

OHIO TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

August 11, 2025

The trustees met in regular session with all members present.

Also present were Jason Barger, Cpl. Wallace, Asst. Chief Watkins, PTFD, Kathy Waldeck, Frank Renn, Valerie Renn, Larry Bramlage, Chris Donley, Joel Gilpin, Rich Mathews, David Spears, Les Smith and Emily Supinger

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mr. Hinson.

Mr. Niehaus made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 14, 2025 regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang. All members voted "yea"

Frank Renn of 2928 Mt. Pisgah Rd. spoke to the board about his tenure as a township trustee and expressed his displeasure with Trustee Vogelsang and recent board actions; also noted that he heard a levy may be on the November ballot and asked where the money has gone since the township has no debt. Frank Renn also noted that the stop sign at the corner of Mt. Pisgah Rd. and Wilson Dunham Rd. "is a joke". Frank Renn also noted that he feels the township law director is over paid and unnecessary; also mentioned that the original zoning code was 32 pages long and is now over 100 pages long and not being enforced; also stated that the 3 minute rule for speaking is unfair and that residents should be able to speak about issues as they come up in a meeting, suggesting that the meetings be recorded.

Asst. Chief Jim Watkins, PTFD, gave his report (on file). Mr. Hinson asked if Pierce Twp. had purchased the AED's for public spaces; response was not yet but the information supplied this evening will be the ones purchased if approved by the trustees. Some new furniture will be purchased soon for station 44; whatever type recliners are purchased that information will be provided to Ohio Township for consideration of purchasing for station 45 as well. Mr. Niehaus asked if better pricing could be obtained if both townships went together when ordering; answer was no that 12 units would need to be purchased to get a discount.

Cpl. Wallace, CCSO: gave his report (on file). Mr. Vogelsang asked if the monthly report was for Ohio Twp. only, response was yes. Mr. Vogelsang reported that he has been calculating how many calls there are per capita in the township and asked how Ohio Twp. compared to other townships statistically; response was that crime rates are low in Ohio Township. Mr. Niehaus asked if there was any common connection between the 3 thefts reported, answer was no.

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Les Smith gave his zoning report (on file). Reported that 1258 Riebel Ridge has been cleaned up; the barn at 1057 Grays Lane has been inspected by Chief Wright and deemed to be in imminent danger of collapsing. Emily Supinger noted that she has prepared a resolution for considering declaring the barn at 1057 Grays Lane a nuisance. Mr. Niehaus asked how the township would be reimbursed for expenses if the township removes the barn. Emily Supinger noted that the owner will be given 10 days to remove the barn. If that is not done the township will pay to have the barn removed and the associated cost will be put on the property tax duplicate.

Mr. Vogelsang made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-57, a resolution declaring the property located at 1057-1059 Grays Lane to be in an unsafe condition, ordering the removal of the structure located on the property and assessing the costs thereof, seconded by Mr. Niehaus. All members voted "yea"

Les Smith also reported receiving several phone calls about the Ivy Farms property and permitted uses if purchased. Mr. Hinson asked Les Smith to look at the Willis property at the bottom of the hill on SR 132 as it appears that utilities are being installed for 3 campers that are on the property; also asked to look into a heavily damaged motor home that is near the Lindale Baptist Church.

Jason Barger gave his maintenance report (on file). Reported that the paving projects were completed today; squad 1 will be back in service as soon as the power cot is inspected; may be used if necessary in the meantime. Reported that the stop sign at Mt. Pisgah Rd. and Wilson Dunham Rd. is on a county road and the obstruction on the Wilson Dunham Rd. side is out of the township right of way; have spoken to the property owner about trimming or removing but was only given permission to remove the wild trees growing through the shrub but not the shrub itself. Mr. Niehaus asked Jason Barger what precautions he was taking in this heat; response was drinking lots of fluids and getting out of the heat as needed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cemetery Fees: Bill Gilpin asked if the trustees still wanted to discuss changing or implementing any cemetery fees. There was discussion on the current plot prices. Bill Gilpin noted that all other entities have a fee for the labor involved with the township employee's time for dealing with each funeral and restoring the gravesite ground following each funeral. The trustees will discuss further at the September meeting.

Squad Purchase Financing Discussion: Bill Gilpin reported that the paperwork for a 1.5 mil fire/ems levy has been submitted to the board of elections and will be on the November ballot.

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Mr. Niehaus asked how the township planned on educating the taxpayers on the need of the levy. Emily Supinger noted that township funds cannot be expended for election materials themselves but information could be included in other township correspondence, such as on the township website or a newsletter.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Zoning Commission Appointment-Cindy Cassell: Mr. Hinson reported that Cindy Cassell has agreed to serve another term on the zoning commission.

Mr. Niehaus made a motion to appoint Cindy Cassell to a five-year term on the zoning commission expiring in September 2030, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang. All members voted “yea”

Zoning Commission Opening Appointment-Greg Wahl: Mr. Hinson reported that Les Smith has spoken with Greg Wahl and that he has agreed to take Ron McGlone’s place on the zoning commission, noting that the township will need to find an alternate for the zoning commission.

Mr. Vogelsang made a motion to appoint Greg Wahl to Ron McGlone’s unexpired term on the zoning commission expiring in September 2026, seconded by Mr. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”

Mr. Niehaus asked how the township gets information posted on the website. Bill Gilpin will send out Will Menz’s contact information for everyone to use.

Emily Supinger noted that the zoning commission met this evening and approved removing the zoning fees from the resolution and made a few minor edits as well. The proposed changes will be forwarded to the county planning commission for approval. The trustees will need to have the new proposed zoning fees ready for the September meeting. The consensus was to use the average fee structure that was calculated by trustee Emily Niehaus. Bill Gilpin will send that out for review.

Mr. Vogelsang asked Les Smith if he had received a phone call from a company regarding zoning permits, answer was yes but not needed.

Fund balances were discussed.

The following were read and approved with warrants written for same: (payment summary on following page).

Mr. Vogelsang made a motion to adjourn at 7:31pm, seconded by Mr. Niehaus. All members voted “yea”