

AGENDA

BOARD OF LIBERTY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES Date: September 14, 2026 6:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call meeting to order.
3. Roll call:

Arnie Clebone

Greg Cizmar

Devon Stanley

Present

Present

Present

Excused

Excused

Excused

In remembrance of September 11, 2001, we pay tribute to the victims, their families, and the regular citizens who showed extraordinary bravery. We also wish to show our deep gratitude for the first responders—the firefighters, police officers, paramedics, and military personnel—who ran toward danger to save others. May we always carry their memory, echo their courage, and stand united as one nation.

4. Citizens may speak on agenda items.
5. Fiscal Officer Matthew Connelly’s financial report.
6. **Correspondence:**
7. **Reports:**

1. Administrator Martha Weirick’s Report

2. Fire Department Chief Doug Theobald’s Report

3. Police Department Chief Ray Buhala’s Report

4. Road Superintendent Mr. Wayne Hickman’s Report

5. Zoning Inspector Ms. Melissa Ritchie’s Report

New Business:

8. Motion to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2026 Regular meeting and the July 30, 2026 Special meeting.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley

Mr. Cizmar

Mr. Clebone

_____ yes

_____ yes

_____ yes

_____ no

_____ no

_____ no
9. Motion to approve warrant/eft expenditures for the month of July 2026 in the amount of \$585,575.16 warrants #27777 through #27839 inclusive and the month of August 2026 in the amount of \$682,359.88 warrants #27841 through #27935 inclusive.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley

Mr. Cizmar

Mr. Clebone

_____ yes

_____ yes

_____ yes

_____ no

_____ no

_____ no
10. Motion to approve the Purchase Order Listing and any Then and Now Certificates for the month of July and August 2026.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley

Mr. Cizmar

Mr. Clebone

_____ yes

_____ yes

_____ yes

_____ no

_____ no

_____ no
11. 26-132 Motion to adopt a Resolution to lift the Moratorium on the Acceptance, Processing, and Approval of Applications related to Motor Vehicle and Vehicle-related uses adopted May 11, 2026 for the use as “Gas Station and Convenience Store” and to extend the Moratorium on all other uses for an additional six months, until May 11, 2027.

WHEREAS, at its meeting on May 11, 2026, the Liberty Township Board of Township Trustees (“Board”) passed a Resolution to adopt a six-month Moratorium on the Acceptance, Processing, and Approval of Applications related to Motor Vehicle and Vehicle-related uses, including Used Motor Vehicle Sales, motor vehicle service or repair facilities, motor vehicle service stations, salvage yards, junk yards, scrap yards, and tire storage, recycling or disposal facilities within Liberty Township, Trumbull County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, as requested by the Board of Trustees, the Liberty Township Zoning Commission has been studying and reviewing the Township’s Zoning Resolution as it pertains to the regulation, siting, permitting, and operational standards applicable to Motor Vehicle and Vehicle-related uses; and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Township Zoning Commission has recommended changes to the Liberty Township Zoning Resolution to address the use of “Gas Station and Convenience Store” and the Board of Trustees held a hearing on September 14, 2026 on the proposed changes; and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Township Zoning Commission has requested additional time to study and consider changes to the Zoning Resolution to address other Motor Vehicle and Vehicle related uses, including:

- o Used motor vehicle sales
- o Motor vehicle storage lots;
- o Motor vehicle repair or service facilities;
- o Motor Vehicle Service Stations or fuel-dispensing facilities (other than “Gas Station and Convenience Store”)
- o Salvage yards
- o Junk yards
- o Scrap yards or scrap-processing facilities
- o Tire storage, tire recycling, or tire disposal facilities

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Township Trustees of Liberty Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, that:

Section 1. Moratorium Extended.

That the temporary moratorium enacted on May 11, 2026, on the Acceptance, Processing, and Approval of Applications related to Motor Vehicle and Vehicle-related uses, including Used Motor Vehicle Sales, motor vehicle service or repair facilities, motor vehicle service stations, salvage yards, junk yards, scrap yards, and tire storage or disposal facilities within Liberty Township, Trumbull County, Ohio is hereby extended for an additional six months, until May 11, 2027, for all uses other than “Gas Station and Convenience Store” to allow the Zoning Commission time to complete their work;

Section 2. Moratorium is lifted for the use of “Gas Station and Convenience Store”

That the temporary moratorium enacted on May 11, 2026, is hereby lifted for the use of “Gas Station and Convenience Store” as that use is defined in the amendment to the Liberty Township Zoning Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees September 14, 2026.

Section 3. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____yes _____no

Mr. Cizmar _____yes _____no

Mr. Clebone _____yes _____no

12. 26-133 Motion to (adopt, reject, or adopt with modifications) the Amendment to the Liberty Township Zoning Regulation regarding the use of “Gas Station and Convenience Store” recommended by the Liberty Township Zoning Commission.

