

**TRUSTEES:** Jerry Mayfield Don Barto, Sr.

419.729.1167 517.581.6871 419.466.9884

FISCAL OFFICER: Michele Nowakowski 419.410.8304

Mark Schuster

2469 Shoreland Avenue, Toledo, OH 43611, 419.726.6621, Fax 419.727.9833 http://www.washington-twp.com

## REGULAR MEETING September 9, 2025

Mr. Mayfield called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

Also Present:

**Township Administrator** – Leo Brittson

**Department Heads Present:** 

Fire – Chief Bailey Police – Chief Kaiser Roads and Parks Superintendent – Ryan Breininger

Fiscal Officer – Michele Nowakowski not present had family emergency.

#### **Announcements from Trustees and Department Heads:**

#### Mr. Schuster - Trustee

- Extended birthday greeting to Chief Kaiser
- Invited everyone to his annual summer party September 20, 2025
- Delivered the opening prayer

#### Mr. Barto - Trustee

- Follow up from last month's meeting regarding Republic Services' fees (solid waste disposal). Mr. Barto got Republic Services to lower the township's monthly fee of \$136.00 per dumpster pickup to \$112.00 per dumpster pickup. Mr. Barto asks the Board if it's OK to sign a contract locking us in to that price. The Board agreed.
- Mr. Barto stated there's been a lot of talk about different states doing away with property taxes. He thinks that we, as a township, need to think about what we do if this does happen in the future. Property taxes are how we pay the bills. He would like us to start thinking about alternative ways to make money and create revenue to sustain ourselves. He feels we really need to watch our spending for the near future.

#### Mr. Mayfield - Trustee

• Roundabout is open at Shoreland and Summit Street. It looks gorgeous and we got a brand new, modern, and safe intersection.

Mr. Schuster would like to know whose responsibility it is to stripe the streets. Ryan wasn't sure. He stated that some streets by the school - the dividing lines and cross walks - that you can hardly see the markings.

Mr. Mayfield stated that if they are township roads, we are responsible for striping and they have repainted the crosswalks before. The county does the striping on Shoreland, Summit, and Suder. The only township roads that have striping are those by the school and on Shoreland – east of Summit.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **TRUSTEES**

MOTION: Approve Minutes from August 12, 2025 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

#### Resolutions for Blight cleanup expenses to Auditor

RESOLUTION #38:25: Propose a Resolution to submit to the Lucas County Auditor to be applied on the taxes for blight cleanup expense on the property located at 2930 Jasik for work performed and expenses in the amount of \$638.00.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

RESOLUTION #39:25: Propose a Resolution to submit to the Lucas County Auditor to be applied on the taxes for blight cleanup expense on the property located at 5541 Pageland for work performed and expenses in the amount of \$2,785.00.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Barto, yes; Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes.

RESOLUTION #40:25: Propose a Resolution to submit to the Lucas County Auditor to be applied on the taxes for blight cleanup expense on the property located at 2947 Northshore for work performed and expenses in the amount of \$240.00.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### RESOLUTION #41:25: Declare the property located at 2619 Shoreland a blight nuisance under 1308H.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

RESOLUTION #42:25: Propose a Resolution to submit to the Lucas County Auditor to be applied on the taxes for blight cleanup expense on the property located at 2662 Coveview for work performed and expenses in the amount of \$400.00.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

#### **Resolutions for Blight**

RESOLUTION #43:25: Declare the property located at 5517 Fortune a blight nuisance under 1308H.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### RESOLUTION #44:25: Declare the property located at 6108 Windamar a blight nuisance under 1308H.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

Mr. Barto would like the Windamar blight Resolution sent out as soon as possible and cleaned up as soon as possible if it has not been taken care of. Mr. Brittson would like the Shoreland address taken care of as soon as possible as well.

#### **Discuss Zoning Procedures.**

Mr. Barto stated he has involved himself in zoning for the past month and feels there is a lot of confusion with zoning and communication is key. He met with Ryan and they came up with a spreadsheet based on one Mr. Brittson was using. When letters are sent to the residents, he would like to see a clear description of problem. Mr. Brittson stated that is already being done. Mr. Barto feels that when Ryan goes out to clean-up a property, he is not really sure what he is supposed to be doing.

Mr. Barto expressed his desire to take over and make the Resolutions for zoning, and would like to have the information in his hands on the Friday before the meeting. That way, he can give it to Mr. Schuster to review and maybe drive by the properties. This will help speed up meetings.

