

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

HOCKING TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR SESSION

Held: February 24, 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 13 visitors present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Valerie Groce brought up that she recently had a conditional use viewing and meeting for a short-term rental at 687 Mt Zion Road. She wanted to bring up that she didn't realize there would be a lot of cars at her property and that her neighbors would be entering the house. She was glared at by the board members and neighbors alike. Troy Shurtz addressed the resident of what happened at the viewing. Troy Shurtz also advise Valerie Groce that the realtor invited those in attendance into the house for a viewing. Trustee Ellinger spoke and said she believes it was a misunderstanding since there was a realtor and Mr. Fitch involved. Trustee Ellinger stated she would speak with the zoning board about introducing themselves for future viewings.

REGIONAL PLANNING REPORT:

No Hocking Township issues.

ZONING:

Zoning Inspector Rich Hogle reported a lot of calls this month with questions. There was a conditional use for a short-term rental on Mt. Zion Road and a variance for Jeff Sherrick for

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road frontage scheduled for February 14, 2026. Mr. Biggs is moving his business from Mt. Ida. Ontevaizos property in Windy Hills is being cleaned up. Road work in that area will be addressed at a alter time.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE FISCAL OFFICER:

Minutes from the 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. Trustee Wolfe motioned to move from temporary appropriations to permanent appropriations for the following funds: \$355,965 for General Revenue Fund, \$27,396 for Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund, \$165,500 for Gasoline Tax Fund, \$431,000 for the Road and Bridge Fund, \$27,500 for the Zoning Fund, \$1,024,492 for the Fire and Emergency Services Fund, \$139,741 for the Permissive Motor License Tax Fund, \$100.00 for EMS Special Fund, \$20,000 for the Special Revenue Grant Fund, and \$100,000 for the Capital Project Fund. Motion was seconded by Trustee Judd Ellinger and roll call being called upon its adoption was: Steven Wolfe – Yes, Judd Ellinger – Yes, Gail Ellinger – Yes. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fire Fighter Smith reported there were a total of 39 runs for the month. There were 33 EMS runs and 6 fire runs. Total runs YTD are 86. Mutual aid was provided to Amanda, Clearcreek, Greenfield, 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 Jonathon Rose at a rate of \$18.00 per hour. Had an interview on 2-22-26 and waiting for background check.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. We have received bids back for the Hamburg Park. We will be moving forward with the concrete walkway, bench pads, and fencing around the park. Will be working with the

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vendors to get this scheduled. Trustee Wolfe motioned to use Barnes Concrete for the Hamburg Park project. Motion was seconded by Trustee Judd Ellinger and roll call being called upon its adoption was: Steven Wolfe – Yes, Judd Ellinger – Yes, Gail Ellinger – Yes. Motion carried.

2. The Board of Trustees submitted the short-term rental language to the prosecutor's office for their review and received it back.
3. We have applied for an OPWC grant for two culverts on Westfall Road that need replaced. No update.
4. We have turned another 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. We will be ordering another 200 tons.
6. After sending the lodging tax resolution to the prosecutor's office for review, they suggested we wait until they develop a template for all townships to use.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Board of Trustees will be scheduling times for interviews. We have 3 applicants for the Assistant Fire Chief.
2. The next county OTA meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2026, at 6:00pm at Bloom Township.
3. The Board of Trustees received a quote from Mid-Ohio Tree for \$1,600 to remove a large tree on Jacobs Ladder Road. Trustee Judd Ellinger motioned to accept the bid and to proceed with the work. Trustee Steve Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote Gail Ellinger – Yes, Judd Ellinger – Yes, Trustee Steve Wolfe – Yes. Motion approved.
4. The Board of Trustees received a phone call from Sam Mattingly about a possible Dollar General being constructed around the Meister Road and Hamburg Road area. Just wanted to advise.

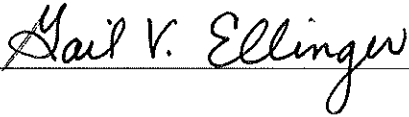
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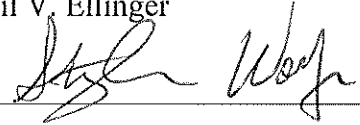
5. Estimates came in for the gutters and snow rail for the fire department buildings. The trustees have some questions and Trustee Steve Wolfe will contact them for some clarification. Will table until the next meeting.

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.

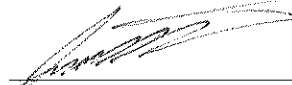
There being no further business to discuss Trustee Judd Ellinger motioned to adjourn and Trustee Steve Wolfe seconded the motion.



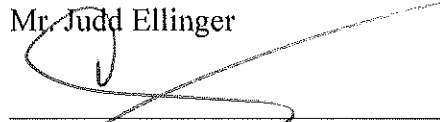
Mrs. Gail V. Ellinger



Mr. Steve Wolfe



Mr. Judd Ellinger



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