

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held MINUTES OF ELLSWORTH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES 20

REGULAR MEETING

June 11, 2025

Chairman William Spellman called the June 11, 2025, regular meeting of the Ellsworth Trustees to order at 7:00 pm. 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 Fire Chief Jillian Smith, Assistant Chief Zack Williams, Zoning Inspector Wayne Sarna, and Maintenance Supervisor Joe Serensky. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: The Fiscal officer presented the minutes from the last regular meeting held on May 14, 2025. The trustees have reviewed the minutes prior to this meeting. **MOTION 2025-57:** Trustee Toman made a motion to accept the minutes from the last regular meeting held on May 14, 2025. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

FISCAL REPORT: Fiscal Officer Jim DeCenso reported the May revenue was \$30,931.48 which included the bank interest of \$3,779 @ 4.51%. This brought the YTD total revenue to \$602,969.55. The expenses were \$86,162.90. There were 3 Fire/EMS pays in May which brought the total for month up. The year to date expenses totaled \$436,214.19.

The gross fund balances through 5/31/2025 totaled \$1,041,296.00. This total is from the following: General fund (includes Zoning and cemetery) \$106,640.00, Fire/EMS operations of \$342,876.00, Fire apparatus fund from 1994 of \$210,130.00, Road fund primarily from gasoline taxes of \$291,468.00, \$13,926 in the recycle/lighting district and \$21,216.00 from ARPA funds which by law are committed to the school resource officer. There are two restricted funds: the Kocanyar escrow from Progressive Insurance for the cleanup of the Huxley Road property in the amount of \$43,540.00 and the VFW Ohio Charities donation of \$11,500.00 for the purchase of multi gas detectors for the township residents. General Fund unappropriated funds total \$4,813.61.

Invoices needing approval were as follows: Ohio EPA \$305.70, Austintown Township 911 Dispatch \$6,500.00, Turner, May, Shepherd (Zoning Legal) \$75.00, Ellis Construction (Rollings Hills Culvert Work) \$1,689.83, Ohio Auditor 3rd quarter 2025 UAN fee (Accounting program) \$762.00, Professional Engine- Generator PM \$357.88, Tri-Area Electric- Pavilion Electrical Work \$6,923.00, Boak Construction (Pavilion Insulation) \$6,923.00 and OTARMA (Property and Liability Annual Insurance Contribution) \$24,476.00 for a total of \$43,604.41. **MOTION 2025-58:** Trustee Toman made the motion to approve the payment of the above listed invoices totaling \$43,604.42. Seconded by Trustee Houston. Roll call was all in favor.

Fiscal Officer DeCenso stated that the township personnel policy manual needs reviewed. The issue was with a past employee’s vacation and sick pay.

MOTION 2025-59: Trustee Houston made the motion to amend the township full time personnel policy section 3.2, effective immediately. Changing that overtime will be paid on hours worked over 40 hours in one week and remove the section regarding overtime paid after 8 hours per day. Seconded by Trustee Toman. Roll call was all in favor. The Fiscal Officer recommended that the policy manual to be reviewed by trustees and revised before 2026.

Chairman Spellman stated that the Kocanyar property on Huxley Road is handled by Mahoning County prosecutor’s office. The township has no say in when a clean up can be done. The \$43,540.00 given to the township for cleaning up is in escrow.

FIRE/EMS: Chief Smith reported a total of 223 calls have been received for 2025. There were 35 calls in May of which 7 were mutual aid given and 5 mutual aid received. There were 18 fire related calls and EMS handled 17 calls in which 10 patients were transported, 8 refused, and 2 patients were transported by mutual aid fire departments. Dispatching is going smoothly. Olivia Hunter passed the National Registry exam. Two more junior Firefighters will take the exam soon. Aaron Barnes passed his paramedic exam. Chief Smith presented two applications for approval: Brandon Gilmore, FF/EMT presently with Boardman, and Grace Ogden, FF/EMT with Poland and Lowellville.

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Regular Trustee Meeting of June 11, 2025, Continued

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The feasibility study, approved last year will start on Monday, June 19, 2025, at the station. Milton, Jackson, and Ellsworth are included in the group. A risk assessment throughout the township will also be done following the study.

The following invoices needed approval: Ladder testing (aerial only) \$1,471.00, D & T PM- tanker 45 water leak \$205.37, Additional amount required for PM Service \$548.95 (Originally approved \$1,380.00 at the April 9th meeting), Bound Tree (EMS supplies) \$294.94, Phoenix (helmet shields) \$200.00, and an additional amount for Waterway \$128.65 (Originally approved \$550.00 at the April 9th meeting) for a total of \$2,849.96. **MOTION 2025-60:** Trustee Toman made the motion to approve the payment of the above invoices and expenditures totaling \$2,849.96. Seconded by Trustee Houston. Roll call was all in favor.

New ISO ratings will be out within 3 months - The Chief projected that the entire township will be lowered to a rating of four from a five. This should assist residents to lower their homeowners insurance.

MOTION 2025-61: Trustee Houston made the motion to approve Brandon Gilmore and Grace Ogden as probationary firefighters. Seconded by Trustee Toman. Roll call was all in favor.

