



**TRUSTEES:** Jerry Mayfield 419.729.1167

Don Barto, Sr. 517.581.6871

Mark Schuster 419.466.9884

**FISCAL OFFICER:** Michele Nowakowski 419.410.8304

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## REGULAR MEETING

### December 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:**

**Fiscal Officer** – Michele Nowakowski

**Township Administrator** – Leo Brittson

#### **Department Heads Present:**

Fire – Chief Bailey

Police – Chief Kaiser

Roads and Parks Superintendent – Ryan Breininger

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

##### **Mr. Schuster - Trustee**

- Mr. Schuster delivered the opening prayer.
- Mr. Schuster asked that everyone keep Sue and Chris Thompson and their family in their thoughts and prayers.

##### **Mr. Barto - Trustee**

- Mr. Barto thanks Chief Bailey and Rick Phillips for bringing out the Polar Express for the tree lighting ceremony. It was a great turn out.

##### **Mrs. Nowakowski – Fiscal Officer**

- Mrs. Nowakowski stated she had information in her report regarding Storm Water Utility Fund reimbursement. They were able to get \$938.78 more than noted in her report. They were able to add a few more things since they extended the deadline to December 8, 2025.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **FINANCE**

**MOTION:** Approve supplemental appropriations, blanket certificates, purchase orders and checks numbered 51393 to 51424 and electronic payments 1445 through 1594, totaling \$229,176.21; \$155,510.42 for accounting, \$73,665.79 for payroll.

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

Mr. Mayfield states that Mrs. Nowakowski has been working diligently for the last few months trying to get the budget together for next year. Mr. Mayfield states that Mrs. Nowakowski had one concern in her email. Mrs. Nowakowski states that her concern she had pertains to the fire department regarding the pumper that they expressed that they have a need for down the road. She was looking at a lease for fifteen years and says it is going to be quite substantial of a payment. We will have to find ways to save for that to be able to afford it. They have been bringing in more revenue. The Medicount is going to be increasing even more down the road especially next year when they hope to pass Resolutions to increase the amount that they want to bill out for the rate of reimbursement. Chief Bailey states transports are up 12% and reimbursement rates are up 11%. They went from around \$80,000.00 to around \$98,000.00. Mr. Barto would like to look at numbers next year and get the fire department personnel raises.

**Resolution #70:25: To Approve 2026 Appropriations in the amount of \$2,360,953.55.**

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

**Resolution #71:25: To create a new special assessment fund #2401 for the purpose of The Joint Cooperation Agreement for Ten Mile Creek/Ottawa River Watershed Maintenance between Board of Washington Township Trustees and Lucas County.**

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

**Motion: Rescind Resolution #67:25 to Transfer of Funds to Unclaimed Funds Account in the amount of \$150.**

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

**FIRE**

**Motion: Accept the resignation of Gabriel Baldwin, from the Washington Township Fire Department, effective December 9, 2025.**

Mr. Barto moved; Mr. Mayfield seconded.

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

Mr. Schuster asked about any training that has been done with the air boat. Chief Bailey stated they are actually drilling tomorrow on that. Mr. Breininger to check on boat launches.

**ROADS**

**Discuss request for purchase of 2017 backhoe for \$37,200.00.**

Discussion. Mr. Schuster feels the backhoe should have been replaced a long time ago. Mr. Schuster doesn't like the idea of purchasing a used product. He feels it would be a mistake to spend that kind of money on a piece of equipment that is basically worn out. He feels we are replacing a worn-out machine with a worn-out machine. He knows a new one is a lot of money but when we buy it it will last for 30 years. Mr. Mayfield agrees but

they only would use it like 10 hours a year. Mr. Mayfield thinks they should look at something more basic that they would use more for other things as well.

