

The Board of Lake Township Trustees met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. at 12360 Market Avenue North, Hartville, Ohio. The meeting was open to the public with the following members present:

Jeremy Yoder, President
John Arnold, Vice President
Sue Grabowski, Member

Also Present:

Matt Erb	Jeremy Guenther
Sam Miller	Scott Julian
Cam Julian	Derek Shaffer
Kelly Robinson	Bill Robinson
Mike Lorentz	Eve Morgan
Curt Morgan	

Jeremy Yoder called the regular meeting to order.

25-424 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder to approve the Minutes for December 8, 2025, regular meeting as submitted. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder yes
John Arnold yes
Sue Grabowski yes

25-425 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing payment and processing of payroll for December 31, 2025. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder yes
John Arnold yes
Sue Grabowski yes

25-426 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing payment and processing of payroll for January 2, 2025. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder yes
John Arnold yes
Sue Grabowski yes

25-427 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder approving the Financial (Fund/Appropriation/Revenue Status and Cash Summary by Fund) Reports as December 22, 2025, reports will be attached to the minutes and made a part thereof. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder yes
John Arnold yes
Sue Grabowski yes

25-428 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing all EXPENDITURES as of December 22, 2025 in the amount of \$91,045.33 reports will be attached to the minutes and made a part thereof. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Brett Yeagley/Lake Local Schools – notice of January 8, 2026 *Community Leadership Meeting*
2. Lake Middle High School – parking permit fees distribution pursuant to Agreement
3. Charter Communications – franchise fee distribution
4. Ramsburg Insurance – announcement of Chris Ramsburg retirement
5. ProTech Security – notice of change in rate for monitoring fees
6. Stark County Regional Planning Commission – Approval letter for the Lake Township Community Park / Pickleball Courts
7. Ohio Department of Administrative Services – weekly new and amended State of Ohio Procurement Contracts
8. Stark Economic Development Board – notice of December 11th quarterly meeting
9. Stark Soil & Water Conservation District – correspondence regarding Lake Highlands Project; Hartville Fish Pantry; Oldestone Crossing 3 & 4
10. NOPEC – informational document providing overview of NOPEC’s Electric Aggregation Program
11. Uniontown Lions Club – invitation to attend the March 11th Lions Club meeting
12. NEFCO – Tentative Agenda of the *Regular Meeting of the General Policy Board* on December 17th
13. SCOG – reminder of new meeting date and meeting location
14. Monica Jeremiah -- thank you for finding a solution for all parties regarding the St. Ives soccer fields
15. Rik Smith – Carl Street property concerns
16. Jennifer McKeever – The Green Mile ... questions as to whether there are plans to address icy conditions on the trail

In reference to the following correspondences

No. 6 - Trustee Yoder noted that RPC has finally approved the pickleball courts, so we will be on schedule for first thing in the spring.

No. 13 – Trustee Arnold attended this meeting. He explained SCOG stands for Stark Council of Government and is responsible for the Stark County Crime lab and radio dispatching.

No. 15 - Trustee Yoder noted there are some things in motion.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department

- None

Road Department

- None

Zoning Department

- None

Fire Departments/Fire Prevention Office

- None

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

25-429 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder accepting the December 16, 2025 Estimate No. 5842 from Pauli Electric, Inc., and authorizing an expenditure in the amount of \$729.00 for the replacement of an existing electrical box at the Uniontown Police Department, located at 1635 Edison Street. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-430 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder accepting the November 10, 2025, Quote No. 00068887 and the November 21, 2025, Quote No. 00069077 from Vance's Law Enforcement, and authorizing a total expenditure of \$4,844.94 for the Police Department's purchase of Taser cartridges, batteries, and holsters. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-431 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder hiring Abigail Nicely-Bauer as a part-time reserve officer for the Uniontown Police Department, at an hourly rate of \$25.00 which is in accordance with the part-time officer pay scale adopted under Resolution No. 21-394 and amended April 15, 2025, under Resolution No. 25-140. Said hiring is pursuant to the provisions contained in Resolution No. 22-036, adopted January 3, 2022, and subject to all provisions of the Lake Township Trustees and the Lake Township Employee handbook. Employment for Ms. Nicely-Bauer is contingent upon the successful completion of both a psychological and polygraph examination, passing of a required drug test and passing of the Ohio Peace Officer State Certification Exam. The effective date of employment will be upon successful completion and passing of the aforementioned examinations and tests. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-432 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder accepting the December 18, 2025, Proposal from 415 Group for a two-year renewal of SonicWall Firewall services and authorizing a total expenditure of \$4,137.00 for the Administrative, Police, and Road Departments, as detailed in said proposal, as follows:

- Administrative Office: SonicWall TZ370 — \$1,555.00
- Police Department: SonicWall TZ370 — \$1,555.00
- Road Department: SonicWall TZ270 — \$1,027.00

Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-433 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder to open the Yard Waste Facility to cardholders, for disposal of live Christmas trees only, the following dates/times:

- Monday, December 29, 2025, through Friday, January 2, 2026:
7 a.m. – 7 p.m. each day
- Saturday, January 3, 2026, through Sunday, January 4, 2026:
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. each day
- Monday, January 5, 2026: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Christmas trees must have all decorations, including tinsel, removed prior to disposal.

