

BRUNSWICK HILLS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
EMERGENCY MEETING
November 13, 2024

The Brunswick Hills Township Board of Trustees met in emergency session on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at Brunswick Hills Township Town Hall.

Board of Trustees Chair Patrica Murphy, Trustee Vice-Chair Ryan Nixon, Trustee Christina Kusnerak, and members of the public present.

Trustee Chair Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Murphy stated that the purpose of the emergency meeting is to discuss annexations and issues related to annexation. She further stated that the emergency meeting was prompted by a Facebook post by Brunswick City Councilman Brandon Lambert.

Trustee Nixon continued by stating that a Facebook post earlier in the day on November 13, 2024 by Councilman Lambert was attempting to survey Brunswick Hills Township residents on their thoughts of annexing into the City of Brunswick. The Trustees are in agreement that it is appropriate for the Board to issue a formal statement on the matter, which is the purpose of calling an emergency meeting.

As a result of collaboration by the Board members, they will be issuing the following Press Release in response to Councilman Lambert's social media post:

It has come to our attention that earlier today, a Brunswick City councilman posted on a Brunswick Facebook group soliciting Brunswick Hills residents regarding their feelings about annexing into the City of Brunswick. This action was taken without any communication with the Brunswick Hills Township Board of Trustees.

We want to make it clear to our community members that the Board of Trustees has not engaged in conversations about the annexation of land from the Township to the City. Such actions are directly opposed to our goals for the Township, its residents, businesses, and visitors. As residents ourselves, and your elected officials, we want the Township to remain just that, a Township.

Nixon stated that he believes that this statement accurately reflects the Board of Trustees' position in the matter.

Nixon then asked Kusnerak her thoughts on the situation. Kusnerak responded that she believes residents would expect the Board to respond as suggested. Kusnerak did some checking into Councilman Lambert, who created the post. According to his Facebook page, he has only been a resident of Brunswick for five years, and in her opinion, that is not long enough for him to fully understand the relationship between Brunswick Hills and the City of Brunswick, as well as the interactions between the two over the course of many years. Kusnerak continued to state that the Township has always been open in conversations with City leaders, and believes that if Councilman Lambert had contacted one of the Trustees directly to begin a conversation, it would have been a good start. She believes the councilman needs more education on the relationship, and it was irresponsible of

him to pose such a hypothetical question to our residents through social media.

Murphy stated that there are a couple of road situations that would be beneficial for the City and Township to work on jointly, such as Marks and Route 303 and Substation and 303.

Nixon shared that he had reached out to Councilman Lambert approximately four weeks ago to create an open line of communication with the City, although he is now unsure of proceeding with such contact at this time.

Trustee Nixon believes the verbiage of the press release squashes the notion of an annexation on behalf of the Township.

Nixon made a motion to adopt the above-referenced press release regarding the social media situation. Kusnerak seconded. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

The Trustees invited members of the public to comments on the annexation issue.

Linda Hudson, 314 Pearl Road, Brunswick, OH 44212 addressed the Board. Mrs. Hudson believes the Facebook post by Councilman Lambert was very irresponsible in his post. Mrs. Hudson stated she believes it would be beneficial for the Township and City to work together to resolve road issues at 303 and Marks as well as 303 and Substation. Mrs. Hudson also stated that with the changes being made at Mapleside, she believes the City will attempt to attract more properties along Pearl Road to annex into the City. In closing, Mrs. Hudson is very concerned about the Township losing large parcels of land through annexation to the City as she is desirous of Brunswick Hills remaining a township.

Murphy motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 PM. Nixon seconded. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – yes. Nixon – yes. Motion carried.

Patrica Murphy, Trustee Chair

Ryan Nixon, Trustee Vice-Chair

Christina Kusnerak, Trustee

Linda Kuenzer, Fiscal Officer