



RESOLUTION 01052026- C.

**TO COMPLY WITH OHIO PUBLIC RECORDS PROVISIONS**

It is the policy of Bainbridge Township in Geauga County that openness leads to a better-informed citizenry, more transparent government and sounder public policy. It is our policy to strictly adhere to the state's Public Records Act.

NOW THEREFORE be it hereby resolved that this Board of Trustees of Bainbridge Township adopts the following public records policy:

1. It is the policy of Bainbridge Township in Geauga County that, as required by Ohio law, records will be organized and maintained so that they are made available for inspection to any person at all reasonable times during regular business hours. (R.C. 149.43(B)(1). The Bainbridge Township Fiscal Officer is the statutorily appointed custodian of records, to whom requests shall be submitted. Copies will be made available upon request within a reasonable period of time. (R.C. 149.43(B)(1)). A current record retention schedule will be readily available to the public upon request. (R.C. 149.43(B)(2))
2. Not all of Bainbridge Township's records are public records. Certain records are exempt from the Public Records Act as detailed and referenced in ORC 149.43 and associated case law.
3. The requester does not have to put a records request in writing, and does not have to provide his/her identity or the intended use of the requested public record. However, the records custodian may ask for a written request and may ask for the requestor's identity and/or intended use of the information requested if:
  - A. It would benefit the requestor by helping the public office identify, locate or deliver the records being sought, and
  - B. The requestor is informed that a written request and the requestor's identity and intended use of the information requested are not required. (R.C. 149.43(B)(5)). This office will permit a requester to choose to have the public record duplicated upon paper, upon the same medium which this office keeps it, or upon any other medium which this office determines that it reasonably can be duplicated as an integral part of the normal operations of this office. This office is not required to allow the requester to make the copies of the public record. (R.C. 149.43(B)(6)).

TRUSTEES  
Jeffrey S. Markley  
Kristina O'Brien  
Michael Bates



FISCAL OFFICER  
Janice S. Sugarman

4. Public records should be available for inspection at all reasonable times during regular business hours. Public records should be made available for inspection promptly. (R.C. 149.43(B)(1)). To the extent that an office may operate 24-hours-a-day, the records of that office will be made available for inspection during normal administrative hours. Copies of public records should be made available within a reasonable period of time. (R.C. 149.43(B)(1)). The determination of the terms "prompt" and "reasonable" take into account the volume of records requested; the proximity of the location where the records are stored; and the necessity for any legal review of the records requested.
5. Each request should be evaluated for an estimated length of time required to gather the records. Routine requests for records should be satisfied immediately if feasible to do so. Routine requests include, but are not limited to, meeting minutes (both in draft and final form), resolutions, budgets, etc.
6. Upon request, this office will provide copies of public records to a requester by United States mail or by any other delivery means or transmission that this office deems reasonable. (R.C. 149.43(B)(7)).
7. Any denial of public records requested, in part or in whole, should include an explanation, including legal authority, as to why the request was denied. If the initial request was provided in writing, the explanation for denial will be provided to the requester in writing. (R.C. 149.43(B)(3)). If portions of a record are public and portions are exempt, the exempt portions should be redacted and the rest released. If there are redactions, the office will notify the requester of any redaction or make the redaction plainly visible. Each redaction should be accompanied by a supporting explanation, including legal authority, as to why the redaction was made. (R.C. 149.43(B) (1) and (2)).
8. Costs for Public Records are established by the Board of Township Trustees each calendar year at the township organizational meeting.

Resolved and Adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026, upon a roll call vote as follows:

Kristina O'Brien

aye

Jeffrey Markley

aye

Michael Bates

aye