

SMITH TOWNSHIP REGUALR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026
AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE

THIRD REGULAR MEETING OF THE SMITH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance, led by Fiscal Officer, Audrey Fox.

Call meeting to order

Roll call:

Mr. Showalter	Present	_____	Excused	<u> X </u>
Mr. Criss	Present	<u> X </u>	Excused	_____
Mr. Barnett	Present	<u> X </u>	Excused	_____

Adopt Agenda

1. Motion to adopt monthly meeting agenda. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
Yes No Mr. Showalter

Approve Monthly Minutes

2. Motion to approve the February 3, 2026 Regular meeting minutes. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
Yes No Mr. Showalter

Citizens' Comments

Patrick T. Ginnetti discussed and gave a presentation about the benefits of the .25% sales tax in Mahoning County initiated strictly for the use of road repairs in Mahoning County. He showed the roads that have been paved in the Township with the additional revenue which would not have been possible without the sales tax increase. Thirty-five to forty percent of the sales tax revenue comes form consumers who live outside of the County. The Gas Tax collected by the State is distributed evenly to the counties regardless of the number of roads. Mahoning County ranks 4th in the State for number of roads but receives the same as counties with fewer roads and the .25% sales tax is one of the only ways to make up for the limited funding by the State. **The sales tax renewal will be on the ballot in May 2026.**

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Craig Brown, NOPEC Relationship Manager, introduced himself to the Trustees and residents present as the NOPEC contact for Smith Township residents and gave his contact information to the Trustees.

Martie & John Kinemond offered to sand and seal the picnic tables in the pavilion at North Benton Park if the Township will cover the cost of the sealant. The Trustees agreed to allow them to do that. Mark Finamore sent to the Township a contract for volunteer labor which will be presented at the next meeting.

Hope Crow asked the status of the dilapidated house located at 22462 Norman Ave. The house has been inspected by the Fire Chief and declared unsafe for habitation. Peggy Christy, Zoning/Nuisance Inspector, will update the file and determine if it is on the Mahoning County Land Bank list for removal.

Approve Financial Reports

3. Motion to approve the Financial Report, and EFTs and Warrants for the month of February 2026 in the amount of \$80,388.43. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- Yes No Mr. Showalter

The February 2026 bank statement is in balance and was reviewed by the Trustees.
The February 2026 VISA statements have been reviewed by the Trustees.

Trustee and Fiscal Officer Report
Issues Discussed:

4. Motion to approve the use of the baseball field at Maple Ridge Park by the Sebring-West Branch Baseball League pending sufficient Liability insurance and disclaimers.

Moved by Mr. Criss

Seconded by Mr. Barnett

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- Yes No Mr. Showalter

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- 5. 2026-0310-01 Resolution** that Smith Township Trustees hereby resolve to pass a resolution authorizing all actions necessary to accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) 2026 energized community grant. See attached. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- | | | | |
|---|-----|----|---------------|
| ✓ | Yes | No | Mr. Barnett |
| ✓ | Yes | No | Mr. Criss |
| | Yes | No | Mr. Showalter |

Other:

- American Legion Post 76 Easter Egg hunt donation of \$100.00 approved
- New Hope Church of God on Oak St. Easter Egg Hunt donation of \$100.00 approved

Road Report

Bruce Betz, Road Foreman, present and presented the report for the month of February 2026:

Road Report Feb 2026

Annual service on John Deere 5410 Tractor
Install rain cap on the John Deere exhaust pipe
Replace the stop sign onto pole at the NE corner of Alden and Price
Assist Sebring Water Dept locating water main break
Grease snowplow
Meet with Steve Bench Elec. For replacement heaters in shop office and bathroom.
Remove metal locker from PD and cut back snow piles for better visibility.
Plow, scrape and salt entire route
Remove utility room door and install onto office doorway.
Push drifts back on Saturday and Sunday.
Dump off salt International and F550, Out of Water.
Remove plows.
Remove snow from the water well head for Tom Davison.
Mount new key box at PD for Paul.
Check roads for holes, load 550 with HPM park in shop to warm.
Meet with Steve Bench to install heaters and Tom Davison for water issues at the shop.
HPM on Lexington and NBW.
Start Air Compressor maintenance.
Sweep, Degrease, Pressure Wash garage floors.
Pick up free lumber from MAC Trailer Salem.
Clean and organize more of the shop, unload lumber.
Ditching on Oyster, South of NBW at Billy's area
Replace backup alarm on F550
Load 15in pipe onto trailer for Oak St job.

