



**GERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

The meeting was held at the German Township Hall located at 12102 St. Rt. 725 West, Germantown, OH 45327 and virtually using WebEx.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Dr. Mark Cross at 7:00 pm. In attendance were:

President Dr. Mark Cross	Vice-President Jacob Stubbs	Trustee Louis Potter
Fiscal Officer Mark Heistand	Police Chief Shane Birch	Road Admin. Jeremy Holbrook
	Zoning Inspector Shauna Close	

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
Deb Cross	7444 S. Stiver Road	David Gehron	14239 Kiefer Road
Tom Tiller	15691 State Route 725	Ken & Jean Evanchuck	7640 Conservancy Rd
Jon Vincent	12706 Pritchard Road	Mark Keener	7865 Jamaica Road

ONLINE ATTENDEES:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Name</i>
None			

The Germantown Press was notified of the Regular Meeting on 11/4/24 at 1:50 pm.

Dr. Cross led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLUTION REGARDING KEN AND JEAN EVANCHUCK:

- Mr. Stubbs introduced **RESOLUTION 2024-67**, seconded by Dr. Cross: **A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK KEN AND JEAN EVANCHUCK FOR NINE YEARS AND OVER THIRTEEN YEARS RESPECTIVELY OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO GERMAN TOWNSHIP AND FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BETTERMENT OF THE GERMAN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY WHILE PERFORMING AS GERMAN TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) MEMBERS AS WELL AS THREE YEARS AS CO-COORDINATORS.** The roll was taken and the adoption vote was as follows: Dr. Cross-Yes; Mr. Stubbs-Yes; Mr. Potter-Yes. **RESOLUTION 2024-67 WAS ADOPTED.**
 - The Evanchucks were congratulated by Mr. Stubbs and Chief Birch, received applause from those in attendance, and photos were taken.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

- Dr. Cross noted that Joe Garrett from Trebel Energy had indicated that he would attend the meeting to discuss natural gas aggregation and provide an update on electric aggregation in 2025. However, Mr. Garrett was not in attendance.
- **Tom Tiller, 15691 State Route 725:** Mr. Tiller requested use of the Township Hall Meeting Room to hold a community meeting. The purpose of the meeting would be to discuss a petition from Township residents who reside in the Preble Shawnee school district requesting that they be reassigned to the Valley View district. The Trustees agreed to the request. The meeting was scheduled for 12/11/24 at 7:00 pm, immediately following the Valley View Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) Board of Directors.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

- Mr. Heistand submitted minutes for the 10/15/24 Regular Meeting. Dr. Cross made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Potter, to approve the minutes as presented. The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote.
- He presented the October Financial Reports: (1) 10/31/24 Fund Status; (2) YTD 10/31/24 Cash Summary by Fund; (3) Month of October 2024 Cash Summary by Fund; (4) October 2024 Receipt Listing; and (5) October 2024 Payment Listing. He noted the following items:
 - Receipt #2024-275 for \$84,859.54 from the State of Ohio was the second half homestead and rollback payment. He noted that he had not yet remitted the appropriate tax payments to the City of Germantown, but would do so later that month.
 - Warrant #50803 for \$5,000.00 to Randy King was for tuck pointing and painting of the Township Hall exterior, paid using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.
- Dr. Cross made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Stubbs, to approve the October financial reports and authorize the payment of October bills (warrants 50799 through 50803 and vouchers 825 through 906 for payroll direct deposit, payroll tax withholdings and other electronic payments). The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Heistand noted that each year the Trustees approve disbursements from the General Fund for a December Appreciation Lunch for Township employees. Dr. Cross introduced **RESOLUTION 2024-68**, seconded by Mr. Potter: **A RESOLUTION APPROVING EXPENDITURES FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR AN APPRECIATION LUNCH FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF GERMAN TOWNSHIP ON A DATE TO BE DETERMINED BY THE EMPLOYEES.** The roll was taken and the adoption vote was as follows: Dr. Cross-Yes; Mr. Stubbs-Yes; Mr. Potter-Yes. **RESOLUTION 2024-68 WAS ADOPTED.**
- Mr. Heistand noted that each year the Trustees authorize the County Auditor to advance real estate taxes prior to their actual collection. Dr. Cross introduced **RESOLUTION 2024-69**, seconded by Mr. Stubbs: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE TO ADVANCE THE MAXIMUM AVAILABLE AMOUNTS OF REAL ESTATE TAXES, PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES AND FINES ON A MONTHLY BASIS DURING 2025.** The roll was taken and the adoption vote was as follows: Dr. Cross-Yes; Mr. Stubbs-Yes; Mr. Potter-Yes. **RESOLUTION 2024-69 WAS ADOPTED.**
- Mr. Heistand noted that at the October meeting the Trustees asked him to prepare the standard American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Resolution to use the remaining ARPA funds to help pay for the new dump truck. He stated that, after deducting unpaid obligations of \$27,643.25 and \$2,360.50 related to the police radios, remaining ARPA funds were \$8,303.51.
 - Dr. Cross introduced **RESOLUTION 2024-70**, seconded by Mr. Potter: **A RESOLUTION TO USE THE REMAINING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS, ESTIMATED AT \$8,303.51, TO ASSIST IN THE PURCHASE OF A NEW DUMP TRUCK FOR THE TOWNSHIP.** The roll was

