



GERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 10, 2025

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 Jacob Stubbs at 7:00 pm. In attendance were:

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

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES:

Name	Address	Name	Address
Abigail Hale-Dennis	13091 Oxford Road	Kurt Jacoby	12955 Harris Road
Robert Hale	9370 Germ-Midd Pk.	Camille & Sierra Adkins	19 Daniel Drive
Philip Isaac Morton	15090 Oxford Road	Darrell, Janet Anderson	10622 Eby Road
Karl Keith	Mont County Auditor	Kevin Stout	Auditor's Office

ONLINE ATTENDEES:

Name	Name	Name	Name
Ben	Sam	Good Citizen	Good Citizen II
dc			

The Germantown Press was notified of the Regular Meeting on 2/4/25 at 12:17pm.

Mr. Stubbs led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION:

- Montgomery County Auditor Karl Keith**, along with Executive Assistant to the Auditor Kevin Stout, presented Fiscal Officer Heistand with the Auditor's Office's 2025 Jesse Haines Award. Auditor Keith stated that the award honored "Mr. Heistand's commitment to excellence and integrity through his service as a government finance officer in Montgomery County, Ohio." Auditor Keith noted that the award is named for Jesse Haines, a Baseball Hall of Fame pitcher who was the longest-serving auditor in Montgomery County History. Mr. Heistand was nominated for the award by Trustee Stubbs. Mr. Heistand was presented with a plaque, he was congratulated by those present at the meeting, and ceremonial photos were taken.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

- **Darrell and Janet Anderson, 10622 Eby Road:** Mr. and Mrs. Anderson requested that the Trustees revoke a \$364 trash assessment for vacant property they own at 10640 Eby Road. The Trustees previously certified this amount to the County Auditor on 9/9/24 using Resolution 2024-61.
 - Mr. Stubbs introduced **RESOLUTION 2025-18**, seconded by Mr. Potter: **A RESOLUTION TO REVOKE ASSESSMENT OF A PROPERTY OWNER WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY DEEMED TO BE DELINQUENT AS TO WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICE CHARGES FOR PARCEL #D14-00912-0029 AT 10640 EBY ROAD.** The roll was taken and the adoption vote was as follows: Mr. Stubbs-Yes; Dr. Cross-Yes; Mr. Potter-Yes. **RESOLUTION 2025-18 WAS ADOPTED.**

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

- Mr. Heistand submitted minutes for the 1/13/25 Regular Meeting. Mr. Stubbs 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 January Financial Reports: (1) 1/31/25 Fund Status; (2) YTD 1/31/25 Cash Summary by Fund; (3) January 2025 Receipt Listing; and (4) January 2025 Payment Listing. He noted the following items:
 - Voucher #7-2025 for \$45,184.75 to Montrose Ford was the new 2025 Ford Explorer cruiser
 - During the month he transferred amounts from the General Fund, as approved in January:
 - i. \$8,000 to the Road & Bridge Fund (#2031) for 2025 maintenance of the Township Hall and rural cemeteries
 - ii. \$37,400, consisting of \$16,300 to the Police Fund (#2081), \$16,300 to the Gasoline Tax Fund (#2021), and \$4,800 to the Trash Fund (#2071) to help offset the allocation of Trustee and Fiscal Officer salaries to the funds.
 - iii. \$35,500, consisting of \$25,600 to the Police Fund (#2081), \$6,900 to the Road and Bridge Fund (#2031), and \$3,000 to the Road Levy Fund (#2141). The transfer approximated 2024 StarOhio interest that would have been earned by the funds had such earning been allowed by the State.
 - iv. The General Fund transfers totaled \$80,900.
- Mr. Stubbs made a MOTION, seconded by Dr. Cross, to approve the January financial reports and authorize the payment of January bills (warrants 50821 through 50828 and vouchers 1 through 95 for payroll direct deposit, tax withholdings and other electronic payments). The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Heistand completed the 2024 Annual Financial Report and submitted the financial statements and footnotes to the Ohio Auditor. A notice of the availability to review the Financial Report at the Township Hall was published in the Germantown Press on 2/6/25. A link to the Report is located on the home page of the Township's website. There is also a hyperlink on the website home page to access the Township's financial transactions on the Ohio Checkbook website.
- He filed the Trustee's Resolution approving placement of the 4.0 mill, 10-year Fire/EMS levy with the Board of Elections on 1/17/25. The levy has been accepted and the ballot language was approved by the State. It is almost identical to the November 2024 levy, with the exception that this levy has a 10-year duration instead of being continuous.
- He noted that Mark Keener, treasurer of the Valley View Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) Board of Directors, gave him a copy of the JEDD's preliminary 2025 budget. It reflected estimated payments to the Township of \$44,660. When Mr. Heistand previously prepared the Township's 2025 General Fund budget, he estimated JEDD receipts at \$60,000.

