

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in a Regular Session at the township administration office on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance, Mr. Arnie Clebone, Mr. Devon Stanley, and Mr. Gregory Cizmar presiding.

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. Gone but not forgotten.

Fiscal Officer Matthew Connelly delivered his comprehensive financial report to the Board. He introduced a detailed Fund Report that expands the typical Cash Summary Report by highlighting encumbered funds alongside monthly revenue and expenditures. Mr. Connelly confirmed that June and July bank statements are fully reconciled, with August currently in progress.

Belmont Park Cemetery continues to be self-sufficient, while Churchill Cemetery will require financial support from the General Fund. Matt also reported that the state's 2-year audit concluded at a cost of \$13,500. The state identified two material weaknesses (fund misclassifications regarding Belmont Park Cemetery and Roll Back Taxes) and one non-compliance issue regarding the timing of purchase orders. To address this issue moving forward, the township will increase its use of Blanket and Super Blanket Purchase Orders and Then and Now Certificates. Mr. Connelly welcomed Denise Leone, who succeeds the recently retired Teena Wylie as his assistant. He concluded by reviewing budgeted grant matching funds and commending the Trustees, Administrator, and Department Heads for aggressively securing grant opportunities.

Reports:

Administrator Martha Weirick announced Liberty Township successfully secured the Trumbull County Senior Services Grant again for the next two years. Residents who are 60 and older can receive free safety equipment—including lock boxes, smoke/CO2 detectors, and highly visible address markers—to help them safely stay in their homes. Also, we invite all residents 60 years older for a festive lunch where they can meet our safety forces and a variety of agencies that provide valuable information. To learn more, contact Police Administrative Asst. Marcy Haney or Fire Administrative Asst. Michelle Rusu at 330-759-1315. Additionally, the award-winning Matter of Balance classes begin Tuesday, September 22nd at the township administration hearing room. Contact the Girard Multigenerational Center directly for more details and registration 330-545-6596.

Fire Department Chief Doug Theobald attended the City of Youngstown's Safety Services Emergency Plan Seminar in August. The event gathered various agencies to collaborate on emergency preparedness. As part of the seminar, Chief Theobald and other attendees split into breakout groups to evaluate different disaster scenarios and map out effective strategies. All the attendees presented their scenarios and he should receive feedback from the city in a few weeks. He assured those in attendance that if a major disaster should occur, he feels the City of Youngstown – who provides water for a significant portion of our residents, as well as the Meander Reservoir and other waterways – will be well prepared. Chief thanked the Trustees for the battery powered rescue tools purchased a month ago. He mentioned the ease of use cutting up cars. He reported the recent hazmat spill that required many man hours. The hazardous material of flue dust spilled across the roadway at the intersection of Shannon Road and Tibbetts Wick Road near St. Rt. 11 when a truck driver slammed on the brakes. Multiple cars drove over the spilled dust, making it more difficult to clean the area. The township billed the trucking company for the additional costs involved. Additionally, Chief Theobald highlighted a concerning national trend of motorists striking emergency vehicles that are securing scenes. In a recent incident involving downed wires from a storm, a driver struck a marked emergency vehicle and fled the scene, despite the vehicle's active emergency lights and clearly posted "Road Closed" signs. To combat this issue, Trustee Stanley suggested deploying flares, noting, "for whatever reason, people seem to pay attention to fire."

Police Department Chief Ray Buhala presented the August monthly report, noting that the department responded to 1,067 calls for service, logged 17,876 patrol miles, made 45 physical arrests, and conducted 143 traffic stops. Chief Buhala expressed his gratitude to the Trustees for hiring two additional officers during the meeting to replace two officers who are leaving. He also thanked the other township departments for their ongoing collaboration, stating, "It's the best it's been between departments for a long time."

Superintendent Mr. Wayne Hickman presented his report and echoed the chief's statement of collaboration between the departments working together. Wayne described the on-going road construction

that we all dealing with this time of year. He said the Belmont Sidewalk Project is nearly complete. There are thirteen sites in Center Park that need addressed before that project is complete. Wayne mentioned the remainder \$17,000 from the grant for Center Park needs to be used by the end of this year. He briefly mentioned the 2027 Paving Program that is in the preliminary stage. Wayne thinks RT Vernal will begin the 2026 Paving Program soon, and complete it later this fall. He has multiple roads scheduled for crack sealing and we should see some road striping in the next few weeks. The crew is setting up on the west side of the parking lot this weekend for the Geauga Trumbull Scrap Tire Program. The team is officially ready for winter. For now, they are finishing up drain repairs, hot mix fixes, and road drag box work.

Zoning Inspector Ms. Melissa Ritchie presented her report stating she issued 16 zoning permits; 3 variance permits and 45 violations since our last meeting. She discussed the new Transient Vendor License application and the \$100 fee with the Board of Trustees. She will place an announcement about the Transient Vendor License requirement on the township website and social media sites.