Mr. Barto wants Mr. Breininger to come up with more options so they can compare what best option would be. He would like to see comparisons of buying used, new or just renting one when needed. He feels Mr. Schuster knows about these things more than anyone so he trusts his opinion. Mr. Schuster says personally if he had his wishes, he would like to see them purchase two pieces of equipment. One, a dedicated loader and two a dedicated excavator so when small projects come up, he can go out and dig them up. Something like a brand-new Bob Cat Mini Excavator, a for around \$28,000.00 and a brand-new Bob Cat Loader like a L80 which cost about \$90,000.00. He feels that when you buy this equipment brand new, it's not used much and you take care of it they will last for 30 years. Mrs. Nowakowski states in capitol they have a little over \$120,000.00 in road and park fund sitting there.

**Table until first of the year.**

## **TRUSTEES**

**Motion: Approve Minutes from November 11, 2025 Regular Meeting.**

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

**Motion: Approve offer letter given to Adam Van Allen from Chief Kaiser for the terms of the offer letter.**

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

**Trustee Mr. Mayfield states that Lucas County Engineer, Mike Pniewski has joined the meeting.**

**Motion: Approve the new hire packet that was created by Mrs. Nowaskowski, Mr. Barto and Mr. Brittson.**

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

**Motion: Approve the new hire offer letter that was created by Mrs. Nowaskowski, Mr. Barto and Mr. Brittson.**

Mr. Mayfield, moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

No roll call.

**Table until first of the year. Letter has not been finalized.**

**Discuss Hylant Insurance renewal quotes.**

Mr. Brittson states it is that time of the year to renew the township property insurance. We have been with OTARMA for around nine years. With all the claims in the past year the bill has gone up \$11,000.00. We had another insurance company, Hylant make us an offer and it would be around 30% cheaper than OTARMA. During the disclosure of information and claims over the last three years Mr. Brittson found out we had outstanding lawsuits ongoing through the police department so we had to go back to Hylant and let them know. They said that because of the outstanding lawsuits and the way it is written in our contract with OTARMA if we don't renew with OTARMA they would be off the hook to cover. They would not have to pay any of the lawsuits if it would come to that.

Mr. Brittson is going to go over proposal and make sure all items are current and request new quote if adjustments are made.

**Motion: Renew township property insurance with OTARMA, at amount no more than \$43,000.00.**

Mr. Mayfield, moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

**Motion: Reappoint Mr. Hunt Sears to the Zoning Commission**

Mr. Mayfield, moved; Mr. Barto, seconded.

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

**Motion: Reappoint Mr. Bryon McIntosh to the Zoning Board of Appeals**

Mr. Mayfield, moved; Mr. Schuster, seconded.

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

**Set date for January 2026 Organizational Meeting.**

**Motion: Set Organization Meeting for January 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**

Mr. Mayfield, moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

**Motion: Allow Andrew Whitmore to carry over 40 hours of vacation time into 2026.**

Mr. Mayfield, moved; Mr. Barto, seconded.

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

**Discuss support to Save Bay View Retirees Golf Course**

Resident Karen Mayfield spoke on her support and expresses her appreciation to Trustee's support in saving the Bay View Retirees Golf Course.

**Resolution #72:25: Opposing the proposed taking or elimination of the Bay View Retirees Golf Course.**

Mr. Barto, moved; Mr. Mayfield, seconded.

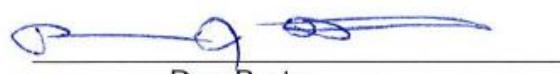
Roll Call: Mr. Schuster, yes; Mr. Mayfield, yes; Mr. Barto, yes,

**MOTION: With no additional business or comments, Mr. Mayfield moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m.**

Mr. Mayfield moved; Mr. Barto seconded.

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

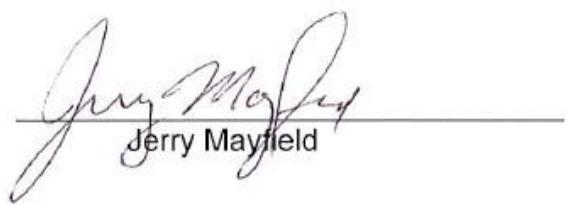
Approved:



Don Barto



Mark Schuster



Jerry Mayfield



Kimberly Kay