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Back drag with loader the shop lot and push up ditch dirt.

Larry is a Grandpa again.

Install 80ft of 12in DWP at address 22878 SNW, Homeowner owned pipe.

Unlock NBP garage for David Igo to remove Christmas light display.

Driveway culvert replacement at 22965 SNW 30ft, 12in DWP as ditch water was running over pipe onto the road. Homeowner paid for pipe.

Pressure wash IH and 550 from pipe install and ditch cleaning.

Remove tree from roadway on Oyster, North of Middletown. Notified by Cody Heck at County Garage.

Salt all Twp Roads.

Remove and replace cutting edges on road drag

4 Ton of grindings on Price St

Pick up and dispose of dead deer on NBW notified by Admin Office.

Fill holes with HPM on Oak St, Monroe at Center St, Francis, Alden Ext, Richards at Lake Park Blvd, Violet, Thompson, RxR St, Front St, Stanley and Jersey St.

4 New Hi-Vis 35MPH signs on Lexington Rd.

Road Drag Martin Rd and ditching with ditching head Case.

4 Ton Grindings.

4 Ton HPM

76.7 Gal. Gas

133.3 Gal. Diesel

- 6. Resolution 2026-0310-02** Be it resolved that the Smith Township Trustees authorize the written agreement between Smith Township and ODOT to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation's annual road salt bid of 150 tons for 2026-2027 salt season in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5513.01(B) and agree to the terms of the contract. Passed

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

✓	Yes	No	Mr. Barnett
✓	Yes	No	Mr. Criss
	Yes	No	Mr. Showalter

Police Report

Chief Paul Ceresna was present and reported the Statistics for the month of February 2026:

81 – Incident Reports

5 – Accidents

41 – Citations

92 – Traffic Stops

343 – Business Checks

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Fire Report

No Report Given.

Zoning Report

Peggy Christy, Zoning/Nuisance Property Inspector, present and presented the February 2026 report:

- Satisfied requests for zoning classifications for: 19955 North Benton West Rd.
22560 Harrisburg-Westville Rd.
1920 Smith Twp. Rd.,Sloven, PA
10175 Oyster Rd.
- Gathered documents from Health Dept. and Building Dept. for 20947 Alliance Sebring Rd.
- Compiled all necessary documents pertaining to the two properties on North Benton West Road that are being considered for the Mahoning County Land Bank to demo.
- Completed annual US Boundary and Annexation Survey
- Searched for record of buried fuel tanks at 20378 North Benton West Rd.
- Assigned address for Martin Rd.
- Fielded questioned re:
 - vacant lots that might be for sale through land bank.
 - modular home in unzoned area
 - renting a prebuilt storage building for habitation
 - permits for solar farm
 - permit for relocation permit-Alden Ave.

7. **Resolution 2026-0313-03** Be it resolved that the Smith Township Trustees authorize that the structures on North Benton West Rd., owners Vernon and Linda Lewis, Parcel Number: 161940002000 being previously inspected and declared insecure, unsafe, and structurally defective by the Fire Chief and/or Building Inspector and/or unfit for human habitation by the Health Department; be and hereby declared insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and/or unfit for human habitation and is ordered removed. Passed (see attached)

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- Yes No Mr. Showalter

Approve Reports

8. Motion to accept all reports. Passed.

Moved by Mr. Barnett

Seconded by Mr. Criss

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Roll Call Vote:

- ✓ Yes No Mr. Barnett
- ✓ Yes No Mr. Criss
- Yes No Mr. Showalter

Adjournment

Motion by Vice Chairman, Mr. Criss to adjourn meeting.
Next Regular Meeting is 7:00 p.m. April 7, 2026.