Mr. Mayfield would like that and believes the trustees should go back to where each trustee takes on the areas where they have knowledge and expertise.

Mr. Mayfield explained that Toledo sends one piece of paper for blight nuisances; we send out 9-12 pages and that's a lot for anyone to read through. He would like the mailings to be condensed down to one sheet. Mr. Barto stated he and Mr. Brittson would work on that.

Mr. Mayfield recommended returning to the previous practice of including a \$500-per-day fine warning in the first notice for blight violations and stressed the importance of follow-up enforcement. He also mentioned that trees are not blight. Mr. Barto stated we have dealt with trees in the past and we need to clarify that with John Borell.

Mr. Schuster asked Mr. Brittson if the notice went out for the house on Shoreland? Mr. Brittson said yes and added that if it does not get cleaned up, it will be on next month's agenda. Mr. Brittson spoke to the homeowner and told him he had until the roundabout was done to get it all cleaned up.

Mr. Mayfield asked Mr. Brittson if a letter was ever sent to the Vistamar address with the camper in the driveway because he didn't see it on the spreadsheet. Mr. Brittson stated he did send a letter and explained that he is working to consolidate two spreadsheets into one for better tracking.

#### Mr. Brittson

Mr. Brittson would like to discuss 5232 Fortune and 6114 Windamar. Mr. Mayfield said they both need to go to court. Mr. Brittson stated he has never done the court process.

Mr. Mayfield suggested that he meet with Chief Kaiser regarding the process and make sure all the paperwork is in order leading up to starting legal proceedings. Chief Kaiser can help write up the affidavit because he is familiar with housing court, the judge, and the prosecutors.

### MOTION: To proceed with legal action through Toledo Housing Court against 5232 Fortune for blight nuisance.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### MOTION: To proceed with legal action through Toledo Housing Court against 6114 Windamar for blight nuisance.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

Mr. Mayfield told Mr. Brittson that he wants him to get with Chief Kaiser and make sure he gets pictures and documents everything. He stated that, because we are building a court case, we have to make sure we have all the evidence. We are the plaintiffs and it's our responsibility to prove the case.

#### Discuss reimbursement from Police Department for Ryan's work for them.

Mr. Mayfield would like to know the Board's plans for Ryan's non-road and parks duties, including meeting setup and other miscellaneous tasks.

He explained that, previously, some of Bryon's pay came out of the Police budget, back when he did things to help the police out. Now, Ryan is helping the police and doing work in and around the Shoreland Building. The General Fund should pay something because, right now, all of his pay is coming out of the Roads Fund. An answer isn't needed tonight, but he suggested revisiting it when it's time to prepare the budget and that they come up with a formula - just like what's done for utilities at the Shoreland Building. Ryan is our utility guy; he helps everyone all the time. Chief Kaiser agreed and said Ryan does a lot to help out the Police Department. Mr. Barto stated he spoke to Mrs. Nowakowski this morning and her recommendation was Ryan should get paid a percentage from each fund.

Table and revisit at next meeting or budget preparation time.

#### **FINANCE**

MOTION: Approve supplemental appropriations, blanket certificates, purchase orders and checks numbered 51300 to 51324 and electronic payments 1055 through 1175, totaling \$87,801.01; \$35,680.27 for accounting, \$52,120.74 for payroll.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

#### RESOLUTION #:25: Transfer of Unclaimed Funds, \$35.00.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded

Tabled – no resolution numbered assigned. Trustees want Mrs. Nowakowski to make another attempt to send check to individual. (Check was cut for a zoning member who never cashed it and never responded to Mrs. Nowakowski's attempts to contact them.)

#### RESOLUTION #45:25: Transfer of Blight Funds, \$258.50.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### RESOLUTION #46:25: Create Supplemental Revenue Budget in 2191 Fund in amount of \$50,000.00.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto yes.

### RESOLUTION #47:25: Create Supplemental Revenue Budget in 1000 Fund in the amount of \$20,000.00.

Mr. Mayfield moved: Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Barto, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### RESOLUTION #48:25: Create Supplemental Appropriation Budget in 2192 Fund in amount of \$27,861.46 for Air Boat Purchase.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Jerry, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### RESOLUTION #49:25: Transfer of Funds in amount of \$27,861.46 for Air Boat Purchase.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### RESOLUTION #50:25: Submission of Estimated Revenue for 2026 Budget. The estimated Revenue is \$1,851,000.70.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

# RESOLUTION #51:25: Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to the County Auditor.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### Request approval of invoice for repair of police vehicle as of 08/18/2025 (insurance claim).

