Minutes of the Urbana Board of Trustees Meeting
held Monday, August 17, 2026

The Board of Urbana Township Trustees met on this date with, Trustee Blair Stinson, Trustee Roger Koerner, and Trustee Matt Harrigan present.

Mr. Harrigan called the regular meeting of the Urbana Township Trustees to order.

Mr. Stinson moved to approve the August 3, 2026 Minutes and Financial Status Reports. Mr. Koerner seconded the request. Roll call was as follows: Mr. Stinson, yes; Mr. Koerner, yes; Mr. Harrigan, yes.

Present:
Dean Ortlieb, City of Urbana Fire Chief
Spencer Mitchell, City of Urbana Administrator
Buddy Ballard
Sean Tullis, Zoning Inspector
Nicole Doyle

Road and Maintenance Report
Mr. Harrigan – been quite busy due to the storm on August 11th. August 6th Trustee Stinson and Harrigan picked up cold mix to do some road work on Three Mile Road, then after the storms hit, worked on clearing roads and we cleared the trees. Went down Knight Road, Richard went down multiple roads to clear trees and branches. Buck Creek Road has some tree blockage.

County Line just past Prairie Road a lot of trees down and some electrical lines. Briarwood we had quite a few residents helping out. Woodburn Road residents cleared off some trees. Tecumseh Woods we cleared off some tree branches.

On the 15th, Richard and Blair went out and cleared the trees that were hanging low on East Dallas Road.

Today Richard and Matt went out and reinstalled three signs that had blown off.

Zoning and Cemetery
Mr. Tullis – see attached.

Mr. Stinson – Aaron is going to try to have the zoning changes ready for the September 21st meeting. We have to be able to post it in the paper 10 days before the meeting.

Mr. Stinson has had about 5 phone calls regarding the data center and battery storage facilities. Indicated it is clearing up some definitions.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Stinson – Just on the fire levy. It's now posted on the website.

New Business

Mr. Harrigan – we got an email from Mr. McCall. County Line intersection sign upgrades. They are updating some LED stop signs at Middle Urbana and County Line in our township along with other areas in the county outside of our township.

Mr. Harrigan – Champaign County has been awarded a federal highway administration safe streets and roads grant to update the road safety plan. There is a stakeholder meeting at Community Center. (see attached) Engineers Office is looking for input.

Mr. Koerner moved to distribute checks and bill payments. Mr. Stinson seconded the request. Roll call was as follows: Mr. Stinson, yes; Mr. Koerner, yes; Mr. Harrigan, yes.

The following bills were approved:

Check No.	Date	Payee	Total Amount
	08/17/2026	US Treasury	$1,551.36
	08/17/2026	City of Urbana	$96.62
21158	08/17/2026	Matt Harrigan	$910.00
21159	08/17/2026	Roger Koerner	$802.38
21160	08/17/2026	Richard McCain	$1,407.67
21161	08/17/2026	Sandi Perry	$1,310.00
21162	08/17/2026	Blair Stinson	$908.87
21163	08/17/2026	Sean Tullis	$869.67
21164	08/17/2026	Richard McCain	$25.00
21165	08/17/2026	Sean Tullis	$25.00
21166	08/17/2026	Sandi Perry	$251.59
21167	08/17/2026	Matt Harrigan	$425.00
21168	08/17/2026	Roger Koerner	$425.00
21169	08/17/2026	Blair Stinson	$425.00
21170	08/17/2026	VOID	
21171	08/17/2026	Unique Paving	$1,449.18
21172	08/17/2026	County Engineer	$12,318.62
21173	08/17/2026	Roberts Refuse	$73.00
21174	08/17/2026	Heritage Cooperative	$448.30
21175	08/17/2026	AIM Media	$104.96

21176	08/17/2026	Koenig	$1,116.50
21177	08/17/2026	OPERS	$2,106.50
21178	08/17/2026	VOID	
21179	08/17/2026	Cintas	$332.45
21180	08/17/2026	Roberts Stump Grinding	$1,200.00
		Total	**$28,582.67**

Announcements

Mr. Harrigan – the next three months we will have two meetings a month, so next month's meeting will be **Tuesday, September 8, 2026** at 5:00 P.M.