2026-0310-01

TOWNSHIP

**NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC)
ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM
(2026 NEC GRANT(S))**

RESOLUTION¹

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS
NECESSARY TO ACCEPT NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC
ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2026 ENERGIZED
COMMUNITY GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Township of SMITH , Ohio (the "GRANTEE") is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council ("NOPEC") and is eligible for one or more NOPEC Energized Community Grant(s) for 2026 ("NEC Grant(s)") as provided for in the NEC Grant Program guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the GRANTEE wishes to enter into a Grant Agreement with NOPEC, Inc. in substantially the form presented to this Board of Trustees to receive one or more NEC Grant(s); and

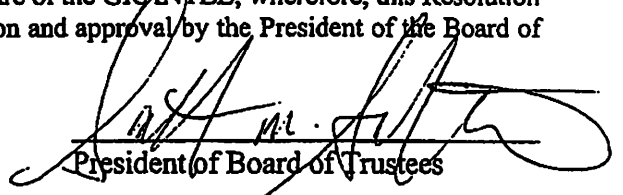
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SMITH TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF MAHONING, AND STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

SECTION 1. This Board of Trustees of the GRANTEE (the "Board") finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the GRANTEE to enter into the Grant Agreement to accept the NEC Grant(s) for 2026, and authorizes the FISCAL OFFICER (insert title) to execute the Grant Agreement to accept the NEC Grant(s) funds.

SECTION 2. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board and that all deliberations of this Board and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

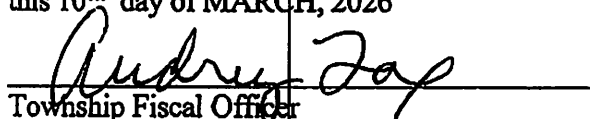
SECTION 3. This Resolution is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the GRANTEE; wherefore, this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the President of the Board of Trustees of the GRANTEE.

DATE ADOPTED: MARCH 10, 2026


President of Board of Trustees

Submitted to the Board for
Approval on this 10TH day of
MARCH, 2026

ATTEST:
this 10TH day of MARCH, 2026


Township Fiscal Officer

¹ NOTE THAT THIS IS A MODEL FORM. EACH TOWNSHIP (AND OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISION) MUST

ATTEST:

Audrey Fox

Fiscal Officer of the Board of Trustees

I, Audrey Fox, as Fiscal Officer of the Board of Trustees of Smith Township, County of Mahoning, State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2026-0310-01 adopted by the Board of Trustees of said Township on the 10th day of March, 2026.

Audrey Fox

ORC 505.86

**RESOLUTION DECLARING PROPERTY TO BE
INSECURE/STRUCTURALLY DEFECTIVE-ORDERING ABATEMENT**

RESOLUTION No. 2026-0310-03

BE IT RESOLVED, that the structure(s) on the following premise(s), being previously inspected and declared **insecure, unsafe, and structurally defective** by the Fire Chief and/or Building Inspector and/or **unfit for human habitation** by the Health Department; be and are hereby declared **insecure, unsafe, structurally defective and/or unfit for human habitation** and is (are) ordered removed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of this Board's Declaration of Nuisance and intention to **remove** said structure(s) be given in accordance with **Section 505.86 (B) O.R.C.**

List property address, auditor's parcel number:

Owners: Lewis Vernon M & Lewis Linda G

Parcel Number: 161940002000

Location: North Benton West Rd.

Moved Mr. Barnett Seconded Mr. Criss

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Barnett ✓yes ___no

Trustee Criss ✓yes ___no

Trustee Showatler ___yes ___no

{-Motion Failed}

Resolution Adopted this day 3-10-2026

Audrey Fox
Audrey Fox, Township Fiscal Officer

3-10-2026
Date