BERLIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

5:25 p.m. Emergency Meeting November 21, 22

HELD AT: This meeting was held at 3271 Cheshire Rd, Delaware, OH

CALL TO ORDER: Ken O'Brien, Trustee Chairman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Ken O'Brien led the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL: Ken O'Brien, Meghan Raehll, Ron Bullard, Claudia Smith, Fiscal Officer and Theresa Taylor, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Fairview Cemetery Issues with Upcoming Funeral and Policies Related to-

Bullard updated the board on an issue that is upcoming in Fairview Cemetery. Bullard received a phone call from Foor saying that a lady reached out to him and said that she will be needing a plot in the Islamic Gardens section for herself soon. She does not currently have a plot but someone in her family does and wants to transfer it to her. Bullard is going to write up something that the family member will sign to acknowledge the transfer and that once complete the plot will no longer belong to them and that the township will not be liable for anything. Unfortunately, the plot they want to use is close to some of the other lots where we are not sure if and where there may be bodies buried. Another issue is that we require a vault for the body to be buried in and with Islamic burials they do not want to be put into a vault and just want their body to be rapped and put into the dirt. Bullard said they work with Schoedinger and advised the trustees to be aware of receiving a phone calls from them because their main goal is to get the answer that they want so they will call anyone to retrieve it.

A potential solution in the future could be that the trustees close the Islamic Gardens section of Fairview Cemetery. This will take some time so for the issue at hand it is not a feasible solution.

Raehll asked if there is a risk of religious discrimination with a potential lawsuit that could be brought upon the township. Bullard said that as long as we remain consistent and follow the rules that were established by the board after the township received the cemetery there should not be any risk of it but there is always a chance someone may file a lawsuit. Raehll asked if we can look into closing the Islamic Gardens and moving any further burials to the other cemetery that allows traditional Islamic burials. Bullard said that we could forward that question to the prosecutor's office and will follow up with them.

O'Brien asked Bullard to inform Foor that the board is not a 'cemetery board', which Bullard will do.

Adjourn-

RESOLUTION 22-11-37 **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion: Bullard
Second: Raehll
Vote: O'Brien yes, Raehll yes and Bullard yes

Meeting adjourned by Chairman O'Brien at 5:55 p.m.

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Ken O'Brien, Chairman

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ATTEST: Meghan Raehll, Co-Chairman

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Theresa Taylor, Assistant Fiscal Officer Ron Bullard, Trustee