

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 1123 MINUTES OF ELLSWORTH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Held _____ REGULAR MEETING _____ 20 _____

September 10, 2025

Chairman William Spellman called the September 10, 2025, regular meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees to order at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence in memory of September 11th.

A roll call was taken to establish a quorum: Chairman William Spellman – present, Vice Chairman Fredrick Houston – present, Trustee Robert Toman – present. Also present was Fiscal Officer James DeCenso, Fire Chief Edward Smith, Assistant Chiefs Jullian Smith and Zack Williams. Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna, and Maintenance Supervisor Joe Serensky.

ROAD and MAINTENANCE REPORT: Supervisor Joe Serensky reported that he assisted Fred Houston with starting a driveway on the new property next to the cemetery. Routine maintenance included weed eating around the lake behind the shop, cleaning all mowers, trucks, and trailer. Boak & Sons came out and gave a quote on installing fiberglass insulation in fire station ceiling as humidity is causing the air conditioners to leak. Trash on the roadsides was cleaned up, and he assisted Berlin Township with setting up and taking down the fair display. Roof Rite is to send an evaluation of the Fire Station roof.

There was an open dialogue on Boak & Sons who are donating the fiberglass insulation mentioned above. The cost would have been \$1,980.00. Trustee Houston made **MOTION 2025 - 92** to accept the installation of fiberglass insulation above the ceiling tiles at the fire stations at no charge. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

MINUTES: The Fiscal officer presented the minutes from the last regular meeting held on August 13, 2025. The trustees were given a few minutes to look over the minutes. **MOTION 2025-93:** Trustee Toman made a motion to accept the minutes from the last regular meeting held on August 13, 2025. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

The Board recognized the passing of Mark Young and his work with Ellsworth Baseball Organization .

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer Jim DeCenso reported that the August revenue was \$265,717 which included property tax advances of \$239,000 and bank interest of \$3,744 at 4.49%. The revenue through August 30th is \$906,047. Expenses for the same eight months were \$645,689. The Mahoning County Auditor reported that they overpaid the Township \$1,300.00 in property tax advances and are requesting a refund. Mr. DeCenso will go back through the records and report back to the Board by the next meeting.

Expenses for August totaled \$69,399. Extraordinary items included fire gear that was previously approved for \$19,231. The gross fund balance is \$1,118,926 which includes the General Fund balance of \$105,307, a Restricted Fund balance of \$11,500 from VFW donations for gas detectors for residents, a Restricted Fund balance of \$43,540 for the Kocanyar property clean-up Escrow, Fire/EMS Operations Fund of \$399,055, the Fire Equipment Fund of \$224,134, the Road Department has a balance of \$300,247, the Recycling/Lighting District has \$13,926, and an ARPA Fund which is committed to the school resource officer for the next two school years of \$21,217.

There was only one invoice needing approval which was \$762.00 to the Ohio Auditor for 4th quarter UAN fees. (PO 42-2025). Trustee Houston made **MOTION 2025 - 94** to approve the amount of \$762.00 to the Ohio Auditor for 4th quarter UAN fees. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

The Fiscal Officer reported that the lease of the shared printer in the Zoning office can be terminated if notice is given at least 30 days before the end of the year. The cost is \$303.13 per month and includes ink and maintenance. It is used by all departments, and he has requested feedback from those that routinely use this printer.

Mr. DeCenso advised the Trustees and Departments that they should begin thinking about 2026 budget requests, especially Capital items and/or improvements.

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Regular Trustee Meeting September 10, 2025, Continued

A discussion was held on the Kocanyar property escrow of \$43,540. Trustee Houston made **MOTION 2025-95** to return the \$43,540 held in escrow for the cleanup of the property to the estate of JoAnn and Jeffrey Kocanyar. The property has been cleaned to the satisfaction of the Township and no costs to the township are expected; thus, Ellsworth Trustees approve of the cleanup in accordance to ORC 3929.86. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

ZONING REPORT: Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna reported that since the last meeting, 3 zoning permits have been written. On August 12, 2025, a permit was issued for a garage, 20' x 24', at 7210 E. Diehl Lake Drive. The fee collected was \$120.00. A permit for a single-family dwelling at 4979 S. Bailey Road was issued on August 19, 2025, in the amount of \$1,950.00. A permit for a 4-foot privacy fence for the perimeter and front of the property at 4145 Bailey Road on September 9, 2025. The flat fee of \$50.00 was collected.

The property owner of 12082 Palmyra Road has not responded regarding the removal of the abandoned house. Mr. Sarna will request to have the house inspected by the fire chief to review possible condemnation. The monitoring of the zoning issue and cleanup of 5843 Gault Road for the debris at the front of the home and neighboring garage is ongoing.

There appears to have been payment made on the back taxes at 11830 Palmyra Road. An email was sent to the prosecutor's office requesting the status of the foreclosure. Monitoring the grass at 20 W. Hill to make sure it is mowed.

A zoning permit application was sent to the property owner of 10872 N. Palmyra Road for a fence which was installed to the back portion of the property. A zoning permit application was also sent to the Ellsworth Sportsman Club for a metal structure being constructed at 12081 N. Palmyra Road. A check was received, and the permit will be issued this week.

A request was received for a Replat of lot 1 in B.J. McDonough Plat No. 1 – Sandstrom property for the Zoning Board's review. The fee of \$50.00 was received via check.

A reinspection of the property at 13177 Akron-Canfield Road was made as the home has still not been torn down as the owner stated would be done.

