PERRY TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ARE AFFIRMATIVE. THEY HAVEN'T HAD ANY NEGATIVE COMMENTS OR PHONE CALLS AT ALL AT THE AEDG OFFICE. ALL THEY ARE TRYING TO DO IS GET THE PROCESS STARTED SO THEY CAN GET MORE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS THAT RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN ASKING. AT THIS TIME THE COMPANY IS COURTING US AND HE THINKS WE SHOULD BE COURTING THEM. HE DOESN'T WANT US TO MISS OUT ON THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY.

LARRY SIDENER THEN ASKED FOR MORE CLARIFICATION ABOUT THE TAX ABATEMENT FROM CINDY LEIS. HE SAID HE READ THAT IN NEW ALBANY THEY HAVE A 100% TAX ABATEMENT.

CINDY LEIS – SHE WAS BORN AND RAISED IN ELIDA AND CARES ABOUT THIS COMMUNITY. AEDG WATCHES FOR OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE WHOLE COUNTY. TAX ABATEMENTS ARE SPECIFIC TO EACH PROJECT AND THEY ARE NOT AT THAT POINT YET. IN ALLEN COUNTY THEY HAVE NOT AGREED TO A 100% TAX ABATEMENT ON ANY PROJECT. THEY CAN MAKE A SEPARATE AGREEMENT WITH THE SCHOOL CALLED A PILOT (PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES) AGREEMENT.

DAVE STRATTON THEN SAID, EVEN IF THEY AGREED TO A 75% TAX ABATEMENT FOR 10 YEARS, THE 25% OF TAXES ON INDUSTRIAL WILL BE MORE REVENUE THAN WE ARE CURRENTLY GETTING FROM AGRICULTURAL LAND. THE REASON THEY BRING THESE OPPORTUNITIES IS TO MAKE THE RESIDENTS TAXES GO DOWN BECAUSE THE PROPOSED BUSINESS WILL BE ADDING MORE REVENUE TO THE WHOLE TOWNSHIP.

CINDY LEIS THEN STATED THAT WE AREN'T EVEN AT THAT STEP YET. THE COMPANY LIKES THIS AREA BECAUSE IT IS CLOSE TO I-75 AND A STATE ROUTE. IT HAS WATER AND HIGH-TENSION ELECTRIC FOR A POTENTIAL SUBSTATION. IT IS AEDG'S JOB TO LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN ALLEN COUNTY.

LARRY SIDENER THEN ASKED IF PORT AUTHORITY CAN USE EMINENT DOMAIN TO GET MORE LAND.

REX HUFFMAN STATED THAT EMINENT DOMAIN CAN'T BE USED FOR PRIVATE COMPANIES. EMINENT DOMAIN CAN ONLY BE USED FOR PUBLIC NEED SUCH AS ROADS OR WATER LINES. REX IS FROM WOOD COUNTY ALTHOUGH HE SPENDS A LOT OF TIME IN ALLEN COUNTY. WOOD COUNTY HAS BEEN WORKING ON A DATA CENTER FOR OVER A YEAR. THEY STARTED THEIR PROCESS BY ADDING DATA CENTER TO THEIR ZONING USES. SINCE THEN, THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING ON PROBLEMS SUCH AS ROADS AND SITE ACCESS. THEY ARE HOPING TO BREAK GROUND ON IT LATER THIS YEAR. HE STATED THAT HE HAS WORKED ON HALF A DOZEN DATA CENTERS AND HAS HEARD THE SAME QUESTIONS THE RESIDENTS ARE ASKING MANY TIMES. HE STATED A SCENARIO WHERE MAYBE SOMEDAY A DATA CENTER COULD BE AS SMALL AS A PHONE IS NOW BECAUSE YEARS AGO ONE COMPUTER TOOK UP A WHOLE BUILDING OR LARGE ROOM. THE DEMAND FOR DATA IS SO BIG THAT THEY COULD BUILD A MILLION DATA CENTERS AND STILL NOT HAVE ENOUGH STORAGE. MANY ANSWERS WILL COME OVER THE NEXT 18 MONTHS.

LARRY SIDENER THEN TALKED ABOUT RUMORS ABOUT SOMEONE TRYING TO GET THE LAND THAT IS UNDER THE HIGH-TENSION POWER LINES TO PUT IN SOLAR FARMS.

