

The Board of Liberty Township Trustees met in Regular Session on Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. with the following members in attendance Mr. Devon Stanley, Mr. Arnie Clebone & Mr. Gregory Cizmar presiding.

26-125 Motion to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2025 regular meeting.

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

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

26-126 Motion to hire part-time Firefighter/EMT Zachary Hagarty at a rate of \$20.00 per hour no benefits. First day worked is his hire date pending pre-employment drug test and successful background check.

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

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

26-127 Motion to increase Belmont Park Cemetery employee Richard Pollo's hourly rate to \$22.00 per hour effective 7/5/26.

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

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

26-128 Motion to pass the following resolution for grass abatements:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby determines that the owner's maintenance of vegetation, garbage, refuse and other debris upon the following properties constitutes a nuisance:

Address:	Parcel No.:
3737 Logan Gate	12-533500

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of this Board's intent to provide for the abatement, control, or removal of said vegetation, garbage, refuse or other debris constituting said nuisance be given to all owners of the land and holders of liens of record upon said land in accordance with **Section 505.87 (B) O.R.C.**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon proper notice, and failure of the property owner to abate said nuisance within seven days, the Board of Trustees provide for the abatement, control, or removal of said vegetation, garbage, refuse or other debris constituting said nuisance in accordance with **Section 505.87 (B) O.R.C.**

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

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

26- 129 Motion to approve proclamation for Belmont Avenue Walmart Store Manager Robyn Mediate for her dedication and support of the Liberty Township Community.

**PROCLAMATION
HONORING THE SERVICE OF ROBYN MEDIATE, LIBERTY TOWNSHIP
WALMART STORE MANAGER**

WHEREAS, Robyn Mediate has demonstrated exceptional leadership, unwavering integrity, and a profound commitment to the TOWNSHIP OF LIBERTY, TRUMBULL COUNTY throughout their distinguished career; and

WHEREAS, through years of tireless effort, selfless volunteerism, and dedicated public service, Robyn Mediate has left an indelible mark on our Safety Forces, local programs, infrastructure, and Liberty Township's entire well-being; and

WHEREAS, her passion for helping others and their ability to bring people together has served as an inspiration to colleagues, neighbors, and township officials; and

WHEREAS, the community wishes to express its deepest gratitude for Robyn Mediate legacy of

excellence and outstanding contributions to Liberty Township, Trumbull County.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Board of Liberty Township Trustees, do hereby decree our sincerest gratitude towards Robyn Mediate and extend our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for all her future endeavors.

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

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

Discussion: Local resident Cory Strozier, through Strozier Performance Sports LLC, is launching a brand-new youth sports program for kids ages 8 to 18. His goal is to begin flag football tournaments on Saturday, September 12th, with an 8-week youth flag football league utilizing the open fields at Churchill Park. Mr. Strozier said his program is sanctioned by the NFL. He hopes to expand the program to include basketball, baseball and softball in the future. Our Board of Trustees has directed Road Superintendent Wayne Hickman to finalize the details with the league. To keep our park beautiful and safe for everyone, please note that **parking on the grass is strictly prohibited**, and the league will handle all trash cleanup after the games.

Chief Ray Buhala is actively seeking experienced police officers and ways to get the word out to communities.

Fire Chief Doug Theobald said congratulated Julian Dillard and Judd Radovic for successfully completing their advanced paramedic course, a milestone that enhances local emergency medical capabilities. Chief Theobald announced the change due to inclement weather for the township's landmark 250th Celebration fireworks. To create a centralized community gathering, the fireworks display has been rescheduled to run in tandem with the Police Department's upcoming National Night Out event. Additionally, Chief Theobald provided an operational recap of the recent EF0 tornado, which brought 85 mph wind speeds to areas near the Youngstown Country Club in Liberty and Applegate Road in Hubbard. On-duty fire crews actively monitored the system's initial development and tracked its path through the area. The Chief commended the Police Department for their seamless inter-departmental support during the storm. Reported damage was localized primarily to wooded landscape, downed tree branches, and minor roof shingle displacement, with zero casualties or injuries reported.

Road Superintendent Wayne Hickman said he is currently waiting on ODOT approval to finish up the Belmont Sidewalk Project. At this point, he feels it's not necessary for anyone else to contact them. The engineering company and he are in constant contact with them and it's their busy season. For the upcoming fence work at Center Park, Austintown Fence gave us a final estimate of \$14,000, but because the contractor damaging a section of the fence they will cover \$2,800 of the cost. Paving on Belmont Avenue is completely finished, but we don't have an exact start date for the township's 2026 paving with RT Verna. The County's paving program for Logan Gate is finished. However, the company has to come back to fix a few low spots due to pooling water. Afterwards, raised center markers will be installed. The crew will be starting to use the drag box now that hot mix is being made. Since the auction is over, Shelley and Sand are moving their equipment out, and Econo Lawn is tackling the weeds around the impound lot. Wayne also set up a permitted agricultural burn pile at Belmont Cemetery with the Fire Department's approval. Looking ahead, our scrap tire collection days are set for September 19–20 through the Geauga Trumbull grant, and the Go Green reimbursement forms are turned in. Finally, Trustee Cizmar brought up the idea of seeing if Jimmy's Italian Store wants to buy the cemetery property sitting right behind their shop.

Zoning Inspector Melissa Ritchie reported sending a formal letter regarding potential illegal dumping at the Schultz Auto Wrecking property, in addition to the high grass violations previously cited. Furthermore, Inspector Ritchie is collaborating with Joel and Martha to launch an official Township Facebook page. The platform will be strictly managed by township administration to share official information and community events. The final name for the page is currently under review.

Trustee Greg Cizmar held a very successful auction that finished yesterday. He will be working

with the Fire Department to remove the carpet after the storm damage at Station 34. Road Superintendent Wayne Hickman gave a detailed account of plans for the station's drainage issues. He is having difficulty getting quotes from area contractors.

Trustee Arnie Clebone announced that Jimmy's Italian Foods will provide some refreshments at the upcoming Music in Churchill Park event. During the meeting, Trustee Clebone also initiated a discussion with the Board regarding a potential Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program for a portion of Belmont Avenue. The funding mechanism would dedicate a portion of tax revenues toward infrastructure updates, specifically lighting and curb improvements. Trustee Clebone emphasized that the project will only move forward with collective board support. The remaining trustees agreed to review additional information before making a final decision. The Board reviewed the status of two non-compliant properties currently facing multiple zoning violations. Despite prior hearings and extensions, no remedial action has been taken by the owners. Consequently, the Board instructed the zoning inspector to issue a final two-week compliance notice, after which the Township will initiate formal nuisance abatement proceedings.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 a.m.

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

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

Next regular meeting is September 14, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.

Music in the Park is Wednesday, July 29th at 7:00 p.m. Blue Siren Band

National Night Out / 250th Celebration Wednesday, August 4th 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

MATTHEW CONNELLY
FISCAL OFFICER

GREG CIZMAR, CHAIRPERSON