

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR**

Pledge of Allegiance, led by Fiscal Officer, Audrey Fox. Attorney, Mark Finamore was also present.

Call meeting to order

Roll call:

Mrs. Showalter	Present	<u>  X  </u>	Excused	<u>      </u>
Mr. Criss	Present	<u>  X  </u>	Excused	<u>      </u>
Mr. Barnett	Present	<u>  X  </u>	Excused	<u>      </u>

1. Motion to appoint Fiscal Officer, Audrey Fox, Chairperson Pro Tem. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett                      Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mrs. Showalter

FISCAL OFFICER ENTERTAINS MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON.

2. Motion to appoint Mrs. Showalter, Chairperson for 2024. passed.

Moved by Mr. Criss                      Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- Yes No Mrs. Showalter

**\* Fiscal Officer turns gavel over to Elected Chairperson for further proceedings\***

CHAIRPERSON ENTERTAINS MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

3. Motion to appoint Mr. Terry Criss Vice Chairperson for 2024. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett                      Seconded by Mrs. Showalter

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mrs. Showalter
- Yes No Mr. Criss

**Julie Showalter announces her resignation from her elected Board position.**

**The Trustee position is declared vacant.**

4. Motion to appoint Mr. Terry Criss responsible for Public Safety (Fire and Police) for 2024. passed

Moved by Mr. Criss                      Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:  
 ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss  
 ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

5. Motion to appoint Mr. Larry Barnett responsible for the Road Department for 2024. passed

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_                      Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote:  
 Yes No Mr. Criss  
 Yes No Mr. Barnett

6. Motion that the Board of Smith Township Trustees shall conduct its meetings in full compliance with the Ohio Sunshine Law and accordingly establishes the following rules for the scheduling and notice of all meetings.

**REGULAR MEETINGS** – The Board of Trustees will convene one (1) Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees per calendar month. The regular meeting shall be held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM. Notice of the Regular Meetings shall be posted on the Township website.

**SPECIAL MEETINGS** – Notice of special meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be given to any newspaper that requests the same at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting and on the Smith Township Website, except in an emergency in which case shall be given as soon as possible on the website.

Additionally, the Township will provide advance written notice of special meetings to anyone who provides the Township with pre-paid postage, self-addressed envelopes. Or post cards, or email address. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Criss                      Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:  
 ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss  
 ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

7. **Motion to pass a resolution that Trustees and Fiscal Officer** of Smith Township shall be entitled to and paid the maximum compensation permitted per the Ohio Revised Code Sections §505.24(C) Compensation of Trustees and Ohio Revised Code Section §505.32 Compensation of Fiscal Officer, as in previous years. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

### **Health Insurance**

8. **RESOLUTION 2024-0102-01AR** Smith Township will remain with Morris Financial Group as our health insurance broker located in Salem, Ohio. We will keep our health insurance coverage for our employees with Summa. The employee contribution will remain the same for 2024 which is \$200.00 a month for family and \$100.00 per month for single. Passed.

Moved by: Mr. Barnett

Seconded by: Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

9. **RESOLUTION 2024-0102-01BR** If any officer or employee elects not to participate in the Township's health care plan, Smith Township will reimburse out-of-pocket premiums not to exceed an amount equal to the average premium paid by the Township for its officers and employees under any other health care plan it procures under ORC section 505.6.

Moved by: Mr. Barnett

Seconded by: Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

### **Additional Insurances**

10. **RESOLUTION 2024-0102-02R** to provide for, life, dental and vision insurances through OPEC for Township elected officials and full-time employees in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 505.60 et. Seq., as established prior to January 1, 2024. Copies of said policies on file with Fiscal Officer. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Criss

Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

### **Reappoint Police Chief, Road Foreman, Zoning Inspector**

11. **Motion to appoint** and rehire for 2024. Passed.

Police Chief: Paul Ceresna  
Road Foreman: Zach Wagner  
Zoning Inspector: Peggy Christy

Moved by Mr. Criss                      Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓

**Compensation Rates for the Zoning Inspector**

**12. RESOLUTION 2024-0102-03R** to pay the Zoning Inspector \$1,400 per month. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Criss                      Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

**Compensation Rates for the Township Employees**

**Authorize annual Uniform allowance for the Police Department**

**13. RESOLUTION 2024-0102-04R** to set the annual uniform allowance for full and part-time Police Dept. Employees in the amount of \$1,000 for full time and \$450.00 for part time, to be paid directly to employee as nonretirement income subject to withholding tax. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett                      Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

**Authorize annual Uniform allowance for the Road Department**

**14. RESOLUTION 2024-0102-05R** to set the annual uniform allowance for the Road Department full-time employees in the amount of \$700.00, to be paid directly to employee as nonretirement income subject to withholding tax. Passed.