The zoning commission meeting held on September 9, 2025, was attended by Mr. Sarna. Discussion was held on the land use plan amendment, the Centofanti replat, Bowman property, and the Sandstrom replat. The property owner appeared on the Sandstrom replat.

Forwarded to the Zoning Board was a copy of the letter received from Sean McQuire CPESC – CPMSM; Environmental Compliance Inspector/District Technician II Mahoning Soil and Water Conservation District regarding the review of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) that was submitted regarding the project located in Ellsworth Township, Mahoning County, Ohio Ellsworth Ring Bus SS Par # 23-049-S-005.00-P & Parcel # 23-026-0-002.-0. The SWP3 has not been approved. There are seven points that need to be addressed/ included in the SWP3.

Signs that have no permit issued advertising business services i.e., roofs or other miscellaneous services offered – primarily at the intersections of State Route 45 and Western Reserve Road; Route 224 and State Route 45; and State Route 224 and Crory Road are taken down on a weekly basis. Non-profit, garage sale signs, and election signs are exempt and require no permit.

Mr. Sarna reported that at their last meeting, the Zoning Commission voted Jason Smaldino as chairman, A.J. Baltes as vice-chair, and Sara Hendricks as secretary to fill the positions left from resignations.

FIRE/EMS REPORT: Chief Smith reported 323 total calls for 2025. The August calls were 40 with mutual aid given 13 times and mutual aid received 3 times. There were 14 fire calls and 26 EMS calls. Ellsworth transported 10 patients; no patients were transported by mutual aid, and 15 patients refused transportation.

As usual, the dispatching has been going smoothly. Hoping to see decrease in fees.

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Regular Trustee Meeting September 10, 2025, Continued

New members Olivia Hunter and Paige Allender are in Fire 2 class.

The feasibility study of fire station is ongoing. Information about the trucks and cash flow need to be sent.

EMS Supplies needing approval were as follows: Boundtree in the amount of \$4,365.12 on PO 98-2025 and from Phoenix \$2,450.00 for gear rental (hood, boots, gloves) for Hunter & Allender for 3 months (\$374.00 x 2 x 3) under PO 99-2025. Medic 45-1 is at Fairway Ford for repairs. The total invoice is \$2,929.88. The Chief reported that the engine light has gone on again, so he requests that the check be held until the final status is known.

Assistant Fire Chief Zach Williams is working on a State Fire Marshall Grant for 6 new radios. The current radios were purchased used or were donated to the department. Once the county switches to the new system, these radios cannot be updated. The radios cost \$3,916.45 ea. The grant would cover \$3,000.00 per radio which leaves a balance of \$916.45 per radio. Request \$5,500.00 to cover the balance. More information will be gathered.

Assistant Chief Jillian Smith reported that tactical medic training was held today at the fire station for advanced medical training in case of an emergency situation such as a shooting. Ellsworth had 10 members present as well as first responders from Salem, Berlin, Austintown and Howland. Tomorrow will be a live exercise day conducted at Western Reserve Schools. No students or teachers will be involved. This class was conducted through University Hospitals.

MOTION 2025-96: Trustee Houston moved to approval the Fire/EMS invoices totaling \$9,594.40 to Boundtree, Phoenix and Fairway Ford. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Trustee Toman stated the Elk Road Drainage Project is underway. The bottom portion will be done first with the top following. This will provide a way for homeowners to tie into the new drainage. Trustee Toman reported that he also attended the Zoning meeting held September 9th.

Trustee Houston reported that the new property next to the cemetery was mowed as well as the McCord property on Elk Road. The new driveway from the cemetery drive to the building on the new property has started. This building would make an excellent area to store salt for the roads in winter. He reported that the building is now secured.

Chairman Spellman discussed the .25% sales tax that will expire in 2026. The Mahoning County Commissioners would like the townships to support the renewal by a resolution. This would be on the May 2026 ballot. Ellsworth would receive approx. \$59,000.00 per year for the Township road maintenance.

Trustee Toman made **MOTION 2025-97** to approve a resolution from Ellsworth Trustees to the Mahoning County Commissioners to approve the .25% sales tax for 5 years for Road Sales and Use Tax for repair, maintenance, and improvement of road, bridge and infrastructure throughout Mahoning County to be on the May 2026 ballot. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

Chairman Spellman discussed the need to make a resolution to purchase gas detectors for Ellsworth residents from the funds previously donated to the Township from the VFW. Trustee Houston made **MOTION 2025-98** to expend up to \$11,500 from the VFW donations in escrow to purchase gas detector and to appoint Chairman Spellman as the point person on project. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

The scouts would like to use the pond area and pavilion for scouting maneuvers to obtain various badges. The Trustees all agreed as long as the Township is held harmless. The Sealing of the parking pavement areas are to be done on a Saturday. Trustee Houston commended the historical society and Chairman Spellman for the fair display. Trustee Toman recognized Carol Check for her work on the fair display.

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Regular Trustee Meeting September 10, 2025, Continued

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2025, at 9:00 am in the Town Hall.

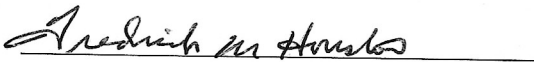
At 8:15 pm, **MOTION 2025-99** was made by Trustee Toman to adjourn, Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.



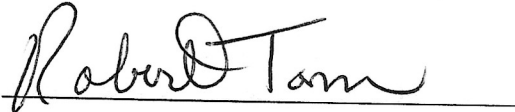
Fiscal Officer



Chairman



Trustee



Trustee