

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_  
MINUTES OF ELLSWORTH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

July 9, 2025

Chairman William Spellman called the July 9, 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 June 11, 2025. The trustees had reviewed the minutes prior to this meeting. **MOTION 2025-65:** Trustee Toman made a motion to accept the minutes from the last regular meeting held on June 11, 2025. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

**FISCAL REPORT:** Fiscal Officer Jim DeCenso reported the June revenue was \$26,860.47 which included the bank interest (4.51%) of \$3,668.00. This brought the year-to-date total revenue to \$640,330.02. The expenses were \$142,978.76. The total for the month was high due to the annual payment to OTARMA for \$24,476.00, \$9,438.00 for the pavilion, the 2022-2023 Audit invoice of \$5,775.00, and fire gear, previously approved for \$8,752.00. The year-to-date expenses totaled \$576,289.90.

The gross fund balances through 6/30/2025 totaled \$925,180. This total is from the following: general fund (includes Zoning and cemetery) \$55,486, Fire/EMS operations of \$282,893, Fire apparatus fund (1994 Levy) of \$210,130, Road fund primarily from gasoline taxes of \$286,487, \$13,926 in the recycle/lighting district and \$21,217 from ARPA funds which 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 for \$43,540 and the VFW Ohio Charities donation of \$11,500 for the purchase of multi gas detectors for the township residents. General Fund’s unencumbered amount total’s \$3,337.61.

Invoices needing approval were as follows: Carter & Associates (CPA’s) \$5,775.00, Ohio State Fire Marshall (Volunteer Firefighter Dependency Fund) \$150.00, Ohio Auditor (Audit Quality Review) \$356.70, and Marlowe’s Coffee \$300.00. The total needing approval is \$8,581.70. **MOTION 2025-66:** Trustee Toman made the motion to approve the payment of the above listed invoices totaling \$8,581.70. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

NOPEC offers an energy grant every year. This year the grant could be used to pay for the pavilion insulation of \$2,515.00, and the balance for the pavilion windows. **MOTION 2025-67:** Trustee Toman moved that the NOPEC Energy Grant be accepted and to use for the Pavilion insulation and any remaining balance for the Pavilion windows. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

**ROAD AND MAINTENANCE REPORT:** The township was offered the use of two side-by-sides free for 6 months from a Kawasaki program. The vehicles were outside the building for residents to view.

Maintenance supervisor Joe Serensky reported that there was one burial in June, woodchips were placed at the playground, and tree branches on West Hill that were obstructing view were trimmed.

There were two invoices needing approval: American Auto \$160.00 for towing and Mahoning Valley Water for a service call on 5/25/2025 for \$95.00, totaling \$255.00. **MOTION 2025-68:** Trustee Toman moved that the above two invoices totaling \$255.00 be paid. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

At 7:20 pm, pursuant to ORC 122(g)(2), **Motion 2025-69** was made by Chairman Spellman to go into executive session for personnel matters. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was Spellman-Yes, Toman-Yes, Houston-Yes. The Board requested the Fiscal Officer to attend the Executive Session.

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Regular Trustee Meeting of July 9, 2025, Continued

At 7:38 pm, **MOTION 2025-70** was made by Trustee Toman to return to regular session. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor. No actions were taken.

**ZONING REPORT:** Inspector Wayne Sarna reported that since the last Trustee meeting, he has written 4 permits. He issued a permit for a pickleball court on Leffingwell Road, a permit was issued for a manufactured home on Akron-Canfield Rd per zoning appeals hearing held on case # 2025 BZA1. The permit fee was waived per prior action by the Trustees. A permit for a storage shed at W. Akron-Canfield Road and a permit for 4 temporary signs for Whitehouse Fruit farm.

The Mahoning County GIS Map Department was contacted regarding the Lucansky 28.8 acres. They have no information as to being parceled into 5 acre lots as listed on the realtor’s site. Mr. Sarna requested the Board’s input on the property and to update the current zoning map.

Mr. Sarna spoke with the Prosecutor’s office regarding the vacate home at 12082 Palmyra Road and the assistant prosecutor sent a letter to the property owner. The abandoned home needs condemned and demolished.

Clean up is proceeding at 5843 Gault Road. Ongoing is the status of the foreclosure for back property taxes at 11830 Palmyra Road. The owner has entered into a repayment plan. Work is pending at 11632 Ellsworth Road, and the property is being monitored.

The sale of property at 4223 S. Bailey Road from US Bank is pending a survey of the property. The garage and the house need to be removed.

Monitoring of the grass at 20 W. Hill is ongoing. A zoning violation letter was sent to 10749 Palmyra Road for excessive debris and two unlicensed motor vehicles. The original letter was returned as a forwarding order had expired. The letter was resent to 4823 Palmyra Road, Warren, OH 44481.