REX HUFFMAN SAID MOST OF THE SOLAR FARMS ARE ON LEASED LAND AND HE SAID TO BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT SIGNING ANY LEASE CONTRACTS WITH SOLAR FARM COMPANIES BECAUSE IT LOCKS YOU IN. THE DATA CENTER PICKED THIS AREA BECAUSE THEY WILL NEED POWER TO RUN IT. THE COMMUNITY SHOULD BE ASKING HOW TO PROTECT THAT POWER. AFTER THE PROCESS IS STARTED THEY WILL GET A QUOTE FROM AEP (AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER). HE STATED THAT THERE IS A FINITE AMOUNT OF POWER AVAILABLE. AEP WILL STUDY THE GRID BEFORE APPROVING THE PROJECT. THEY WILL NOT ALLOW US TO SAY WHO THEY ARE BUT IT IS A U.S. BASED COMPANY, NOT A CHINESE OR A KOREAN COMPANY. AEDG IS VETTING THIS INFORMATION. IT MAY PUT A BAD REPUTATION ON THAT COMPANY OR THE TOWNSHIP. THEY ARE WAITING TO GIVE MORE INFORMATION WHEN DATA CENTERS ARE ADDED AS A PERMITTED USE IN I-2 ZONING AND SITE ACCESS IS FIGURED OUT USING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION PEOPLE AND LOCAL TRUSTEES AND ENGINEERS. ROAD IMPROVEMENTS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN.

LARRY SIDENER ASKED IF THE PORT AUTHORITY HAS THE PROPERTY UNDER CONTRACT.

CINDY LEIS RESPONDED SAYING THAT PORT AUTHORITY DOES NOT OWN THE PROPERTY NOR WILL THEY EVER BUY THE PROPERTY. THEY OPTION PROPERTIES FOR TWO MAIN REASONS: BECAUSE THEY WANT TO KNOW IF THEY HAVE A WILLING SELLER AND THEY WANT TO SET THE PRICE TO BE ABLE TO SPEND THEIR RESOURCES TO DO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES. THE STATE OF OHIO TOLD AEDG THREE YEARS AGO TO GET READY FOR BUSINESSES LOOKING TO COME TO OHIO AND WANTING LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT. THE INDUSTRIAL ZONED LAND HAS BEEN LISTED AS AVAILABLE BEFORE INTEL INVESTED IN OHIO AND THEY ARE STILL LOOKING FOR MORE LAND SUITABLE FOR TRAFFIC. AEDG IDENTIFIED PERRY TOWNSHIP BECAUSE OF THE RAIL, INTERSTATE AND STATE ROUTE.

KEVIN COX STATED THAT HE TOOK AN OATH TO DO GOOD THINGS FOR THE TOWNSHIP AND THE RESIDENTS FOR MANY YEARS. HE IS TRYING TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

RESIDENT MICHELE KOHLHORST STATED SOMEONE HAS ALREADY MARKED HUME ROAD TO PUT IN FIBER OPTIC CABLE AND SURVEYED AND THAT THE LAND IS ALREADY UNDER CONTRACT. **CINDY LEIS** STATED THAT IT ISN'T AEDG OR ANYTHING FOR THIS PROJECT.

KEVIN COX – THERE WAS A REQUEST TO ADD ANOTHER STREET LIGHT AT 15TH AND BREESE. HE CHECKED AND THERE IS ALREADY A STREET LIGHT. NO NEED TO ADD ONE.

MOTIONS:

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 4, 2024, 2ND KEVIN COX, ROLLCALL.

KEVIN COX MADE A MOTION TO PAY BILLS OF \$116,205.29, 2ND GREG KESSEN, ROLLCALL.

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO RELEASE INSURANCE HOLD FOR 210 AMHERST RD IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$26,285.98, 2ND KEVIN COX, ROLLCALL.

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO PAY BLACKTOP SEALING INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,670.00, 2ND KEVIN COX, ROLLCALL

KEVIN COX MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE BANK RECONCILIATION FOR MAY 2024, 2ND LARRY SIDENER, ROLLCALL.

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO DISPOSE OF USED POLICE EQUIPMENT WITH NO VALUE, 2ND KEVIN COX, ROLLCALL.

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF COREY LEHMAN FROM THE ZONING COMMISSION BOARD, 2ND KEVIN COX, ROLLCALL.

KEVIN COX MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF DAN MCPHERON FROM THE ZONING APPEALS BOARD, 2ND GREG KESSEN, ROLL CALL.

GREG KESSEN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE ZONING RECEIPTS FOR MAY 2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$455.39, 2ND KEVIN COX, ROLL CALL.

KEVIN COX MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE CHARLEDON STREET BETWEEN 8TH AND 9TH STREET FROM 4PM – 10PM ON SATURDAY, JULY 6TH, 2ND GREG KESSEN, ROLLCALL.

GREG MADE MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 9:48 PM, 2ND KEVIN COX, ROLLCALL.