Moved by                                      Seconded by \_ \_

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

**Appointment and Compensation for Zoning Appeals Board Member**

15. Motion to Reappoint the current members of the Zoning commission:

- Chair: John James
- Secretary: Melissa Haidet
- Member: Les Allen

And the Zoning Board of Appeals:

- Chair: Melinda Kinser
- Member: Dennis Anderson
- Member: Ronald Ellsworth

and maintain the zoning stipends at the current rates of:

- Chairman \$30 per meeting
- Secretary \$40 per meeting
- Other \$25 per meeting. (Passed)

Moved by Mr. Criss                      Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

**Appoint Legal Counsel**

16. Motion to Appoint Attorney Mark S. Finamore, of Turner, May & Shepherd Law Firm, as Township Law Director and Special Legal Counsel pursuant to ORC Section 309.09(B) in accordance with the contract for legal services executed between the parties to be paid at the rate of \$100.00 an hour and \$225 per meeting. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett                      Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

**Mileage Reimbursement Rate**

17. Motion to establish 2024 mileage reimbursement rate for authorized travel expenses of township at IRS designated amount of **\$0.67** per mile outside of Smith Township. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Criss                      Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

**Township Service Contracts**

18. Motion to continue all current month to month service contracts with all other political subdivisions and Township Vendors, subject to amendment and termination. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

**Township Officials, Employees Travel Conference, Seminar, Workshop, Training and Education**

19. Motion to authorize township employees to attend meetings, seminars, workshops, conferences, schools, training or conventions for fiscal year 2024, and to allow and pay directly or by personal reimbursement all authorized expenses, after a formal request has been processed and approved.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

20. Motion to authorize membership in Ohio Township Association and attendance of the Trustees, Fiscal Officer, and employees to the annual State Association Winter Conference in Columbus 2024 and to pay expenses thereof.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

**Fiscal Officer**

21. RESOLUTION 2024-0102-06R to authorize Fiscal Officer approval to reallocate money within a fund or increase the budget within a fund as deemed necessary, and prepare super blanket certificates for an amount of money not in excess of an amount established by 2024 Budget Resolution. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

**Mahoning County Auditor Real-estate Tax Advances**

22. RESOLUTION 2024-0102-07R Per Ohio Revised Code 321.34 Approval to request from the Mahoning County Auditor the advances for the real estate settlement & personal property taxes for the assessment year 2023, collection year 2024 when funds are available. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

**SMITH TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONAL & FIRST REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 02, 2024 @ 7:00pm**

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

23. Motion to adjourn organizational meeting. Passed.  
 Moved by Mr. Criss    Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

**\*\* End of Reorganization Meeting \*\***

**FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF THE SMITH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FOLLOWING THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

Call meeting to order

Roll call:

Mr. Criss Present  X  Excused \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Barnett Present  X  Excused \_\_\_\_\_

**Adopt Agenda**

- 1. Motion to adopt monthly meeting agenda. Passed.  
Moved by Mr. Criss Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

**Citizens' Comments**

No Citizens Comments.

**Approve Financial Reports**

- 2. Motion to approve the Financial Report, and EFTs and Warrants for the month of December 2023 in the amount of \$119,190.21. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Criss Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

- 3. **Motion to approve and sign the Bank Reconciliation** Summary for December, 31 2023 delayed until February 2024 meeting. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss



**Approve Monthly Minutes**

4. Motion to approve the December 5, 2023 meeting minutes. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Criss

Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

**Trustee and Fiscal Officer Report**

**Issues Discussed:**

5. **Resolution 2024-0102-01 be it resolved the Trustees approve the reallocation** to various funds and the budget increase to various funds to cover expenses. (see attached) Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

6. **Resolution 2024-0102-02 be it resolved the Trustees approve** 2024 Permanent budgeted Income and appropriations. Anticipated income is \$1,080,427.00 and budgeted appropriations are \$1,259,287.28. Passed. (See Attached)

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

7. **Motion to approve the 2024 Mileage Certification** as of the end of 2023- 28.059 miles of public township roads.

