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:

John Arnold, President
Jeremy Yoder, Member

Also Present:

Matt Erb
Tom Dwenger
Bev Green

Trustee Arnold opened the regular meeting.

26-337 A resolution was made by John Arnold correcting Resolution No. 26-302 adopted August 24, 2026, to reflect approval of the August 10, 2026 Regular Meeting instead of approval of the July 27, 2026 Regular Meeting Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-338 A resolution was made by John Arnold approving the minutes for the August 28, 2026 Special Meeting a submitted. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-339 A resolution was made by John Arnold approving the minutes for the September 14, 2026 Regular Meeting as submitted. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-340 A resolution was made by John Arnold authorizing payment and processing of payroll for September 30, 2026. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-341 A resolution was made by John Arnold authorizing payment and processing of payroll for October 9, 2026. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

____
____
____

26-342 A resolution was made by John Arnold approving the Financial (Fund/Appropriation/ Revenue Status and Cash Summary by Fund) Reports as September 28, 2026, reports will be attached to the minutes and made a part thereof. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-343 A resolution was made by John Arnold authorizing all EXPENDITURES as of September 28, 2026 in the amount of $119,965.52, reports will be attached to the minutes and made a part thereof Seconded by Sue Grabowski. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Kara Hale -- Public records request for police department roster and name of training coordinator.
2. Utility Services Group – Seeking right-of-way permitting procedure
3. Vision Telecommunications, Inc. – Notice of cancellation of bond
4. Stark Soil & Water Conservation District – MS4 training invitation
5. Sean Murphy – Inquiring as to the last date the yard waste facility is open for 2026.
6. Directing Administrator/National Opioid Official Settlement – Payment distribution information
7. Stark County Commissioners – Copy of Journal Entry withdrawing the Bixler Farm Annexation Petition
8. Stark Soil & Water Conservation District – Copies of correspondence regarding "The Farms at Enclave No. 2 & 3", Addison Lake and NC Soccer Club Midway Complex
9. Dave Resource Group, Inc. & Stark County Engineer's Office – Email thread regarding Addison Lake turn lane plans
10. State Employment Relations Board – Notice of SERB Academy December 1-2, 2026
11. Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company – Notice of Cancellation or Nonrenewal for Miller Pipeline, LLC
12. Stark County Regional Planning Commission – October 6, 2026 meeting notice.
13. The Hartville Lions Club – Invitation to the 80th Charter Anniversary celebration
14. Ramsburg Insurance – Reminder to RSVP for the October 2nd First Responders Appreciation Luncheon
15. Marilyn Dietz – Question about the date for trick-or-treating
16. Susan Poda – Question about the fall cleanup event
17. Quinten Coblentz – Inquiring about a sinkhole opening up (located with Village of Hartville)

____
____
____

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department

- None

Road Department

- None

Zoning Department

- None

Fire Departments/Fire Prevention Office

- None

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

26-344 A resolution was made by John Arnold authorizing the Board and Fiscal Officer to execute the following Road Open Permits:

- O-26-16: Custom Utilicom – 847 Marigold St. (underground replacement of coax)
- O-26-17: Custom Utilicom – 11580 Holbrook Ave. (underground replacement of coax)
- O-26-18: Custom Utilicom – Highland Park (underground new build of coax)
- O-26-19: Bontrager Excavating – 12296 Mogadore Ave. (tap water main)
- O-26-20: Bontrager Excavating – 12272 Mogadore Ave. (tap water main)
- O-26-21: Bontrager Excavating – 12210 Mogadore Ave. (tap water main)
- O-26-22: Bontrager Excavating – 12228 Mogadore Ave. (tap water main)
- O-26-23: Bontrager Excavating – 12244 Mogadore Ave. (tap water main)
- O-26-24: AT&T – Kennedy, Rich, Kinross, Burberry, and Abigail (fiber optic upgrade)
- O-26-25: AT&T – Hampshire and Bruton Church (new fiber optic overbuild)
- O-26-26: Bright Speed – Mogadore Avenue (relocate existing fiber)

Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

____
____
____

26-345 A resolution was made by John Arnold authorizing the Fiscal Officer to release the bond for the following Road Open Permits:

- E-26-03: Miller Pipeline LLC, for work performed at 11694 Geib Ave.
- E-26-02: Miller Pipeline LLC, for work performed at 11410 Geib Ave.
- O-24-06: Bontrager Excavating, for work performed on Lake Center Street
- O-26-08: Bontrager Excavating, for work performed on Mogadore Avenue
- O-25-15: Bontrager Excavating for work performed on Legacy & Mogadore

Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

26-346 A resolution was made by John Arnold authorizing the Board to execute the following cemetery deeds:

- Mt. Peace Cemetery – Section 3, Lot 2, Graves 1 & 2
- Uniontown Greenlawn Cemetery – Section P, Lot 2, Grave 3

Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

- Trustee Arnold noted that we are going to investigate opening a new section at Mt. Peace cemetery.

26-347 A resolution was made by John Arnold approving the Change Order Proposal submitted September 22, 2026, by C. Tucker Cope for the *Road Department Equipment Storage Building* Project for the following additional electrical work:

- Installation of the primary electrical service by directional drilling beneath the existing parking lot, including an additional 2-inch spare conduit, at a cost of $14,010.00.

The Board further resolves that the Road Department is authorized to expend an amount not to exceed $14,010.00 for the approved Change Order and authorizes the Board President to execute any necessary documents. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

26-348 A resolution was made by John Arnold accepting the September 23, 2026 proposal submitted by Barbicas Construction Company in the amount of $40,411.00 for improvements to the handicapped parking area at Lake Township Community Park. The Board further resolves and acknowledges that this amount will be split 50/50 with Lake Local Schools. The expenditure of the necessary funds will be reimbursed by half to the Township's General Fund by Lake Local Schools. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

- The Board noted this will be completed soon and will also address a drainage issue. They thanked the schools for sharing the cost.

26-349 A resolution was made by John Arnold hiring Alexander Thomas as a part-time Reserve Police Officer with the Uniontown Police Department at an hourly rate of $25.00, in accordance with the part-time pay scale adopted under Resolution No. 21-394 and amended by Resolution No. 25-140 on April 15, 2025.

Said employment shall be pursuant to Resolution No. 22-036, adopted January 3, 2022, and subject to all applicable provisions of the Lake Township Trustees and the Lake Township Employee Handbook.

Mr. Thomas's employment is contingent upon successfully completing a psychological examination, polygraph examination, required drug test, and background investigation. His effective date of employment shall be upon successful completion of all required examinations, testing, and the background investigation. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

26-350 A resolution was made by Jeremy Yoder pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87, and based on, in part, from information and photos provided by the Zoning Administrator, the Board has determined that a nuisance **does** exist at **10168 Hunting Hills Avenue NE, Hartville,** due to, but not limited to **the owner's (Kevin Doherty) maintenance of vegetation, garbage, refuse and other debris.**

Further resolving that the owner of such premises is hereby ORDERED to abate, control and remove the vegetation, garbage, refuse and other debris from said premises within seven (7) days after receipt of certified "Notice to Abate Nuisance".

If such vegetation, garbage, refuse, and other debris is not abated, controlled, or removed within seven (7) days, this board will provide for such abatement and/or control of vegetation, debris, refuse, and garbage. Any expenses so incurred by this Board will be entered upon the tax duplicate and will be a lien upon the land from the date of entry.

____
____
____

The property owner may contact this Board within seven (7) days and enter into an agreement with said Board providing for either party to the agreement to perform the abatement, control, or removal.. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-351 A resolution was made by John Arnold approving the registration fee of $110.00 for Steve Lacey to attend the State of Ohio Auditor Training Session. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-352 A resolution was made by John Arnold acknowledging the termination of employment of Rigo Ibarra Chavez, with his last day of work being September 24, 2026. The Board further resolves that Mr. Chavez's services are no longer needed by the Township and authorizes the appropriate Township officials to take any necessary administrative action related to the termination of his employment. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-353 A resolution was made by John Arnold approving the Agreement between Lake Township and the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) for the Lake Township Economic Development Study, including Lake Township's contribution of up to $2,900, and to authorize the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of Lake Township. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

26-354 A resolution was made by John Arnold accepting and executing the Temporary Access Agreement between ***Lake Township and Steven R. Cope and Laura L. Cope*** for access related to the removal of a tree located within an unimproved right-of-way behind 2944 Lancer Street NW, North Canton, Ohio. The Agreement is approved contingent upon acceptance and execution by the property owners.

