

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

HOCKING TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

Held: January 27, 2026, 7:00 PM

Location: 1175 Cincinnati Zanesville Road SW, Lancaster, Ohio 43130.

Chairperson Gail Ellinger called the meeting to order with the Pledge to the flag. The following members and visitors were present:

Mrs. Gail Ellinger Present

Mr. Charles Ressler Present

Mr. Steve Wolfe Present

Mr. Judd Ellinger – Present

VISITORS:

See Sign in Sheet with a total of 5 visitors present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

No Public Participation.

REGIONAL PLANNING REPORT:

No Hocking Township issues.

ZONING:

Zoning Inspector Rich Hogle reported a lot of calls this month with questions. There is a conditional use and a variance scheduled for February 14, 2026. Paperwork still needs to be completed for an Airbnb. Will be giving the owner a last chance before a stop work permit is issued. Rich will be contacting the owner on Mt. Ida Avenue about his business. Still a few issues out at Windy Hills that still need addressed.

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CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE FISCAL OFFICER:

Minutes from the special January meeting being read prior by the Board were approved as read, so moved by Trustee Steve Wolfe and seconded by Trustee Judd Ellinger. All were in favor with 3 ayes and no negative votes, motion passed. FY25 financials is now closed and has been posted in the local paper. Trustee Steve Wolfe motioned to accept the 2025 Township Highway System Mileage Certification. Trustee Judd Ellinger seconded the motion. Roll call vote Gail Ellinger – Yes, Judd Ellinger – Yes, Steve Wolfe – Yes. Motion approved. Trustee Steve Wolfe motioned to reduce the weight limits by 50% on the following roads: all streets and roads within Windy Hills, Lifer Lane, Stepath Mound Lane, Country Club Road Northside, and Stonewall Cemetery Road from the Snoke Road Intersection to the dead-end effective February 2, 2026. Trustee Judd Ellinger seconded the motion. Roll call vote Gail Ellinger – Yes, Judd Ellinger – Yes, Steve Wolfe – Yes. Motion approved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fire Chief Kilbarger reported there were a total of 47 runs for the month. There were 36 EMS runs and 11 fire runs. Total runs YTD are 47. Mutual aid was provided to Amanda, Pleasant, Greenfield, Lancaster, and Berne townships. There were several major incidents dispatched from auto accidents, fire structure, chest pains, and cardiac arrests. ORC 1503.18 prohibits outdoor open burning during the hours of 6:00am – 6:00pm for the months of March, April, May, October, and November. Hired Nathan Casa at a rate of \$16.50 per hour and Austin Mapes at a rate of \$15.00 per hour. All grants have been filed and waiting responses. Volunteer fallen fire fighters fund has been filed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Stop blocks have been ordered for the Hamburg Park parking lot. We will be waiting until spring/summer to install.
2. We had our zoning meeting last month for short term rentals. Trustee Ellinger delivered the paperwork to the prosecutor's office for their review and will get started on the process in February.

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3. We have applied for an OPWC grant for two culverts on Westfall Road that need replaced.
4. We have turned 2711 Hamburg Road property into Michael Kaper for consideration on a demolition process. We will look for other properties within the township as well.
5. We have ordered and received another 450 tons of road salt out of the 700 tons we applied for this winter season.

NEW BUSINESS:

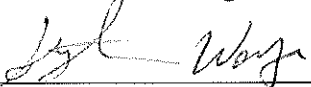
1. We are looking into a resolution to pass in order to collect a lodging tax on any bed and breakfast, Airbnb or short-term rental, and will be including hotel and motel lodging. Will be checking with the prosecutor on the language.
2. We have posted the assistance fire chief position and that posting will be closed on February 16, 2026.

Trustee Steve Wolfe moved to pay the warrants for the month seconded by Trustee Judd Ellinger. Roll call vote Gail Ellinger – Yes, Judd Ellinger – Yes, Trustee Steve Wolfe – Yes. Motion approved.

There being no further business to discuss Trustee Steve Wolfe motioned to adjourn and Trustee Judd Ellinger seconded the motion.



Mrs. Gail V. Ellinger



Mr. Steve Wolfe



Mr. Judd Ellinger

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Mr. Charles Ressler

All formal actions of the Board of Hocking Township concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code