

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

WALNUT TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OH - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

11420 Millersport Rd., Millersport, OH 43067

## SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2023 - 7:00 PM

**Township Officials present:** Trustees Yates & Leith. Trustee Horn absent. Fiscal Officer Pam Shaloo absent.

**Invited guests present:** County Commissioners, County staff, Richland-Pleasant-Liberty Twp officials, local zoning boards & general public.

**Number of members of the public present:** There were over 75 people in attendance.

This Special meeting was conducted at the Village Community Hall, 207 West Columbus St in Pleasantville.

The special meeting was called to order at 7:05PM by Trustee Chairman Yates. The Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag was recited.

### MEETING PROCEEDINGS

#### Advertised Purpose of Meeting:

“The Walnut Twp Trustees have invited Ohio Farm Bureau Federation Director of Energy Policy, Dale Arnold, to brief local government officials on solar energy, discussing both industrial scale and community scale solar developments. Mr. Arnold will address both the positive and negative aspects of these developments and how they can affect our local townships and our county.”

#### Presentation and Discussion:

Chairman Yates introduced township resident Missy Connor who organized this meeting to give a generalization of where things currently lie regarding the proposed solar project in Walnut Twp. All county and township officials were introduced and thanked for attending. Mrs. Connor introduced Mr. Arnold. A presentation followed by Mr. Arnold educating on the history & current situation of Renewal Energy projects in Ohio. He stated Ohio Farm Bureau is neutral on renewable energy projects since their members are on both sides of the issue. He presented the path energy companies must follow to get approval from federal, state & local authorities. He also explained the role of the Ohio Citing Board. There are safeguards in place once a project becomes operational to make the energy companies responsible for any problems that might arise. Mr. Arnold explained the rights of the community & energy companies. He encouraged everyone to exercise their right to have a “seat at the table” during the proceedings of application.

An informative question & answer session followed with those attending.

**Adjournment:** Trustee Leith moved to adjourn at 9:30PM. Trustee Yates offered a second to the motion. The motion passed with 2 Yes votes.

Minutes offered by Trustee Leith.

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Pam Underwood, Fiscal Officer

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William R. Yates, Chairman

Terry W. Horn

Doug Leith