

German Township  
Board of Trustees  
March 12, 2018

The Trustees of German Township, Fulton County, Ohio met in work session with members of the Archbold Village Council and the Fulton County Commissioners to discuss additional information regarding Co Rd 24.

Present: Andy Brodbeck, Kenneth Leupp, Joe Short, Keith Short

Guests: Josh King, Jeff Aeschliman, Vaughn Bentz, Donna Dettling, Kevin Eicher, Jeff Fryman, Drew Ginn, Brian Huffman, Kevin Morton, Brad Short, Bill Rufenacht, Jeff Rupp, Jon Rupp, Robert Seaman, Dexter Krueger, David Pugh, Jim Pruitt, James Wyse, Frank Onweller, Mike Gramza (a representative from ODOT), Andy Langenderfer (a representative from Tetra Tech), Dennis Miller (Maumee Valley Planning), Matt Gilroy (Fulton County Economic Development) and many Township residents.

Kenneth called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

The Village responded that the main goals for Co Rd 24 is to reduce congestion, reroute truck traffic, and provide a more direct route from the Ohio Turnpike to St. Rt. 66. The Village of Archbold is the lead party to say whether it is a no build or to go forward. What other alternatives are available? Robert Seaman came up with updated cost of about \$11,000,000.00 as a bare minimum to update Co Rd 24 from US 20A to Co Rd A and Co Rd A to State Route 66. This does not include any bridgework or engineering fees. A representative from ODOT said it is typically a 70% ODOT and 30% from the local applicant split for the project. There are two other alternatives in the feasibility study. To receive the Track funding, it would require moving State Route 66 to Co Rd 24. Even if Archbold would scale the project down, ODOT would still have to make sure that their requirements are met. There is around \$500,000.00 left to go forward with the feasibility study. How does Archbold make a decision about moving forward if the local amount is not known? Track funding would still need to look over the project and make a final decision on whether to fund the project.

Jon Rupp, Fulton County Commissioner, said they are attending to gather information. What other options are available? Jeff Rupp asked where the funding came from the Co Rd 22 project. Did the local taxpayers have to help fund that project? Was Co Rd 22 a Township road at that time or a County road? Is Co Rd 22 sufficient to handle the truck traffic? Jeff Fryman said they had originally asked for a truck bypass but ODOT said they were not funding new truck bypasses. Trucks are already using Co Rd 24 to come to Con Agra from US 20A.

Kenneth Leupp said it sounds as if this will be a huge burden to the taxpayers. If we go forward and suggest a no build, can the entities get together to process different options? Jeff Fryman thought that was what this meeting was going to address. Vaughn Bentz we should discuss other options. Kenneth suggested having a meeting with a representative from the Archbold Council, the Township Trustees and the Fulton County Commissioners to come up with other options.

The Township Trustees have contacted local businesses with questions regarding Co Rd 24. Joe Short said the responses are that trucks are not an issue anymore, signage is an issue, and trains are a problem, remove stop signs on Co Rd 24. He said we have State Route 66 available, so why not use it. Most businesses he contacted said that moving State Route 66 to Co Rd 24 is not necessary. Updating signage might be a possibility to help truck traffic. Joe said the business he has contacted do not want State Route 66 relocated to Co Rd 24 and many in the community do not want it either. The cost seems too high for the benefit received. At some point this just needs to be dropped.

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Kenneth Leupp said if Archbold decides to do a no build, the Trustees are not going to abandon the Village and would try to work with the Village with the problem. Jeff Rupp also suggested the Commissioners would try to see what they could do to help with the problem. Jon Rupp stated it would be difficult to come up with \$12,000,000.00 for the project.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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Attested

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