- He reminded the Trustees that all Township web content and mobile applications will need to be complaint with new Department of Justice (DOJ) disability accessibility requirements by 4/26/27. He referred the Trustees to a Fact Sheet concerning the new DOJ rules that is available on the Civil Rights Division website.
 - Mr. Stubbs noted that the Cemetery is setting up a new website. He asked the developer to possibly help the Township with addressing the new DOJ accessibility requirements.
- He sent the County Auditor the Township's 2025 Certificate of the Total Amount from All Sources Available. The Auditor uses the Certificate to prepare the Township's 2025 Official Certificate of Estimated Resources.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Chief Birch reviewed the Department's January statistics.
- He reported that bids were received for a new 2025 Ford black unmarked police interceptor SUV. Montrose Ford in Fairlawn bid \$44,367 under the State contract. Lebanon Ford bid \$45,505. After several requests, Chapman Ford in Marysville did not submit a bid. Safety Systems will upfit the interior with lights, siren, and controller at a cost of \$4,411.93. The total cost will be \$48,778.93.
 - Mr. Stubbs introduced **RESOLUTION 2025-19**, seconded by Dr. Cross: **A RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE A 2025 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR SUV FROM MONTROSE FORD FOR \$44,367.00 AND UPFIT THE VEHICLE BY SAFETY SYSTEMS FOR \$4,411.93, FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$48,778.93.** The roll was taken and the adoption vote was as follows: Mr. Stubbs-Yes; Dr. Cross-Yes; Mr. Potter-Yes. **RESOLUTION 2025-19 WAS ADOPTED.**

ROAD & SERVICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Mr. Holbrook reported that he and Scott Hamilton had started cold patching potholes on Township roads. They salted the roads during recent ice/freezing rain events. After each event, they emptied the unused salt and washed both trucks.
- He reported that the newly-formed for-profit Ohio Township Association (OTA) Service Corporation has offered a free Amazon Business Prime account to all OTA Members. The Township currently pays \$139 per year for an individual Prime account. He planned to attend a 2/12/25 webinar on the new service. Mr. Stubbs noted that he attended a seminar at the OTA Winter Conference on the Amazon Business Prime offer and was told that the service would be free as long as the OTA continues its contract with Amazon.
- Mr. Holbrook reported that Brent Branham requested that the Township vacate an alley along his property in Sunbury. The alley is only a right of way, since half of the alley is already part of each lot along the alley. Mr. Holbrook suggested that the Trustees consider vacating all four alleys in the Sunbury subdivision. Mr. Stubbs asked Mr. Holbrook to reach out to the Prosecutor's office for assistance in drafting an appropriate Resolution.
- **Visitor Comment: Abigail Hale-Dennis, 13091 Oxford Road:** Ms. Hale-Dennis thanked Mr. Holbrook for the great work he and Mr. Hamilton do to clear Township roads during bad weather.
- Mr. Holbrook reported that earlier in the day Montgomery County closed a portion of Astoria Road between Mudlick and Harris Roads. The closure is due to a landslide along the west side of the road and may last up to a year. The County announced that Oxford and Harris Roads are the posted detour route. He asked the County to change the detour to Browns Run and Keister Roads due to road conditions along Harris. A discussion ensued whether "local traffic only" signs could be posted on each end of Harris should the County change the posted detour route.

ZONING & TRASH DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- Ms. Close issued a permit in December for an agricultural exempt barn on Preble County Line Rd.
- She reported that the 2/4/25 Zoning Commission (ZC) regular meeting was canceled due to illness.
- The Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a hearing on Case #2025-03V on 3/11/25. The case concerns parcels on Oxford Road that the owner wants to combine into one parcel.