MOTION 2025-62: Trustee Houston made a motion to increase the fire chief's monthly salary from \$800.00 to \$1,700.00 and the EMS Director's monthly salary from \$500.00 to \$1,300.00 retroactive to January 1, 2025. Seconded by Trustee Toman. The roll call was all in favor.

ZONING REPORT: Inspector Sarna reported that he issued two permits since the last meeting: (1) permit for a 1 ½ story single family dwelling at 11186 S. Kiwantani in Diehl Lake. The fee collected was \$1,330.00 based on cost of \$240,000.00, (2) permit for a storage building, 26' by 56', at 12581 Akron-Canfield Road with the fee of \$100.00.

Mr. Sarna spoke with Detective DeAngelo from Mahoning County Sheriff's Department regarding the address for parceled property in Diehl Lake. The Address will be 11440 Campfire Circle, Canfield, OH 44406.

A conversation with the Mahoning County Prosecutors office regarding the status of the foreclosure for back property taxes at 11830 Palmyra Road resulted with the property owner entering into a repayment plan with first installment due 8/01/2025. He will follow up with the prosecutor's office to determine if payment was made. If not the foreclosure should proceed.

The work at 11632 Ellsworth Road is being monitored.

The vacant land at the corner of Western Reserve Road and Knauf Road with 28 acres involved has had people calling asking questions about the size of lots and for what purpose the land may be used. Mr. Sarna has no information on this property and is directing callers to the GIS map department.

The property, located at 4223 S. Bailey Road, has not been transferred or sold by US Bank. A for sale sign is still up, and nothing has taken place to remove the existing house or garage. The prosecutor's office was contacted, and the status will be discussed with the mortgage company.

The complaint at 10960 W. Western Reserve Road with excessive debris has been resolved with the complaint closed.

There has been no permit requested to date for the manufactured home at 9352 Akron-Canfield Road.

Documentation was received on the Encino Energy gas/oil well on State Route 45 and Leffingwell Road. The property owners' names and addresses, the company conducting the drilling, a site plan including boundary lines, all buildings, the location of well buildings, and all federal and state permits have been received for the township's records.

Mr. Sarna attended the zoning commission meeting on June 11, 2025, regarding the land use plan for Ellsworth Township for changes and revisions. He suggested that the comments made by the public in attendance should be recorded for future reference.

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Regular Trustee Meeting of June 11, 2025, Continued

ROAD AND MAINTENANCE: Joe Serensky reported that Tim Foor, from Hallowed Ground Cemetery Preservation, came out to both cemeteries and repaired several headstones. Mr. Serensky learned a lot from him. At the Maintenance Department /Fire Hall the water system is being monitored for chlorine levels. There is a leak in the fire department roof. A company was called but has not responded. Mulching the playground has started. Trustee Houston reminded Mr. Serensky that wood chips are to be used, not mulch. The air conditioning in the fire department was hit by lightning and has been repaired. Chairman Spellman recognized Earl Moracco who stated the following complaints: The trailer should be stored in the maintenance garage, the ball fields need weed and feed, there are trees on West Hill and Rolling Hills Drive that need trimmed, and a culvert on Elk Road needs to be dug up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Toman reported that copies of the May Crime Watch Reports are available. The Elk Road water project is ongoing. A new Instagram site – “Ellsworth Ohio” has been set up for our residents. Work on the pavilion at Millcreek Vickers on Route 224 has begun. Work on Rollings Hills has been completed. A new sign for in front of the Town Hall is being investigated.

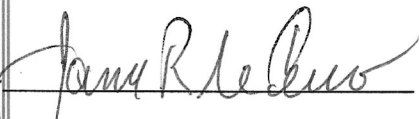
Trustee Houston reported the cemetery property on Akron-Canfield Road is still an ongoing project. Once the state has property in our name and tax exempt, it will be put up for sale. A driveway on the property was discussed. A plan and prices will be reviewed with a 10” drive to the maintenance building with a 20’ pad in front. There will be a buffer zone between the cemetery and proposed driveway.

The water at the fire house has been reset for regeneration every other day. No problems have been reported.

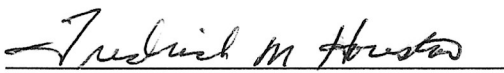
Chairman Spellman reported that the Utility Pipeline meeting for gas line will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 6:00 pm in fire hall to see who might be interested. Huxley Road to be resurfaced this year. First Energy easement across township property has new language to satisfy Mahoning County Sanitary Department. Mr. Spellman has several certificates to present to VFW 9371 and Ohio VFW Charities for their generous contributions, and one to the Coon Club for their contributions to the township churches, and businesses every year. These will be presented at the Mahoning County Township Association dinner this week at the Coon Club sponsored by Ellsworth Township Trustees.

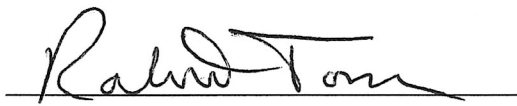
The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at the township hall at 7:00 pm.

MOTION 2025-63: At 8:44 pm Trustee Toman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Trustee Houston. Roll call was all in favor.


Fiscal Officer


Chairman


Trustee


Trustee