taken and the adoption vote was as follows: Dr. Cross-Yes; Mr. Stubbs-Yes; Mr. Potter-Yes. **RESOLUTION 2024-70 WAS ADOPTED.**

- Mr. Holbrook thanked the Trustees for approving use of the funds for the dump truck.
- Mr. Heistand reported that to assist the departments in preparing their 2025 budgets, he would provide the Police and Road Departments year-to-date analyses of spending by account number along with an estimate of total year spending and estimated year-end fund balances. Concerning 2025 budgets, he noted that Acrisure (formerly known as Burnham & Flower) informed the Township that Delta Dental would increase 2025 dental plan rates by 13.5%.
- The Trustees scheduled the Year-End Special Meeting to review budgets and other items for 12/30/24 at 7:00 pm. The 2025 Organizational Meeting will be held on 1/2/25 at 7:00 pm.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Chief Birch reviewed the Department's October statistics.
- He reported that on 10/26/24 his department performed a Saturation Patrol looking for drivers operating vehicles while intoxicated. All department cruisers were on patrol. Several stops were made with two citations written.
- He stated that during the saturation period, on one of the traffic stops, a vehicle backed into the front of the cruiser causing catastrophic damage to the push bumper. A traffic crash report was taken by Ohio State Patrol. The driver's insurance will pay to repair the cruiser.
- He reported that a second cruiser hit a deer on 11/5/24 on State Route 725 at Creek Road, causing functional damage. A report was taken by Ohio State Patrol. An insurance claim has been filed.
- He stated that the department's new cruiser was received on 11/6/24 from Montrose Ford. The cost was \$45,185 using the state bid contract. (The most recent two cruisers purchased in 2021 from Lebanon Ford cost \$31,569 each.) The locks were updated on 11/11/24; upfitting and striping will be completed by the end of the month. He noted that upfitting will be performed by Safety Systems of Richmond, Indiana at a cost of \$9,840. This cost was \$4,000 lower than a quote from K.E. Rose Company, who handled past cruiser upfitting. The total cost of the new cruiser will be \$56,625, lower than \$65,000 budgeted back in January. He reported that the old K9 cruiser will be placed on GovDeals.com in early 2025. He hoped that it would sell for at least \$10,000.
- He noted that Valley View Schools will move into their new K-12 facility on 12/2/24. Officer Marsden will continue as a School Resource Officer (SRO) at the new building, with a second SRO provided by G2G Security Solutions of Dayton using a retired police officer.

ROAD/SERVICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Mr. Holbrook noted that the Trustees approved a Resolution at the August meeting to switch the Township's internet and phone provider from Spectrum to TSC. After more research, he learned that the switch was going to cost more than the Township was currently paying because of additional equipment that would need to be purchased as well as options that were required to make the SIP trunk phone system work. Following conversations with the Police Department, it was decided to stay with Spectrum due to the cheaper cost. He asked the Trustees to rescind the previous Resolution and pass a new Resolution to allow him to sign a new Spectrum contract.
 - Dr. Cross introduced **RESOLUTION 2024-71**, seconded by Mr. Stubbs: **A RESOLUTION TO RESCIND RESOLUTION 2024-56 AND AUTHORIZE JEREMY HOLBROOK TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO CONTINUE INTERNET AND PHONE SERVICE WITH SPECTRUM.** The roll was taken and the adoption vote was as follows: Dr. Cross-Yes; Mr. Stubbs-Yes; Mr. Potter-Yes. **RESOLUTION 2024-71 WAS ADOPTED.**

- The Trustees discussed problems that residents using TSC phone service are having when calling the 911 emergency number. No action was taken.
- Mr. Holbrook reported that Randy King had completed the grouting and repainting of the exterior sides and back of the Township Hall. He felt that Mr. King did an exceptional job, going above the original contract at no additional cost.
- He reported that he and Scott Hamilton caulked the exterior joints between the Township Hall and the sidewalks to reduce the possibility of water infiltration.
- He noted that the dump truck was delivered by Rush Truck Center to Gledhill Road Machinery for upfitting. As it won't be received by the Township prior to the start of bad weather, he and Mr. Hamilton have prepped the old dump truck (as well as their other equipment) for winter.
- In appreciation for the City of Germantown loaning the Township the City's hot asphalt box, he and Mr. Hamilton trimmed the City's tree lines during the past month.