TRUSTEE POTTER'S REPORT:

- Mr. Potter stated that the Parks Board canceled the 2/5/25 meeting due to weather conditions. The Pool Board was not scheduled to meet during January.
- He attended an MMI Park Committee meeting. The park entrance sign is finished and will be installed on the large boulder when the weather improves.
- He spent two days at the OTA Winter Conference, enjoyed the trade show, and thought the seminars he attended were beneficial.

TRUSTEE CROSS' REPORT:

- Dr. Cross attended two days of the OTA Winter Conference. He thanked Mr. Heistand for driving him to Columbus both days.
- He attended the 2/3/25 Germantown City Council meeting. Highlights included the following:
 - Two new restaurants will soon be opening: (1) Parkside Pizza has new owners; and (2) Les Margaritas Mexican Bar & Grill.
 - Council passed an emergency ordinance creating a Creek Bank Erosion Fund, to be funded with \$10,000 each year for creek maintenance.
 - Amanda Smith was hired as the City's Downtown Event Coordinator.
 - Phillip Isaac Morton was appointed to Parks Board, Steve Boeder was appointed to the Pool Board, and Rob Treiber was appointed to the Fire Oversight Committee. (Mr. Treiber was previously approved by the Trustees at the 12/30/25 meeting.)

TRUSTEE STUBBS' REPORT:

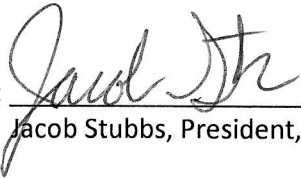
- Mr. Stubbs reported that the Cemetery Board is researching if they can be named an official America OH-250 entity to make them eligible for grants. If so, they would like to apply for funding to be used for monument cleaning in anticipation of higher visitor volume in 2026.
 - He discussed using D/2 as a headstone cleaner
 - The new Cemetery software system is still being designed. It includes a website and the ability to accept credit card payments. The acquisition cost is \$14-15,000.
 - Pat Tannreuther was hired as a part-time office employee.
- He noted, for the first time in many years, that all four Township elected officials attended the recent OTA Winter Conference. Also, in attendance were Ms. Close and ZC President Kurt Jacoby.
 - He met with Waste Management at the OTA trade show. He reported that they use an automated pickup and require all residents to use a container provided by the company.
- He reported on HB 315, passed by the Legislature in December 2024, that take effect on 4/2/25. It was first introduced by Representative Thomas Hall (a former Madison Township Trustee) and recently retired Representative Bill Seitz. A provision in the bill will allow townships to post Public Notices on the township website and social media accounts in lieu of publishing in a newspaper. The bill also added the ability of township zoning departments to impose civil fines.
 - **Visitor Comment: Kurt Jacoby, 12955 Harris Road:** Mr. Jacoby discussed how HB 315 affects a township's ability to revoke conditional use permits for surface mining.

- Mr. Stubbs discussed that February 1 is annually celebrated as Ohio Township Day. He reported that townships represent over 35% of Ohio's population, but account for only 2.7% of the total spent on local and state government in Ohio. Townships are one of the most efficient forms of government. In addition, Ohio townships maintain more miles of road than the Ohio Department of Transportation.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- With no further business, Mr. Stubbs made a MOTION, seconded by Dr. Cross, to adjourn. The MOTION WAS APPROVED by a unanimous voice vote. The Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

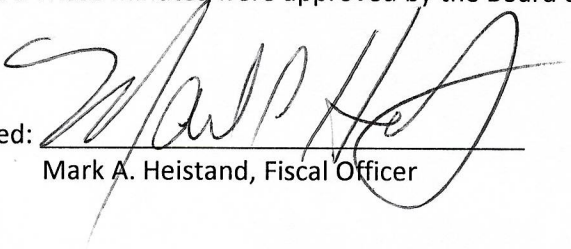
Signed: _____



Jacob Stubbs, President, Board of Trustees

Attest: These minutes were approved by the Board of Trustees at the March 10, 2025 meeting.

Signed: _____



Mark A. Heistand, Fiscal Officer