The Board of Perry Township Trustees met in Regular Session on Monday, March 9, 2026 at the East Liberty Community Room. Roll Call: John (JD) Gibson, present, John (JM) Baughman, present and John (JC) Brose, present, and Cindy Stalling, present. Also present was Linda Baldridge, Dustin Cook, Courtney Butts, Fire Chief Dan McElfresh, Rob Harvey, Jessica Gibson, Leah Edwards, Miranda Warren and husband Andrew, Jeff Johnson, Dan Coats and Dan Ackley.

All stood and said the pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meeting was given to the Trustees to read prior to this meeting. Mr. Gibson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes and then asked if there were any additions or corrections to the financial statements that were given to the Trustees from the fiscal officer. All minutes and reports stand approved.

JM brought up that he got the drive shaft back in the dump truck.

Cindy said that she received the title to the new dump truck that we purchased from Ricart. She got insurance put on it.

JD reported that the new dump truck is ready to be picked up and he and Todd will go and pick up the new truck tomorrow.

JD reported that supposedly the Amish will start on the work we hired them for last fall to be done at the park in the next couple of weeks.

JC reported that he is concerned with the House Bill that pertains to the tax money that may be taken from the Townships. He talked to the County Auditor, Jack Reser, and Jack told him to attend the Twp County Meeting on March 19, as this will be discussed at that meeting. JC is concerned that the money we already have can it be touched and do we have to spend this money so that we don't have to give the money back. JC said his understanding is that the funds that might be affected is the Road and Bridge, the Cemetery and Park funds.

Cindy had received a letter from Aaron Smith, of LUC and they will be holding a training session for the Zoning Appeals Board members on the 24th out at their office. Cindy made copies of the invite and sent out to all the Appeals Board Members.

The County Twp Association meeting on March 19, there will be a Health Department meeting held prior to this meeting. We need to pick a new member to represent Perry Township. After some discussion, JC volunteered to be our health Department member for 2026.

It was brought up about opening Perry Park for the summer. All agreed to open it the 1st week of April. JC brought up about getting the totes delivered to the park. JD will contact Liberty Waste and get this set up for the summer.

JD brought up about getting the batting cage fixed. He had a quote from Mad River Mobile Welding for $2,955.00. They can start on it in 2 weeks weather permitting. JD made a motion to accept this quote, seconded by JM. JD, yes, JM, yes and JC, yes. JD will contact them and let them know.

Dumpster Day was brought up, it will be May 8 & 9. There is a ballgame at the park on Friday night, it won't start until 7 p.m., there is nothing going on at the park on Saturday. JD will contact Always Dumpster and order the dumpsters. JC made a motion to go with Always Dumpsters, seconded by JD. JD, yes, JM, yes and JC, yes.

There is some conflict of scheduling the shelter houses for PTEC to have their bake sale on Dumpster Day. This issue may be needing to be discussed, as there is some other conflict with scheduling of PTEC events that are done every year at the same times. It was agreed that Township and PTEC events should be scheduled 1st. The Christmas Tree lighting will be Dec 4 & 5 and the Community Room is also rented out to someone else.

JD brought up about the electric bill at the park? The ball association is wanting the Township to pay for July and August bill. July for the Celebration and August for the Street Dance at the Park. They are only wanting to pay the electric bill for the months that they are using the ball diamond. After some discussion, JC brought up to table this and talk to Chelsey Bailey and get some more info before our next meeting.

Fire Chief went over his monthly report. They had 15 runs in the last month. None were missed and no issues to report. Chief went over the monthly fill rate for the department.

Chief reported on the maintenance, the thermostats were replaced on Medic 41. Chief went over the expenditures for the past month.

The department members completed 149 hours of training in February.

The yearly volume has increased 17.9% from the end of February 2025 to the end of February 2026.

Chief reported that he has received the topographical survey from Choice One Engineering.

The new SCBAs are in-service and placed on the apparatus.

The new station generator installation is complete and is in-service. There is a couple issues with brittle wiring that needs to be replaced by HBI Electric. Chief explained what needed to be done to get these issues taken care of.

Zoning Inspector, Dan Ackley, gave his monthly report. He had 5 phone calls:
Jerry Jones- about a permit underground cable on T.R. 141- none needed
Carol Houser- had to see Aaron @ LUC for documentation for regulations to add Additional living dwelling.
Kristina Parks- regulations for new home on C.R 2
Dave Current- daughter building house, wanted info on lot size, etc. regulations
Clayton Homes- setbacks for house to go in on C.R.2

Cindy gave Nikki's monthly report; the Lodge was rented 5 times, all non-profit The Community Room was rented 11 times and the Park was closed. Nikki wanted to know when the Park will be opening. She had additional comments- There is a couple dings in the walls at the Lodge that need fixed. One is on the ramp and the other is up higher on the back wall. She also wanted to share a thank-you to you all for making sure the sidewalks were cleaned all winter long.

Courtney Butts is interested in maybe getting Military Appreciation Banners for our Hometown Hero's to be put on the poles in town. The banners would be purchased by each individual family. She had several quotes for the banners. Prices ranging from $15.00 to $96.24, Banners could be vinyl or fabric. The brackets to hang the banners are pricey. The cost of the banners would be on those who wish to honor a veteran. It would be a double-sided banner, 18 x 36, and will; include name, branch of service, years of service and a photo. Patrons would send in a photo and fill oZut an order form by a specified deadline along with payment to be sent in collectively. Matter was discussed and Trustees would like for Courtney to get a fabric banner and see what it looks like as it is the $15.00 banner. This would be limited to Perry Township Residents. Courtney wondered if maybe the Township would cover the price of the brackets. After much discussion, matter was tabled until Courtney gets the fabric banner for us to see. JM said maybe if we got a lot of interest, we might run out of phone poles to put them. It was brought up that maybe the class At Hi-Point might be interested in maybe making the brackets. This is an option to look into.

Miranda Warren, is running for Family Court Judge in December 2026, she gave us an update on her background and what she does now. She also told us about her family and why she is interested in running for this position. She has nearly 20 years of legal experience and deep ties to the community. If elected she says her goal is to make Family Court more friendly, accommodating and efficient for families who rely on the court system. She said she will approach the bench with fairness, patience and respect for the rule of the law. Trustees thanked her for coming and introducing herself to us. She said we have a very friendly meeting and she really liked that.

JD brought up about putting the GMC dump truck on Gov.Deals.com? JC said he is all for it, but would like to put a reserve on it. It was ok'd by all the Trustees, need to figure out what the reserve would be.

JD made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by JM. Gibson, yes, Baughman, yes and Brose, yes.

TOTAL OF BILLS $ 66,087.05

INCOME FOR FEBRUARY: $19,443.99

JD made a motion for adjournment, seconded by JC. Gibson, yes, Baughman, yes and Brose, yes.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Cindy Stalling, fiscal officer

Accepted by Perry Township Trustees:

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John (JD) Gibson

_____
John (JM) Baughman

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John (JC) Brose