

December 30, 2025

The Board of Trustees of Marion Township, Marion County, Ohio met in its year-end meeting. Mr. Ballinger called the meeting to order at 10:00 am with the following members and visitors present:

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

**EMPLOYEES:** Ben Meddles

**GUESTS:**

Pledge of allegiance.

Budget figures were distributed to the Board. Figures were reviewed and board members were encouraged to review for final approval of the 2026 budget will be at the January 6, 2026 meeting. Ms. McCleary made a motion to accept the preliminary budget for 2026; Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. McCleary will be the township board chairman for 2026; Mr. Ballinger is vice-chairman, and Mr. Creasap is trustee. Ms. McCleary is pro tempore until the January 6, 2026 meeting.

Ms. McCleary distributed the listing for the 2026 duties of the trustees as follows:

Chairperson – Karen McCleary

Vice-Chairman – Larry Ballinger

Trustee – Ben Creasap

Fire Dept. – Ballinger and McCleary

Road Dept. – Creasap and Ballinger

Zoning, Zoning Boards, Zoning Regulations – McCleary and Ballinger

Meeting Prep and Agendas – McCleary

Special Resolutions, Public Relations – McCleary and Perin

Cemeteries – Creasap and Ballinger

Legal – McCleary and Ballinger

Equipment and Facilities – Ballinger and Creasap

Township Hall Manager – McCleary

Health Department Rep - McCleary

Grandview lighting – Creasap

Regional Planning Board Rep – McCleary

Board Land Bank rep – Ballinger

Ms. McCleary made a motion to approve the duties of the trustees for 2026; seconded by Mr. Creasap. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Ballinger to complete all year-end transactions effective December 31, 2025 seconded by Mr. Ballinger. Motion carried.

Meeting dates for 2026 will remain the same as the first Tuesday of every month. Ms. McCleary distributed a meeting schedule for the 2026 dates.

Goals for 2026 were discussed.

- 1. Finish exterior pillars in front of township hall building.
- 2. Thoughts on new fire house
- 3. Review storage room files
- 4. Problem properties: Drexel Ave. and McMurray (309 West)
- 5. Listen to township resident’s concerns
- 6. Drywall repair township hall

Ms. McCleary made a motion to approve the health insurance rates for 2026:

Single -- \$57.12 per pay  
Employee/child -- \$102.13 per pay  
Family -- \$188.59 per pay

Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pay increase figures were presented to the Board for approval:

3% wage increase for road department employees, along with Zoning Inspector and Zoning Secretary.

New rates as follows:

	Current	2026 wage
Ron Phillips	\$19.25	\$19.82/hr.
Terry Lane	17.55	18.07/hr.
Junior Dunn	17.55	18.07/hr.
Virgil Spurgeon	17.55	18.07/hr.
Jennifer Sidle	\$6,303.60/annually	\$6,492.48/annually
Jeff Cummins	\$14,249.28 (annually)	\$14,676.72 (annually)

Mr. Creasap made a motion to approve a 3% pay raise for road department and zoning employees. Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. McCleary made a motion to adjourn out of special meeting session and enter into executive session to discuss union negotiations. Ms. McCleary seconded the motion. Roll call: Ms. McCleary, yes; Mr. Ballinger, yes. The Board adjourned into executive session at 12:00 pm. Ms. McCleary made a motion to adjourn from executive session and enter back into special meeting session. Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion.. The board returned to special meeting session at 12:11 pm.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. McCleary to adjourn. Mr. Creasap seconded the motion and roll call was as follows: Ms. McCleary, yes; Mr. Ballinger, yes; Mr. Creasap, yes. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 12:11 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.