A letter was received from an attorney concerning the Centofanti property and the proposed splitting of the parcels PPN 25-043-0-003.02-0 into two portions. The back portion, which contains structures, would be added to PPN 25-043-0-003.01-0, and the front portion would be a new parcel. They asked me to please review this split. If not a minimum of 5 acres each, a zone change would be needed.

A letter was sent to 11283 Palmyra Road for placing a chicken coup without a zoning agricultural exemption. Awaiting the response and if none, the Mahoning County Building Department will be contacted.

The current Ellsworth Zoning resolution posted online needs to modify to reflect the zoning amendment that was passed by the commission and Trustees regarding solar projects. The amendment was recorded at the Mahoning County Records office in Volume 142 page 52.

**FIRE/EMS REPORT:** Chief Edward Smith reported that there were 247 calls YTD. The monthly total calls were 27 – mutual aid was given 14 times; mutual aid received 2 times. There were 17 fire calls and 10 EMS calls. Ellsworth transported 10 patients with 2 refusals and no mutual aid transport. Dispatching is going smoothly.

Assistant Chief Jillian Smith is gathering more information for the community risk assessment feasibility study.

Invoices that need approval for payment are: Two new firefighters need boots, which can be rented for \$20.00 per month for 5 months; MES re-charged a fire extinguisher for \$65.45; Mass Casualty Kits/Office supplies from Amazon for \$307.88. The total requested is \$473.33. **MOTION 2025-71:** Trustee Toman moved that the above listed expenditures totaling \$473.33 be approved. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

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Regular Trustee Meeting of July 9, 2025, Continued

Medic 45-1 has an appointment for service at Fairway Ford.

The second Tuesday of each month will be Triage Tuesday with practice.

A \$3,227.90 grant was secured from the state for EMS use. Assistant Chief Willims is continuing to work on other grants.

Crews provided a fire prevention presentation at the station for a 4H group. Through University Hospital, Ellsworth will host a TacMed class on September 10 and 11<sup>th</sup> at Western Reserve School. This is an active shooter lesson. Thanks to Assistant Chief Smith for arranging.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Trustee Toman reported on the Elk Road drainage project. The survey is complete, and the easement is done. The location is the north end of Elk Road going east and west. The quote received is \$41,600.00 for 576 feet of pipe, 5 catch basins, and installation. This should alleviate the water drainage problem. **MOTION 2025-72:** Trustee Toman motioned to award a contract to Ellis Construction in the amount of \$41,600.00 from the Road Fund to complete the Elk Road culvert project including labor and materials. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

Crime Watch copies are available. Two new social media sites for the township: Ellsworth Ohio on Instagram and Everything Ellsworth on Face Book.

**Trustee Houston** has been working for over a year on a Geeburg Cemetery Agreement with a Mennonite group. They would like to have a cemetery of their own. There is additional open property on the east side of the cemetery available. They will purchase lots, dig graves, and the township will maintain the site. Trustee Houston is continuing to work on this project.

**Chairman Spellman:** A meeting was held for the Knox gas pipeline expansion into the Township. The end of July is the deadline for any interested party in the designated area to sign up. The local oil well is in production. The employee handbook needs updated. He has been corresponding with First Energy regarding new work in the Township. The requested easement from First Energy for the Township property on Route 45 is in the final review at Mahoning County and will be then given to the Trustees to decide on acceptance.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Trustee Toman brought up the issue of the driveway which needs to be constructed at Ellsworth Cemetery. **MOTION 2025-73:** Trustee Toman made a motion to approve up to \$4,000.00 for material to create a driveway on the west side of the cemetery drive to the barn. Measurements 206 ft x 10 feet. Trustee Houston to be the coordinator. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

**MOTION 2025-74:** Trustee Houston motioned to regretfully accept the immediate resignation of Angela Javorsky and Jim Mayberry from the zoning board. Trustee Toman seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the town hall.

At 8:30 pm, pursuant to ORC 122(g)(2), **MOTION 2025-75:** Chairman Spellman motioned to go into executive session for personnel matters. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was Spellman-Yes, Toman-Yes, Houston-Yes. The Board invited Joe Serensky and the Fiscal Officer to attend.

Chairman Spellman announced there would be no further business after the executive session.

At 9:05 pm, **MOTION 2025-76** was made by Trustee Toman to return to regular session. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor. No actions were taken.

**MOTION 2025-77:** At 8:44 pm Trustee Toman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Houston seconded the motion. The roll call was all in favor.

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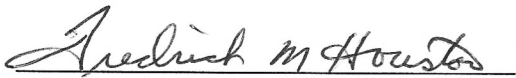
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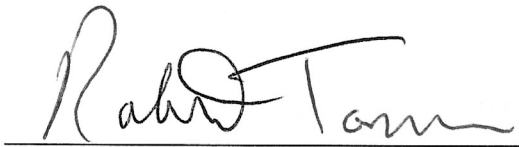
Regular Trustee Meeting of July 9, 2025, Continued

  
Fiscal Officer

  
Chairman



Trustee



Trustee