Mr. Mayfield stated that Mrs. Nowakowski would like the trustees to approve the invoice for repair of the police vehicle that is being covered by insurance. She got advice that we are supposed to put this in as "money in and money out." Mr. Mayfield feels that this is an agreement between the insurance company and the body shop; we are not going to see the check. Chief Kaiser has stated this and confirmed the check is going straight to Grogan's who is doing the work. Mrs. Nowakowski feels that the trustees need to approve it as a separate item even though the money is not going through our hands at all.

Mr. Schuster says he isn't sure he agrees with fixing the vehicle. Mr. Mayfield said it is already fixed. Mr. Schuster said he was never asked or informed about it, and would have suggested getting a new vehicle versus putting \$20,000.00 into it.

Mr. Mayfield stated if a check comes to us and has our name on it, it has to go in our books. This is what she wants so this is what we will do. He added that we don't have the total and Chief Kaiser agreed that it really can't be approved yet.

Mr. Schuster questioned why the decision to repair the damaged car wasn't discussed beforehand. It was explained that insurance was covering the \$20,000 repair, and the car was worth more than that, so it wasn't totaled. Mr. Mayfield asked Chief Kaiser to get an estimate. Chief Kaiser admitted he didn't bring it to the Board and took responsibility, stating the insurance agent told him to get it fixed.

Consider approval of 2025-2026 Lucas County OVI Task Force contract.

Chief Kaiser stated it is the same contract as before and just the dates are changed.

## MOTION: Approve 2025-2026 Lucas County OVI Task Force Contract for Police Department.

Mr. Barto moved; Mr. Mayfield seconded

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster yes; Mr. Mr. Mayfield; Mr. Barto yes.

#### Mr. Brittson

Mr. Brittson sees on Chief Kaiser's report that Officer Wells is on a leave because he was deployed. He is wondering if we are required to keep Officer Wells on the health insurance while he is deployed. He will check with Lucas County Prosecutor John Borell and RJ Rajner, with Savage Associates, regarding whether or not we have to keep Officer Wells on our policy why he is deployed.

He also suggested looking at employees who are not working, but are still on our payroll, because we are paying workers comp for them. We will do a True-Up Report in November for how many employees we have. If there are people on our list who are not working and just lingering, they're costing the township money and should be removed.

#### Fire

#### Discuss aging fleet

Chief Bailey would like to start a discussion on some of their vehicles that are quite old. He shared that the department has a fire engine that's approaching the 30-year mark, and a utility vehicle used to tow the air boat, that is 25-years-old and recently had some repairs done on it. The command vehicle is 10-years-old has 126,000 miles on it. Chief Bailey stated they are looking at downsizing their fleet and making sure that every vehicle they have has a purpose.

Chief Bailey wants to move away from repeatedly repairing old vehicles and instead focus on a long-term replacement plan to improve reliability and safety. He specifically wants to replace the 25-year-old utility vehicle, which has stranded crews twice in the past year, with something more dependable. He also suggests selling the unused Lucas County ambulance, primarily for the value of its \$10,000 power cot and load system.

There was discussion about selling both the Lucas County ambulance and the Excursion. While the ambulance may not be worth much, the cot has significant value. The Excursion, despite being 25 years old with only 46,000 miles and in excellent condition, might sell for \$17,000 or more. The proposed replacement is a newer pickup truck costing around \$44,000.

Mr. Barto asked about the cost to outfit the new truck, which Chief Bailey said is partially completed and might be funded by the association. Mr. Barto also requested to see the maintenance records.

Mr. Schuster expressed that although he supports getting rid of costly, unused assets, he believes the Excursion is still a good tow vehicle and doesn't support purchasing a new one now. He cited Mr. Barto's comment at the beginning of the meeting that we should be saving money not spending.

It was agreed to table the discussion and revisit it later.

#### **Delegations**

2603 Shoreland Resident

Thanks to Officer Gearheart for stopping people that have been running the stop signs.

MOTION: With no additional business or comments, Mr. Mayfield moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes.

### Approved:

Jerry Mayfield

Don Barto, Sr.

Mark Schuster

Kimberly Kay