Public Comments

Buddy Ballard – 2005 Oakview Drive. I am not sure who drafted up what is on the levy it was easy to understand. (see attached)

Nicole Doyle – 2757 State Route 54. Nothing to add, but I am happy to help if we need to knock on doors.

Chief Ortlieb – first thing to bring up, Nicole and Buddy have been here for the last couple of meetings, I would suggest a separate group in support of the levy. I would be happy to help on that end of it. Roger did you have anybody say anything negative at the fair.

Wanted to let you know we had 108 incidents with 21 being in the township. Our first run was the semi that went on its side on 68. I used our CAD system to breakdown our runs into priorities. High priority was a threat to life, medium was fire alarms, wires, rescues, electricity down, and then low, 35 high hazard, 39 medium, 34 low hazard. I seen a lot of people from Urbana Township and mostly they praised you guys and Richard.

I think you did a really nice job. We did use mutual aid 14 times.

Mr. Harrigan – what is mutual aid?

Chief Ortlieb – when were called in for other support, when we needed help on runs due to the high number. It overwhelmed dispatch as well.

Ms. Perry – We have a list to send out to and I was surprised that we have almost as many residents in trailer parks as homeowners. There is 10 pages of owners and 8 of trailers. We are telling people this is the cost per person and I know there isn't any way we can charge the park but they have a lot of our residents in the parks and they are not going to be paying that or their portion.

Chief Ortlieb – it's a complicated situation. What the $154 is, is an average of everybody. I would argue to go to any other place and have someone try to quantify it to them. When you have an average, it is what it is. In anything you do there are people below average and people above average.

Ms. Perry – I just had no idea of that number.

Chief Ortlieb – I see a lot of support for this. It's one that along with the $154, this is what I would call critical infrastructure. No body on their own can afford full time fire and ems, so what you do is you gather and pay for a service that gives you 24/365. You are looking at pennies on the dollar. It is the value if you can get someone there within ten minutes. It could save a life. It could save your house. We are managing managing Urbana Township 24/365. In other areas, there were other departments that were not responding because they were saying "I have to work" or "I have my own home to take care of." So then the Sheriff's Office started taking the runs. Now you are putting it on not the right group to check out the situation.

If the people speak you are going to do what the people want you to do. This is an opportunity to have quality fire and ems service at a fair price. It is not a Cadillac price. It is a fair price. The $154 shows that. I tell people to take their cell phone bill and multiply it by 12. You may be paying more for that than fire and ems.

Ms. Perry – I just had no idea the numbers were that close.

Chief Ortlieb – did it say how many are voters?

Ms. Perry – no.

Chief Ortlieb – as you get older and your income goes down, you also get the homestead exemption.

The best sell is you had a 4 mil levy for multiple years, and you managed to maintain service without any raises and it covers the expenses til now. It is a number that is reflective of what you did in the past. I don't think we would be here if we didn't have the inflation of the last 4-5 years. Anything you have has just shot up. You are taking what you had and taking it to current times. It's 4 mil to 4 mil.

Ms. Perry – Because they took the replacement away, anytime anyone sees additional, they think their taxes are going especially since in the last two years we have really been spanked on taxes going up. People do not understand that.

Chief Ortlieb – I think the state hasn't done us any favors. Across the state Treasurers were delaying the second half taxes. If you look at the section 2 of our proposed contract, that gives you 90 days to get out of a contract. You could sign the contract now and if you don't get the levy passed, you could get out of the contract.

Mr. Stinson – if we can't afford it, we are not going to put the township in debt.

Chief Ortlieb – I just worry that you only have one month after the levy, and I believe we need to think about plan B.