Moved by Mr. Criss

Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

**Road Report**

Zach Wagner, Road Foreman, present and presented the report for the month of December 2023:

- Maintenance on vehicles

## SMITH TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONAL & FIRST REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 02, 2024 @ 7:00pm

- Fill 3 roadcuts with 448 asphalt
- Get trucks and loader oil sprayed
- Fill potholes with HPM
- Put on salt boxes and spreaders
- Road checks for downed trees and flooding
- Make sign for new recycling dumpster
- Salt and Plow
- Clean trucks after salting
- Cover Hydraulic lines on big plow

### **Material used:**

- Gas: 50 Gals
- Diesel: 140 Gals
- 448 Asphalt: 12 Tons
- HPM: 3 tons

### **Police Report**

Chief Paul Ceresna was present. Statistics for the month of December 2023:

- 80 Incident Reports
- 12 Accidents
- 31 Citations
- 113 Traffic Stops
- 266 Business Checks

### 2023 YEARLY TOTALS:

- 921 Incident Reports
- 72 Accidents
- 1524 Traffic Stops
- 2693 Business Checks
- 477 Citations

Other: Joined Project Starfish which allows officers to read to local school aged children while providing the books to the kids to read along free of charge.

### **Fire Report**

No Report Given.

### **Zoning Report**

Peggy Christy, Zoning/Nuisance Property Inspector absent due to illness, Trustee Showalter presented the December 2023 Zoning Report:

- Handled all phone calls and correspondence related to zoning and nuisance property issues.
- Sent repeat complaint form to MCHD re: Francis Ave. issues.

**SMITH TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONAL & FIRST REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 02, 2024 @ 7:00pm**

- Toured Lake Park, Maple Ridge and East Ohio areas of township with Trustee Criss to review nuisance property issues in those particular areas.
- Received calls from complainants of nuisance properties desiring updates. W. Oregon property and 22669 Railroad St.
- Scanned and emailed Fire Inspector’s report on 22669 Railroad St. to Treva Louive @ Tanner Real Estate Co. in hopes on bank handling demo.
- Processed request for zoning regs pertaining to roof-mounted solar arrays for Paradise Energy Solutions.
- Answered sign permit questions from Fast Signs of Twinsburg for Bann Thai Restaurant and from Summit Locations for Legacy Storage Solutions.
- Conferred with Fiscal Officer, Audrey Fox on appropriate terminology for Consent to Access form. We concurred and Audrey made the correction.
- Took photos and sent initial letter to property owner at 18384 Courtney Rd., Beloit regarding nuisance issues.

- 8. Resolution 2024-0102-07A**
- 9. Resolution 2024-0102-07B**
- 10. Resolution 2024-0102-07C**

**Approve Reports**

**11. Motion to accept all reports. Passed.**

Moved by Mr. Criss

Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett

**Resolution to fill Trustee Vacancy**

**12. Resolution 2024-0102-06**, be it resolved, that Scott Showalter, Elector of the Township, be and hereby is appointed to the Office of Smith Township Trustee, Mahoning County. Ohio, to fill the unexpired term of office of such vacancy, and hold such Office until a successor is duly elected and qualified, and be it further resolved, that said appointment is effective immediately and by compliance with the following legal requirements to hold office.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss

**Trustee Showalter is sworn in by Trustee Terry Criss.**

13. Motion to appoint Fiscal Officer, Audrey Fox, Chairperson Pro Tem. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett                      Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Showalter

14. FISCAL OFFICER ENTERTAINS MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON.  
Motion to appoint Mr. Showalter, Chairperson for 2024. passed.

Moved by Mr. Criss                      Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- Yes No Mr. Showalter

**\* Fiscal Officer turns gavel over to Elected Chairperson for further proceedings\***

CHAIRPERSON ENTERTAINS MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

12. Motion to appoint Mr. Terry Criss Vice Chairperson for 2024. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett                      Seconded by Mr. Showalter

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Showalter
- Yes No Mr. Criss

**Adjournment**

Motion by Chairman, Mr. Showalter to adjourn meeting.

Next Regular Meeting is 7:00 p.m. February 6, 2024.