The site will reopen for the 2026 season on Friday, April 3, 2026, and will continue for the 2026 Season each day as follows:

- Friday's: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

- Saturdays and Sunday's: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Monday's: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-434 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing an expenditure for registration and costs associated for the elected officials and certain township employees to attend the 2026 Ohio Township Association Winter Conference in Columbus. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-435 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing Lake Township's continued participation in the Ohio Township Association's Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships (CLOUD) and authorizing the Fiscal Officer to remit the \$200 annual membership fee. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-436 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder pursuant to O.R.C. 309.09, the Board of Lake Township Trustees accepts the December 8, 2025, Proposal/Agreement and retains the services of Eric. J. Williams and "The Law Office of Eric J. Williams, LLC," as additional legal counsel for Lake Township effective January 1, 2026, and continuing for the year 2026, at a rate of \$3,500/month, for a total of \$42,000.00 per year. The Board further resolves to continue the Client-Attorney Fee Agreement with Tonya J. Rogers, Esq., and the law firm of Baker, Dublikar, Beck, Wiley & Mathews, through December 31, 2025, at which time said Agreement will terminate. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-437 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing the Board and Fiscal Officer to execute the following Road Open Permits:

- D-25-29: Enbridge Gas Ohio, 11540 Basswood Ave. NW (long side service line)

Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-438 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing the Board to execute the following Cemetery Deeds:

- Mt. Peace Cemetery – Section 3, Lot 12, Grave 4
- Mt. Peace Cemetery – Section 3, Lot 12, Grave 5

Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-439 A resolution was made by Jeremy in lieu of an in-person Christmas luncheon event, the Board authorizes an expenditure to purchase gift cards from the Hartville Kitchen for the Lake Township employees and zoning board members. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-440 Trustee Arnold moved the adoption of the following resolution .

WHEREAS, the Lake Township Board of Trustees is a taxing authority empowered to submit a tax levy on its behalf, and for firefighting and related services within the Lake Township Fire District, within the meaning of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.01; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(I) authorizes the board of trustees of any township, to request that the question of a tax levy be submitted by the taxing authority to the electors of the Lake Township Fire District, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined the necessity for an additional tax levy to sustain firefighting and related services within the Lake Township Fire District, pursuant to the authority of R.C. 5705.19(I); and

WHEREAS, this Board intends to place the question of a two and one-half (2.5) mill additional levy on the May 5, 2026, Primary Election ballot, for a period of five (5) years, for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated

by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.03, requires this Board to request certification of the total current tax valuation of the Lake Township Fire District and the total amount of revenue that would be generated by the requested levy.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees that:

1. The Board intends to initiate proceedings for the submission to the electors of Lake Township (Stark County, Ohio), at the Primary Election to be held May 5, 2026, the question of an additional tax levy for operating expenses of providing firefighting and related services within the Lake Township Fire District, within the meaning of R.C. 5705.19(I), for a period of five (5) years.
2. It is necessary to assess a tax, for a period of five (5) years, for the provision of firefighting and related expenses within the Lake Township Fire District, namely:

An additional tax for the benefit of the Lake Township Fire District for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs; that the county auditor estimates will collect \$[TBD by Auditor] annually, at a rate not exceeding two and one-half (2.5) mill for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$[TBD by Auditor] for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for five (5) years, commencing in 2026, first due in calendar year 2027.

3. The Stark County Auditor is hereby requested to certify the current tax valuation of the Lake Township Fire District, the levy's rate, expressed in dollars, rounded to the nearest dollar, for each one hundred thousand dollars of the county auditor's appraised value, the dollar amount of revenue, rounded to the nearest dollar, that would be generated by the specified number of mills for each one dollar of taxable value, and an estimate of the levy's annual collections, rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars, which shall be calculated assuming that the amount of the tax list of the taxing authority remains throughout the life of the



levy the same as the amount of the tax list for the current year, and if this is not determined, the estimated amount submitted by the auditor to the county budget commission.

4. The Fiscal Officer is directed to deliver a certified copy of this Resolution to the Stark County Auditor.

Seconded by Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-441 Trustee Grabowski motioned the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the Lake Township Board of Trustees is a taxing authority empowered to submit a tax levy on its behalf, and for firefighting and related services within the Lake Township Fire District, within the meaning of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.01; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(I) authorizes the board of trustees of any township, to request that the question of a tax levy be submitted by the taxing authority to the electors of the Lake Township Fire District, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined the necessity for an additional tax levy to sustain firefighting and related services within the Lake Township Fire District, pursuant to the authority of R.C. 5705.19(I); and

WHEREAS, this Board intends to place the question of a two and three-quarters (2.75) mill additional levy on the May 5, 2026, Primary Election ballot, for a period of five (5) years, for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.03, requires this Board to request certification of the total current tax valuation of the Lake Township Fire District and the total amount of revenue that would be generated by the requested levy.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees that:

1. The Board intends to initiate proceedings for the submission to the electors of Lake Township (Stark County, Ohio), at the Primary Election to be held May 5, 2026, the question of an additional tax levy for operating expenses of providing firefighting and related services within the Lake Township Fire District, within the meaning of R.C. 5705.19(I), for a period of five (5) years.

