

**UPDATE INFORMATION JOINT ERIE COUNTY  
COMMISSION, GROTON, AND OXFORD TRUSTEE PUBLIC  
MEETING Re: EMERSON CREEK INDUSTRIAL WIND  
TURBINE PROJECT 2-26-2019**

The Boards of Trustees of Groton and Oxford Township, and the Erie County Commission called the meeting to order at Bellevue Elementary School at 6:30 PM, followed by the pledge of allegiance. All Trustees and all Commissioners (Shenigo, Old, Shoffner) were present and over 250 area residents and other county officials also attended the meeting. Commissioner Pat Shenigo chaired the meeting. To paraphrase Commissioner Shenigo, the purpose was to gain additional information and a better perspective of residents concerns, primarily in regard to the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT), as that is the only issue regarding the project that the Commissioners have direct control over (as noted previously on the Oxford Twp. webpage, see article INFORMATION ON APEX WIND PROJECT). Commissioner Shenigo explained that APEX had applied for tax exemption to the Ohio Department of Administrative Services and that the Commissioners had been officially notified of that request and have 30 days to act upon approving or denying the request for PILOT instead of taxes. He explained the agenda allowed 10 minutes for APEX presentation, approx 2 ½ minutes for each resident that signed up to speak, to do so, and that the meeting would adjourn at approximately 8:30 PM.

APEX personnel made the 10 minute presentation by providing a brief overview of the project and then presenting information on what they understood as the benefits to the area of accepting the request for tax exemption or PILOT. They also advised the project will go forward with or without PILOT. They anticipate approval of the application by the Ohio Power Siting Board, who has sole jurisdiction and approval of the project, by this fall.

Following APEX, 15-20 residents of Groton and Oxford Townships as well as other area residents ably and professionally presented their information and opinions regarding the project and requested the Commissioners vote “no” on the request for PILOT. One resident spoke in favor of the project and PILOT. Public

comments were completed at approximately 7:50 PM. The Commissioners thanked the speakers and audience for input and attendance. Brief comments and discussion by Commissioners followed and the Commissioners decided that they had sufficient information to vote on a “Resolution to Accept the Emerson Creek Project Request for PILOT” as required by process. A motion by Commissioner Shoffner was made to accept the PILOT resolution and seconded. All Commissioners proceeded to vote “NO” to accept the PILOT resolution (the project will be subject to traditional taxes). A vast majority of the attendants at the meeting stood and applauded the Commissioners and the Trustees of both Groton and Oxford unanimously applauded the decision. The Commission once again thanked residents and advised them that they must make their voice heard at the OHIO Power Siting Board hearing later this year. Meeting was adjourned by the Boards at 8:00 PM.

Detailed minutes will be posted once they are approved by the respective boards.