Mr. Stinson – like I said there are things that need to be made clear that we are not going to commit funds that we don't have. If everybody wants this, everybody is going to have to pay.

This is a great deal. I lead with response time. It's a no brainer to me and I am a taxpayer in this township as well.

Chief Ortlieb - The people I have talked to at the fair that have had questions but it seems like they are in favor of it.

Mr. Ballard – from the folks I have spoke to, everybody seems to understand, it is really a trade off, but that verbiage is what kills it. What does it mean "additional".

Chief Ortlieb – the biggest thing I see is that you guys aren't afraid to work. I see and hear a lot of that. Our operational costs went up 31.65%. If you now take that operations subtracted out EMS billing, contract, and any station and vehicle expenses. With that said, if you took that number it would actually be $187 per resident. It is still below. Our goal was to get everybody to pay even. We are trying to make it a fair district where everybody pays the same. This is just the operations, which is $154.00.

Urbana Township was getting a really, really good deal. Where else are you going to get a three year contract? When we were taking runs on the 11th, we were taking runs based on this priority.

Mr. Stinson – again getting people to pay for it is another thing.

Chief Ortlieb – again we need a friends of Urbana Township.

Mr. Ballard – what is the impact to you if it doesn't pass.

Chief Ortlieb – it would be a hit. It starts to fracture that. Our budget, everybody wants to compare police and fire. Eventually, we have just added an extra person to cover for schooling. I feel like we have a great dialogue to say this is what we need.

Our administration allowed us to buy a new chassy. We are replacing a ladder from the last century. It is hard when you get these one time expenses that are going to last 20 years.

We have seen a lot of things happen to the city. I look at it that we have a lot of good people in the city. I am hoping this doesn't create a pause. My goal is to create a countywide department. I think it is very complicated but it's not complicated.

I used some of your scenarios, like sharing snow plows, sharing mowing.

I can give you an example, Judge Harvey is our weather guy. Something is happening on the east side of the county. I came in. We pride ourself on our system to manage that when 100 runs are coming in. I hate knocking on the other departments because they are volunteer. The floor is that someone may not come when you need them.

I think we need to get our letters out and Matt's informational brochure.

Mr. Stinson – Spencer do you want to add anything?

Mr. Mitchell – we view Urbana Township as our neighbors. We want that partnership to continue. We view the three year freeze on the price as a strong message. I don't think in current day that you are going to get that locked in price.

Being no further business, Mr. Stinson moved, seconded by Mr. Koerner to end the meeting. Roll call was as follows: Mr. Stinson, yes; Mr. Koerner, yes; Mr. Harrigan, yes.

Matt Harrigan, President

Sandi Perry, Fiscal Officer

8-17-26 Zoning

1. 7-30-26 Andrew Carpenter (#26-018) new house at St Rt29 East of Dugan Rd.
2. 8-14-26 Judah/ Samara Risner (#26-019) Zoning permit new house at 4525 Urbana Moorefield Rd.
3. We had a meeting with the Health Department , Jane Napier and concerning
4. 9-9-26 The Zoning Commission and I are going to redo our last meeting. I missed the 10 day cutoff date for our public hearing on 8-18-26. I have provided you copies of the LUC suggested verbiage for changes to our zoning resolution. LUC approved the changes at their last meeting.
    - These changes will remove nursing homes from a conditional use in U-1 zones and Mobile Home Parks from conditional uses in R-3 and U-1 zones.
    - Will make it more difficult for solar, data centers, and electric energy battery storage facilities from being built within Urbana TWP.
    - Will increase the methods we can use to notify the public for public hearings by not specifying a specific method. They have tied the notification method to whatever is approved by ORC 519.15 at the time a meeting is needed.
    - If you agree with them, I will take them to the Zoning Committee. They will meet and if approved, they will send them back to you. You will have a meeting start the process to incorporate the changes to our zoning resolution.

8-17-26 Cemetery

1. 8-15-26 Headstone was installed for Steven Bates P#194 G# 1.
2.