2. It is necessary to assess a tax, for a period of five (5) years, for the provision of firefighting and related expenses within the Lake Township Fire District, namely:

An additional tax for the benefit of the Lake Township Fire District for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs; that the county auditor estimates will collect \$[TBD by Auditor] annually, at a rate not exceeding two and three-quarters (2.75) mill for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$[TBD by Auditor] for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for five (5) years, commencing in 2026, first due in calendar year 2027.

3. The Stark County Auditor is hereby requested to certify the current tax valuation of the Lake Township Fire District, the levy's rate, expressed in dollars, rounded to the nearest dollar, for each one hundred thousand dollars of the county auditor's appraised value, the dollar amount of revenue, rounded to the nearest dollar, that would be generated by the specified number of mills for each one dollar of taxable value, and an estimate of the levy's annual collections, rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars, which shall be calculated assuming that the amount of the tax list of the taxing authority remains throughout the life of the levy the same as the amount of the tax list for the current year, and if this is not determined, the estimated amount submitted by the auditor to the county budget commission.

4. The Fiscal Officer is directed to deliver a certified copy of this Resolution to the Stark County Auditor.

Seconded by Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

- 25-442 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder adopting the submitted job description for the Lake Township Zoning and Economic Development Administrator; further providing that a copy of the job description shall be attached to and made a part of these minutes; and authorizing the publication of the position to solicit applications for the vacancy.
Seconded by Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

- Trustee Yoder noted that 90% of the role will be zoning administration,

- 25-443 Trustee Yoder motioned the following resolution .

WHEREAS, R.C. 5553.045 authorizes the Board of Trustees to approve and submit a petition to vacate with the County Commissioners with respect to any segment of road which is not used by and not maintained for the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby Resolved as follows:

That the Board of Trustees hereby approves and adopts the “Petition to Vacate Roadway” for a segment of unimproved right-of-way, adjacent to Stark County Permanent Parcel Nos. 2014486 and 2014483 in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein. The board further authorizes the Fiscal Officer to provide a \$125.00 check, made payable to the Stark County Commissioners, to cover the processing fee for initiating the Sylvan Avenue right-of-way vacation.

Seconded by Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

MEETING REPORTS/MISCELLANEOUS

- Trustee Yoder met with the groups interested in developing the midway property for playing fields. We are willing to partner with them in as much as we can.
- He also met with Stark Park to talk about the legal process of making sure we have a good partnership with the Quail Hollow Connector Path. Stark Parks has received a grant to develop a trail from the Lake High School through Lake Township Park back across Woodland through some of the Gentlebrook Property to the Hartville Memorial Park.
- Construction should start sometime next year.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

25-444 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing the Board and Fiscal Officer to sign all Purchase Orders, Vouchers, and Reconciliations. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-445 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder accepting the 2026 Temporary Appropriations in the amount of \$9,302,323.38 and hereby acknowledging that a copy of which will be attached to and made a part of these minutes. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

PUBLIC SPEAKS

Kelly Robinson, 13510 Glenvale Ave, Uniontown: Ms. Robinson addressed the Board regarding Glenvale Ave. which is an undedicated road that used to be gravel and easy to maintain. In 2005 the county put in water and sewer and paved the road making it so they are unable to maintain it. She is asking the township to help maintain it as they do a portion of Oaklynn St which is also undedicated. The Board asked for her contact information and will follow up with her after speaking with the Road Superintendent.

Scott Julian, 13526 Glenvale Ave, Uniontown: Mr. Julian also expressed his concern regarding the condition of Glenvale Ave.

Eve Morgan, 9811 Bellhaven Ave, Uniontown: Ms. Morgan addressed the Board regarding the possible development of the Midway Property into playing fields. She is opposed to it.

- There will be no public speaks through the Facebook Live streaming; however, the Trustees still welcome your “public speaks” comments to be emailed to info@laketwpstarkco.com

25-446 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder convening an executive session at 5:33 p.m. pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee and to include the Trustees and Fiscal Officer. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-447 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder to return from executive session at 5:58 p.m. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-448 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing a 3% percent pay increase to all non-bargaining township employees beginning with the first full pay period in 2026. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-449 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder authorizing a one-time \$1,000.00 payment to Sophia Troyer, Steve Lacey, LaVonne Hays and Cindy Caufield to recognize their dedication and efforts during 2025 during the staffing shortage, payable by January 31, 2026. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

25-450 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

Jeremy Yoder	yes
John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes

Matt Erb, Fiscal Officer

Jeremy Yoder, President

John Arnold, Vice President

Sue Grabowski, Member
