

March 3, 2026

The Board of Trustees of Marion Township, Marion County, Ohio met in a regular meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm with the following members and visitors present:

Ms. Karen McCleary	Present	Mr. Ben Creasap	Present
Mr. Larry Ballinger	Present	Ms. Sheila Perin	Present

**Employees:** Ben Meddles, Brian Thomas, Terry Lane, Andrew Park

**In Attendance:** Dave Scowden, Marion Public Health Dept.; Lester McMurray, Jr., Tim Blanton, Matthew Cull, Greg Ehlich, Jarrod Dearski,

Mr. Ballinger made a motion to approve the February 3, 2026. Mr. Creasap seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Lester McMurray, Jr. was in attendance to discuss a residence on Olive Ave. Evidently there was a fire and it has never been cleaned up. Dave Scowden, an employee of Marion Public Health, spoke to Mr. McMurray about this issue. Mr. Scowden spoke about the grant that the health department receives and that Marion Township could receive \$20,000.

Three gentlemen from Friendship Kitchen were in attendance to discuss the fiscal officer signing the application for a TREX transfer. This is simply a transfer to allow Friendship Kitchen to obtain a liquor license for the sale of beer and wine. The resolution was read and signed by the township fiscal officer to approve the transfer of the liquor license.

Ms. McCleary made a motion to adjourn out of regular session and enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Ballinger seconded and the Board entered into Executive Session at 6:19 pm. Ms. McCleary made a motion to adjourn out of Executive Session and enter into regular session; Mr. Ballinger seconded and the Board re-convened into regular session at 6:33 pm.

**COMMUNICATION:**

Ms. Perin reported that the following communication was received: from the Marion County Recycling & Litter Prevention. This is a checklist to submit areas within the township that need litter cleanup.

Communication regarding the Lusch Laucher tile ditch #508 improvement. This correspondence is notifying the Board of Trustees that all property owners were notified of their final assessment for this ditch.

Letters of support were received from Stock Development Company LLC and Pivotal GP Holding LLC for the senior housing project on W. Fairground St.

Correspondence received from Marion County Engineer with information regarding the Township Road Program.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Chief Meddles reported that the new fire truck should be here mid to the end of April. Should see the truck for training purposes by mid-June, 2026.

The painting of the interior of the township hall has been completed and everyone is pleased with the results.

Jeff Cummins distributed copies of the estimate from Andy Howser to finish the front pillars at the township hall entrance. The quote is for \$2260.00. Mr. Ballinger made a motion to accept the quote as submitted from Andy Howser; Mr. Creasap seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

Ms. Perin read the following resolution to advertise bids for the 2026 Marion Township Road Paving Program.

## **MARION TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION NO. 2026-0303**

Resolution for Marion Township 2026 Road Paving project

**IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF MARION TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES TO TAKE BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATING IN LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS.**

**WHEREAS**, Marion Township is planning to make or perform several road improvements for 2026 and

**WHEREAS**, these infrastructure improvements are considered to be priority needs for the community and are qualified projects within the Marion Township Road Department rotation list and

**WHEREAS**, road paving costs have been projected and estimated by the Marion County Engineer's Office for 2026, and

**WHEREAS**, legal notice will be published for bidding of said roads in local newspaper and specifications will be available on the Marion Township Website, [www.mariontwp.org](http://www.mariontwp.org) and by contacting the Marion Township Fiscal Officer, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;** that the Chairman of the board of Marion Township Trustees, Mr. Ben Creasap is hereby authorized to enter into contract, on behalf of the board, with the lowest bidding contractor, and that Mr. Roger Dietrich, will be the contact person for the road paving project.

**IT WAS MOVED BY;** Ms. McCleary, seconded by Mr. Ballinger to authorize the board of Marion Township Trustees to enter into contract for the purpose of participating in the local transportation improvement project.

Vote on motion: Mr. Creasap, yes; Ms. McCleary, yes; Mr. Ballinger, yes.

**WHEREUPON** the resolution was declared adopted this 3rd day of March 2026 and that bid opening is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7 at 5:30pm, at the meeting of the Marion Township Trustee.

Ms. McCleary made a motion to accept the resignation of Marilyn Smith from the Marion Township Zoning Commission Board. Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. McCleary made a motion to appoint Kelli Colby of 1541 Crissinger Rd. as the new Marion Township Zoning Commission member, replacing Marilyn Smith. Ms. Colby's 5-year term will expire in 2031. Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Creasap made a motion to accept Andrew Park's resignation effective March 11, 2026; seconded by Mr. Ballinger.

Resolution read by Ms. Perin for the bids for the road paving project for 2026.

Resignation of Marilyn Smith; motion LB/BC. Ms. Smith has been on the township zoning board for 30+ years.

Ms. McCleary made a motion to accept the appointment of Kelli Colby to replace Marilyn Smith on the township zoning board. Ms. Colby's term will end in 2031. BC/LB

Motion to accept the bid as submitted by Andy Howser to wrap the poles in front of township hall. Quote to provide this improvement is \$2,230.00. Mr. Howser has required a 50% deposit prior to starting the job. BC/LB.

Ms. McCleary made a motion to allow Fred Kantzer to hold his amateur radio program at township hall on June 27 and into June 28, 2026; Mr. Creasap seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chief Meddles is asking for permission to allow the firefighters can go ahead and implement one article of the contract now so that they can receive the quartermaster requirement to purchase uniforms. Ms. McCleary made a motion to allow the firefighters to implement one article of the contract; Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Road Department**

Eight days of snow and ice  
Fixed mail box on Garden Place  
Washed trucks  
Fixed signs on Keener , Greenway, and Colorado  
Removed stone off road on Parkview  
Spot bermed on Fountain St  
Repaired damage due to snow plow  
Cut limbs on State Street.  
Pothole patched  
Fixed blow out on Cascade ( J. Daniels )  
Cleaned Building # 3

### **Zoning**

26-2-4-R1 Rick Ferguson 200 Selma St accessory home structure \$100 granted  
26-2-26-S1 Tina Valverde, Signs Now Newark 1615 Marion Mt Gilead Rd sign \$600 granted

26-2-28-R1 Bryce Pytlarz 1050 Hathaway Ln accessory home structure \$100 granted

**Fire Department**

No report.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Creasap made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Ballinger seconded. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

_____	Ms. Karen McCleary, Chairman
_____	Mr. Larry Ballinger, Vice-Chairman
_____	Mr. Ben Creasap, Trustee
_____	Ms. Sheila Perin, Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the Board of Trustees of Marion Township concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and /or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in the meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.