ZONING & TRASH DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Ms. Close issued two permits in October: (1) new residential construction on State Route 725 to replace a fire-damaged house; and (2) a church addition on Dayton-Germantown Pike.

TRUSTEE POTTER'S REPORT:

- Mr. Potter reported that while in Germantown City Hall on 11/6/24 he was asked to join a meeting with City Manager Judy Gilleland, Deputy Finance Director Randy Stiver, Finance Director Pat Shively and Fire Chief Dan Allred who were discussing the defeat of the 4.0 mill Fire/EMS Levy the previous day. They asked him if the Township would support putting the same levy on the May 2025 primary ballot. He told them that he felt the Trustees want to support the levy, but were concerned that a 4.0 mill levy wouldn't pass. Several different options were discussed, including the need to establish a committee to promote any levy proposed in the future.
- Ms. Gilleland asked him about a potential City/Township Fund to support creek maintenance. He informed her that the Township had applied for a grant involving a Township match to reverse erosion problems along Little Twin Creek. If the grant is awarded, he told her that the Township would not be able to set aside funds for future creek maintenance during 2025. He suggested to her that each jurisdiction use their \$30,000 State grant funds that reimbursed for the 2024 Twin Creek erosion project to establish a creek maintenance fund. He was told that the City had created the fund and would budget \$10,000 for the fund starting in 2025.
- He reported that seven boulders had been set at the MMI Park as memorials for Miami Military Institute cadets who were killed in action. He created 4'x3' treated lumber platforms to mount the seven benches for the memorial. These platforms are temporary, with concrete pads planned for the future. He noted that six of the seven benches have been received and mounted.
- He reported that Christmas in the Park will be on 12/14/24 with a Santa and Horse Parade, followed by Santa and Mrs. Claus greeting children in the Veterans Park Depot.
- He attended the District 4 Ohio Public Works Integrating Committee meeting on 11/6/24 with Ron Wine of Channel Maintenance Systems to present the Little Twin Creek erosion grant application. After their presentation the Committee raised the project score by two points in one category and four points in the safety category. Grant decisions will be made on 12/4/24.
- He reported that the Pool Board/Pool Oversight Committee did not meet during the past month.

TRUSTEE STUBBS' REPORT:

- Mr. Stubbs noted that the Cemetery Board will meet on 11/13/24. He stated that several students helped at the cemetery as part of Valley View's Focus on the Future Day on 11/5/24

- He reported that he was told by a Five Rivers Metro Parks representative that if their levy passed on 11/5/24, which occurred, they would be interested in taking ownership of Old Mill Road.
 - Mr. Holbrook stated that Montgomery County wouldn't allow the Township to vacate the road, but the Trustees could ask the County Commissioners to allow the Township to discontinue maintenance of the road. He questioned whether the Miami Conservancy District would allow the road to be vacated (even if all the parcels were combined) since the road acts as a dam overflow spillway.
 - Mr. Stubbs stated that Chief Birch asked the Metro Parks to mow twenty feet back from the road along Boomershine Road and State Route 123/Carlisle Pike.

TRUSTEE CROSS' REPORT:

- Dr. Cross attended the 11/4/24 Germantown Council meeting. There was some discussion concerning the Fire/EMS Levy including going online to determine what the levy would cost a particular property. There was no discussion concerning future plans if the levy failed.
- He planned to contact Joe Garrett from Trebel to reschedule his attendance at a future meeting.
- He noted that the State is considering installing a traffic light at the corner of State Route 725 and Jamaica Road. He stated that residents can submit public comments on the Ohio Department of Transportation website.
- He discussed an article in the November/December 2024 issue of the Ohio Township News magazine entitled "DOJ Sets Deadlines for Web and Mobile App Accessibility." A new Department of Justice rule requires all governmental web content and mobile applications to be accessible to people with disabilities. He questioned if it is required for small townships. If so, he stated that it may be time to update the Township's entire website.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mr. Holbrook reported that two railroad crossing signs on Butter Street were recently stolen. New signs have been erected, which cost the Township \$400.
- Chief Birch announced that the Police Department's annual Santa Pancake Breakfast will be held from 9-11 am on 12/7/24 at the Township Hall. All Township residents are invited to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Mr. Potter asked about obtaining revised quotes for a digital sign in front of the Township Hall. Ms. Close reported that the requested quotes had not yet been received.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- With no further business, Mr. Stubbs made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Potter, to adjourn. The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote. The Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Signed: Mark Cross
Mark Cross, President, Board of Trustees

Attest: These minutes were approved by the Board of Trustees at the December 9, 2024 meeting.

Signed: Mark A. Heistand
Mark A. Heistand, Fiscal Officer