New Business:

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

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

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.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second. Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Purchase Order Listing and any Then and Now Certificates for the month of July and August 2026.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

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 but not limited to 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

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

26-133 Motion to 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 with modifications the proposed amendments to the Liberty Township Zoning Regulation addressing the use of “Gas Station and Convenience Store” as set forth below:

Section 2:2 Definitions

CONVENIENCE STORE

Any retail establishment offering for sale prepackaged food products, household items, and other goods commonly associated with the same, and having a gross floor area of less than 7,500 square feet.

* * *

GAS STATION AND CONVENIENCE STORE

A building and premises meeting all of the requirements of 5:3.2 used for the sale of fuel and/or electrical charging for automobiles, the retail sale of vehicle products such as, oil, grease, antifreeze, batteries, windshield wipers, etc., along with a convenience store selling made to order and/or prepackaged food and beverages, to consume on site or take out, and other retail products, and providing restroom facilities. No vehicle repairs may be performed.

Section 4:6 Neighborhood Business

* * *

4:6.2 PERMITTED USES

~~Convenience goods, services, and stores including but not limited to:~~

4:6.2.1 Grocery stores limited to seven thousand five hundred (7,500) square feet or less

4:6.2.2 Beauty salons and barber shops

4:6.2.3 Dry cleaners

4:6.2.4 Pharmacies

4:6.2.5 ~~Motor vehicle service stations~~ Computer stores

Section 4:7 Commercial

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4:7.4 CONDITIONAL USES

4:7.4.1 Wholesale distribution

4:7.4.2 Game Rooms/Amusement Centers

4:7.4.3 Sporting complexes

4:7.4.4 Manufacture and assembly ancillary to permitted retail and service uses

4:7.4.5 Dog kennels

4:7.4.6 Gas Station and Convenience Store

4:7.4.7 Mini-warehouses

4:7.4.7 Sexually oriented businesses

Section 5:2 General Criteria

To ensure compatibility with the underlying zoning district and the Township community in general, in addition to applying the criteria provided for each specific conditional use, the Board of Zoning Appeals shall apply the following general criteria when evaluating any application for a Conditional Use permit. All Conditional Uses must therefore:

* * *

Section 5:3 Criteria for Specific Conditional Uses

* * *

5:3.2 Gas Station and Convenience Store

5:3.2.1 Must have frontage on an arterial street or collector street .

5:3.2.2 The minimum lot size shall be one and one half acres (65,340 square feet).

5:3.2.3 The minimum convenience store building size shall be five thousand (5,000) square feet.

5:3.2.4 The only vehicle services permitted to be provided are vehicle charging and dispensing of fuel, oil, air, windshield washer fluid, antifreeze and other similar vehicle fluids. No vehicle repairs shall be performed.

5:3.2.5 Streetscape improvements including sidewalks and a minimum ten feet (10') of a grass and/or landscaped area must be maintained along all road frontage.

5:3.2.6 No outside loudspeakers shall broadcast sound exceeding 60 decibels at the lot line of any neighboring residentially zoned properties.

5.3.2.7 Pump islands and canopy shall be a minimum of thirty feet (30') from any public Right-of-Way or Lot Line.

5.3.2.8 A circulation route for gasoline tanker trucks and other delivery vehicles must be provided on the site. The circulation plan shall demonstrate that fuel tankers and other delivery vehicles can enter, service, and exit the property without backing onto a public street.

5.3.2.9 The Gas Station And Convenience Store must meet the off-street parking requirements, lighting standards, setbacks, buffering, parking, stormwater detention and retention, and all other requirements of the Zoning Resolution.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

26-134 Motion to hire Sloan McNally as a part-time EMT/Firefighter at \$22.00 per hour, no benefits. First day worked will be her hire date pending pre-employment drug testing and background check.

Motion: Mr. Clebone. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Motion carried.

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.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

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.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes.

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.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

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

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

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

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

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

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

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.

Motion: Mr. Clebone. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

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.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Stanley.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

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).

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

26-144 Motion to pass the following RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO O.R.C. 505.86 TO REQUIRE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY AT 4620-4626 MIDDLE DRIVE TO DEMOLISH THE STRUCTURE WHICH IS UNSAFE, STRUCTURALLY DEFECTIVE AND UNINHABITABLE

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code §505.86 authorizes a Board of Trustees to declare structures within the Township to be a nuisance by reason of being insecure, unsafe, structurally defective, or unfit for human habitation, and to provide for the abatement of said nuisance by repair or demolition and removal of said structures; and

WHEREAS, the apartment house at 4620-4626 Middle Drive, Liberty, OH 44505, Liberty Township, Parcel No. 12-176253 (“the Property”) was extensively damaged by fire in April 2026 and has not been repaired, and the Liberty Fire Chief has inspected the Property and has declared the apartment house to be unsafe, uninhabitable and structurally defective.

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

Section 1: The apartment house on the Property is hereby determined to be a nuisance and a threat to the public health and safety as insecure, unsafe, and structurally defective, and must be demolished and removed.

Section 2: Notice shall be given to the owner(s) of the Property and any lienholders (Parties in Interest) by certified mail or as otherwise provided in R.C. 505.86, of the Township’s declaration of nuisance and demand to abate said nuisance by demolition, and of their right to request a hearing.

