The American Township Trustees met in regular session with the following members present: Paul Basinger, Lynn Mohler, and Larry Vandemark.

Motion by Trustee Mohler second by Trustee Vandemark to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 25, 2023. Roll call, all yes.

Motion by Trustee Mohler second by Trustee Vandemark to approve the payment of the warrants as presented by the Fiscal Officer. Roll call, all yes.

Privilege of the floor granted to Jeff Davis at 3554 N Cole St who wanted to know about when adjacent property land owners would find out about any changes occurring to the property. He also would like to know about Joe Guagenti and his relationship and/or the conflict of interest in being on the port authority board and the township zoning board. He hopes the trustees make the right decision on his position on the board. He then asked Trustee Vandemark what all he knows about the entire Industrial Park issue as he and the other residence feel they have been lied to by Trustee Vandemark and that he should have resigned or brought this to the attention to the other Trustees much earlier. All three Trustees spoke on the questions and will be looking in the conflict of interest with Mr. Guagenti. They also explained the process that must take place to even allow for rezoning to happen. Trustee Vandemark stated he has a right to earn money and that he was representing his clients and it was his duty to not disclose information.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Jim Duhlebohn at 1715 Homeward Ave. who stated this is a terrible idea as he has seen it happen in other areas he has lived and it needs to be stopped now.

Privilege of the floor granted to was granted to Darlene White 4848 N Cole St who is an adjacent landowner and would like to know who all could re-zone that land. She has been approached by AEDG and feels they are definitely hiding some information and not disclosing all that they know. She would also like to know if Trustee Vandemark saw any specific options of what that land was going to be used for since he has been part of this from the beginning. Legal Counsel Huffman answered on who could re-zone and Trustee Vandemark stated he was not aware of what specifically land would be used for.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Dave Streeter1640 W Street Rd. who wanted to know specific regulation on imminent domain and government involvement, which Legal Counsel Huffman answered. He also wanted to know why Trustee Vandemark kept his involvement in this from the other trustees including those trustees in Sugarcreek Township for almost 9 months. Trustee Vandemark stated he did not mention this due realtor/client privilege in not releasing information.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Shelly Reiff 2470 Irving Rd who stated her family has chosen to live in the country to keep it country. She also stated the AEDG has always in the past known what businesses were coming when she was Treasurer of Lima City Schools. She also wanted to know if Trustee Vandemark was currently actively participating in discussions relating to the Industrial Park. He stated that yes, he was because this was a normal township meeting and not a hearing on the topic.

Privilege of the floor granted was granted to Rick Kirkendall 1498 Beery Rd. who would like to know if tax payer money is being used to lure larger companies by AEDG, he also wonders how AEDG who are not voted on or elected are deciding some of this stuff, finally he also thinks there is plenty of other open ground than this land. The Trustees heard all of his questions and felt they were very valid in asking to AEDG.

Privilege of the floor granted was granted to Joyce Morris 3471 Providence Circle who says she has seen upon a couple occasions groups of business people who seem to be looking at the specific land and it made her wonder what is going on. She also feels they need to go somewhere else and finally she thinks Trustee Vandemark should resign.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Heather Davis 3554 N Cole St.who stated she is not against economic growth but she feels that this whole process has become tainted because Trustee Vandemark did not resign or recuse himself once he became a part of this. She also stated that because of the lack of trust with Trustee Vandemark that this has made it hard to trust the other Trustees as well. She is also worried about AEDG and the fact that Joe Guagenti is on the Zoning Commission for the township and also part of the port authority. She also stated she was very offended by Dave Stratton and how he treated the community members who were there. Finally, she stated because of a Trustee and AEDG not being truthful, she along with many other residents can no longer trust anyone.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Mike Wong 1680 Victoria Lane who stated he agrees with the landowners specifically because residents do not know what is coming within the 800 acres. However, he thinks they need to do better at understanding the laws and process of zoning.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Joe Davis 1194 Bluelick Rd. feels the Trustees should take the lead on not allowing this Industrial Park to happen. He feels instead of this going to a vote to the entire township that the Trustees should represent the residents specifically affected by the 800 acres plan.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Adam Troyer 5377 N Cole St. who wants to know if there is a public hearing, then will the residents know about it. Trustee Mohler and Legal Counsel Huffman answered this for him stated that Yes, they would have notification as required by law.

The Fiscal Officer presented Cash Reconciliation, Appropriation Status, Revenue Status, and Cash Summary By Fund reports for the month of September. Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Mohler to accept the reports as presented. Roll call, all yes.

Zoning Inspector Bishop stated the monthly report for September including permit request and violations and a board of appeals meeting next Thursday at 3:30pm. The zoning commission also met on Oct. 3rd with details attached. Finally, he has three resolutions that will need passed at tonight’s meeting. The three Resolution #10-092023-1relating to the demolition and removal of structure at 3036 Elida Rd, Resolution #10-092023-2 accepting the resignation of zoning commission member Mike Sebenoler effective 9/30/23, Resolution #10-092023-3 re-appointing zoning appeals member Dennis Schwinnen to a new 5-year term.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Mohler to pass Resolution #10-092023-1. Roll call, all yes.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Mohler to pass Resolution #10-092023-2. Roll call, all yes.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Mohler to pass Resolution #10-092023-3. Roll call, all yes.

Police Chief Haines gave the departments stats for the month of September. The department will also have a Facebook page that will become active this month. He also stated he and his staff had coffee with a cop as well as helped dispose of out dated medication at a local nursing home.

Fire Chief Hadding stated a rescue unit blew a head gasket and has some major repairs. He also said Fire/EMS employee Aaron Cunningham turned in his letter of resignation effective 10/10/23. The ATFD also received a donation from a local church that he wanted to thank them for. Finally, he would like to hire Jacob Wilford to replace Aaron Cunningham with a beginning date of 10/18/23.

Motion by Trustee Basinger second by Trustee Mohler to accept the resignation of Aaron Cunningham effective 10/10/23 on the current fire/ems pay scale. Roll call, all yes.

Motion by Trustee Vandemark second by Trustee Mohler to hire Jacob Wilford effective 10/18/23 on the current fire/ems pay scale. Roll call, all yes.

Trustee Basinger stated the union will be getting back with a meeting to setup a contract negation meeting.

Trustee Mohler stated a change of liquor license of 4675 Allentown Rd from P S Petroleum to ASP Petroleum. The Trustees agreed that no hearing was required for this. He also stated he had talked to Cindy Leis of AEDG about getting a board together for the ESID Project relating to the Lima Mall and will be in communication with her on that.

Motion by Trustee Mohler second by Trustee Basinger to not request a hearing for the licquor transfer license for above stated businesses. Roll call, all yes.

Motion by Trustee Mohler second by Trustee Basinger to adjourn. Roll call, all yes.

Sincerely,

Brady Overholt, Fiscal Officer Lynn Mohler, Chairman