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2026, the Liberty Township Zoning Commission held a public hearing, and at the conclusion of the hearing recommended to the Liberty Township Board of Trustees proposed amendments to the Liberty Township Zoning Regulations addressing the use of “Gas Station and Convenience Store”; and

WHEREAS, on Monday September 14, 2026 at 5:00 PM, a public hearing was held before the Liberty Township Board of Trustees on the proposed amendments to the Liberty Zoning Regulations;

NOW THEREFORE, upon consideration of the comments at the public hearing and the proposed amendments, the Liberty Township Board of Trustees hereby (adopts, rejects, or adopts with modifications) the proposed amendments to the Liberty Township Zoning Regulation addressing the use of “Gas Station and Convenience Store” as set forth below.

Moved by_____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____yes _____no

Mr. Cizmar _____yes _____no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____no

13. 26-134 Motion to hire Sloan Myers as a part-time EMT/Firefighter at \$20.00 per hour, no benefits. First day worked will be her hire date pending pre-employment drug testing and background check.

Moved by_____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____yes _____no

Mr. Cizmar _____yes _____no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____no

14. 26-135 Motion to increase the General Fund line item #1000-110-520-1309 by \$80,955.00 due to Escrowed funds for property fire reimbursement on 2201 Pinehurst Ave.

Moved by_____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____yes _____no

Mr. Cizmar _____yes _____no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____no

15. 26-136 Motion to advance \$200,000 from the General Fund to the Police Fund until the 2nd half taxes are received from Trumbull County. This is due to the implementation of the new Ohio Inflation Cap Credit under House Bill 186 which has caused delays in township’s receiving the 2nd half taxes collected.

Moved by_____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____yes _____no

Mr. Cizmar _____yes _____no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____no

16. 26-137 Motion to pass a RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION AND REMISSION OF PUBLIC PROPERTY.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §517.27, the Belmont Park Cemetery Association dissolved and transferred the Belmont Park Cemetery to the Board of Trustees of Liberty Township to maintain as a public cemetery, and

WHEREAS, under O.R.C. §5709.10, real property owned by a public entity exclusively for a public purpose is exempt from taxation, and under O.R.C. §5709.14, land used exclusively as a graveyard, not for profit, is exempt from taxation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Liberty Township that:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to O.R.C. §517.27, the Belmont Park Cemetery Association dissolved and transferred the Belmont Park Cemetery to the Board of Trustees of Liberty Township the following property: Parcel No. 12-007001, 12-765376, and 12-765377 (“the Property”) by deed dated January 16, 2026.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to Ohio R.C. 517.27 the Property was transferred to the Liberty Township Board of Trustees for cemetery purposes, and pursuant to O.R.C. §5709.10, and §5709.14, the Property is exempt from taxation.

SECTION 3. The Board of Trustees of Liberty Township authorizes and directs the Liberty Township fiscal officer Matthew Connelly to execute any documents necessary to apply for Real Property Tax Exemption and Remission of the Property as provided by law.

SECTION 4. If any paragraph, provision, or section of this Resolution is held to be invalid by the final decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, then that decision will not affect the validity of the remaining paragraphs, provisions, or sections of this Resolution.

SECTION 5. The Board of Trustees of Liberty Township finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including R.C. §121.22.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Cizmar _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____ no

17. 26-138 Motion to accept the resignation of Police Sergeant Sean Ryan effective September 13, 2026. Good luck in your future endeavors.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Cizmar _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____ no

18. 26-139 Motion to accept the resignation of Patrolman Nicholas Ryan effective September 13, 2026. Good luck in your future endeavors.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Cizmar _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____ no

19. 26-140 The IRS standard mileage rates for 2026 are split into two periods due to a mid-year increase, therefore the rates from July 1 – December 31, 2026 is \$.76 cents per mile.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Cizmar _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____ no

20. 26-141 Motion to hire Officer Brandon Freer as a full-time probationary police officer per the terms of the agreement between the OPBA and the Board of Liberty Township Trustees at a rate of \$32.04. First day worked will be his hire date.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Cizmar _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____ no

21. 26-142 Motion to hire Officer Preston Hake as a full-time probationary police officer per the terms of the agreement between the OPBA and the Board of Liberty Township Trustees at a rate of \$26.44 effective October 4, 2026.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Cizmar _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____ no

22. 26-143 Motion accepting the amount and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authoring the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor (commencing January 1, 2027)..

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanley _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Cizmar _____ yes _____ no

Mr. Clebone _____ yes _____ no

23. Citizens may speak on any matter.
24. Trustees’ remarks.
25. Motion to adjourn into executive session to meet with the Law Director concerning pending court action and to consider employment and compensation for public employees.
Moved by_____ Seconded by _____
Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Stanley _____yes _____no
Mr. Cizmar _____yes _____no
Mr. Clebone _____yes _____no
26. Motion to adjourn executive session at _p.m.
Moved by_____ Seconded by _____
Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Stanley _____yes _____no
Mr. Cizmar _____yes _____no
Mr. Clebone _____yes _____no
27. Motion to adjourn meeting at p.m.
- Next business meeting Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.