Section 3: If the Property Owner or other Party in Interest fails to request a hearing before the Board within twenty days or provide for the demolition said structure within thirty days of issuing notice, the Board authorizes the Township Administrator to enter into contracts with private contractors or the

Trumbull County Land Bank for the demolition of the structures on the Property.

Section 4. The total costs incurred for the demolition and removal of the structure and abatement of the nuisance, including all associated site restoration work, and the costs incurred in providing notice may be certified to the county Auditor who shall place the costs upon the tax duplicate to be a lien upon such lands from and after the date of entry.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

26-145 Motion to pass A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF FORTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS TO PAY PART OF THE COST OF PURCHASING TWO USED POLICE VEHICLES.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has entered into settlement agreements with the largest distributors of opioids, and has developed the OneOhio plan to distribute the settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, Liberty Township is a participating subdivision receiving a portion of the opioid settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding requires that Opioid Settlement Funds be used only for “approved purposes” and the Exhibit A to the Memorandum defines the approved purposes; and

WHEREAS, Exhibit A to the Memorandum permits opioid settlement funds to be used to “increase the availability of naloxone” and to “provide funds for first responders and criminal justice professionals ... and other public safety expenditures relating to the opioid epidemic that address both community and statewide supply and demand reduction strategies including criminal interdiction efforts”.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, TRUMBULL COUNTY, that:

Section 1. The Board of Trustees determines that Opioid Settlement Funds may be used consistent with the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding Exhibit A to pay part of the cost of purchasing two used 2023 Ford Interceptor Police vehicles as this purchase meets the requirements of an Approved Purpose under Exhibit A of the OneOhio Memorandum as these vehicles will be used to “increase the availability of naloxone” and to “provide funds for first responders and criminal justice professionals ... and other public safety expenditures relating to the opioid epidemic that address both community and statewide supply and demand reduction strategies including criminal interdiction efforts”.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees authorizes the use of forty-six thousand dollars (\$46,000.00) in opioid settlement funds to pay part of the cost of purchasing two used 2023 Ford Interceptor Police vehicles, and appropriates the necessary funds from the Opioid Settlement Fund.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately upon its adoption.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

26-146 Motion to increase appropriations in 2902-230-74-1325 Machinery, Equipment (one Ohio Opioid Settlement) Fund by \$\$46,000.00.

Motion: Mr. Cizmar. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Stanley, Yes. Motion carried.

26-147 Motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding For Training Reimbursement between the IAFF and Board of Trustees for “Paramedic Training Costs” to provide direct payment to Eric Lyszaz and Judd Radovic instead of reimbursement over time in as provided in the Contract Appendix C.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

Citizens may speak on any matter.

A local resident expressed appreciation to the Board of Trustees for the successful removal of the abandoned gas station on Belmont Avenue. The resident also read a newspaper article detailing how a neighboring community resolved a property at 3007 Niles Road, Howland, suggesting a similar approach

be taken for a property on Tibbetts Wick Road. The Trustees reviewed the submission but noted that the two situations are not parallel. While the community in the article addressed a property deemed structurally defective, the property on Tibbetts Wick Road has been evaluated as structurally sound. He offered suggestions regarding the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program; however, Law Director Cherry Poteet noted that while the township has used the program multiple times before, it does not apply to this instance. Trustee Clebone stated, “this has gone on long enough,” and asked the Zoning Inspector to continue to issue citations against the owner for all violations she finds.

A resident brought several pressing issues to the floor. She highlighted the ongoing safety and aesthetic concerns surrounding the Middle Drive area, specifically focusing on the illegal dumping taking place there and the lingering remnants of the 5-plex destroyed by a fire in April 2026. Fortunately, the Trustees took a proactive stance on the matter, passing Resolution 26-144 to declare the fire-damaged structure a public nuisance.

Trustee Arnie Clebone invited everyone to the next meeting of the Historical Society on Wednesday, September 16th at 5:30 p.m. where Marcia Levy is speaking on Historical Homes in Liberty Township. Trustee Clebone would like to hear from residents on the Belmont Avenue Corridor by attending the Community Open House on Wednesday, September 23rd from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Mahoning County Veteran’s Service Commission.

Motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:30 p.m. to meet with the Law Director concerning pending court action and to consider employment and compensation for public employees.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Clebone.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn executive session and resume regular session at 8:31 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

26-148 Motion to increase Zoning Inspector Melissa Ritchie’s hourly rate to \$28.00 per hour effective 8/30/26.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

26-149 Motion to increase Administrative Assistant Maureen Schrecengost’s hourly rate to \$18.00 per hour effective 8/30/26.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Stanley. Second: Mr. Cizmar.

Roll Call: Mr. Stanley, Yes. Mr. Cizmar, Yes. Mr. Clebone, Yes. Motion carried.

Next business meeting Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.

MATTHEW CONNELLY
FISCAL OFFICER

GREG CIZMAR, CHAIRPERSON