The Board further accepts the August 24, 2026, Estimate No. 22305 from Haymaker Tree and Lawn, Inc. in the amount of $3,400.00 for removal of the tree.

Tree removal shall not commence until a fully executed Temporary Access Agreement has been completed by all parties.

The Board authorizes the necessary expenditure, not to exceed $3,400.00, from the Road Department funds for the tree removal. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

____
____
____

26-355 A resolution was made by John Arnold accepting the September 17, 2026, Estimate No. 116 from Wells Quality Excavating for snow/ice removal services for township property including township cemeteries and other township real property as specified in said estimate. The Board acknowledges that the proposal reflects an approximately 9.5% increase in price from the previous contract year, due to increased fuel expenses, material cost, fleet upkeep, and insurance premiums. The Board further resolves to accept the renewal and to execute the *2026-2027 Snow Plowing Agreement* commencing November 1, 2026, and continuing through April 30, 2027. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

26-356 A resolution was made by John Arnold approving the rate increases for the Tax Year 2026 Lighting Assessments, as presented. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

26-357 Trustee Yoder motioned the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Township Trustees has reviewed the current vacation leave schedule contained in the Lake Township Employee Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to replace the existing vacation leave schedule with an updated schedule based upon recognized years of service; and

WHEREAS, the provision allowing vacation during an employee's first year of employment will apply only to employees hired on or after the date this amendment was adopted; and

WHEREAS, the remainder of the updated schedule shall apply to current employees based solely upon their length of service with Lake Township and shall not include or recognize employment or years of service with any prior employer, unless previously determined by resolution or otherwise; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Township Trustees of Lake Township, Stark County, Ohio, that the vacation leave schedule in the Lake Township Employee Handbook is hereby amended to read as follows:

Recognized Service	**Annual Vacation**
Less than 3 years completed	80 hours
3 years completed but less than 10 years	120 hours
10 years completed but less than 20 years	160 hours

____
____
____

Recognized Service	Annual Vacation
20 years completed but less than 30 years	200 hours
30 years completed or more	240 hours

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that employees hired on or after the date this amendment was adopted shall be eligible for vacation during their first year of employment in accordance with the above schedule. This provision does not apply to employees hired prior to the date this amendment was adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other provisions of the Lake Township Employee Handbook relating to vacation leave shall remain unchanged.

Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

- The Board noted this is to keep up with today's modern times to attract talented applicants.

MEETING REPORTS/MISCELLANEOUS

- Trustee Yoder noted that Forever Lawn is doing the right thing and fixing the pickleball courts before they become a problem.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

26-358 A resolution was made by John Arnold authorizing the Board and Fiscal Officer to sign all Purchase Orders, Vouchers, and Reconciliations. Seconded by John Arnold. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold yes
Jeremy Yoder yes

PUBLIC SPEAKS

Bev Green, 125 Woodside St, Hartville.; Ms. Green addressed the Board representing the Hartville Lions Club. They are undertaking a Veteran's Banner Project. She would like the township's assistance with the hanging of the banners, obtaining the permission of First Energy to affix to poles and storage of the banners in the winter. They would like to start with St. Rt.619. The Trustees will have a conversation with the Road Superintendent and address at a future meeting.

____
____
____

- 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

26-359 A resolution was made by John Arnold adjourning the meeting at 5:26 p.m.. Seconded by Jeremy Yoder. Roll call votes were:

John Arnold	yes
Sue Grabowski	yes
Jeremy Yoder	yes

_____
Matt Erb, Fiscal Officer

_____
John Arnold, President

-absent-

_____
Sue Grabowski, Vice President

_____
Jeremy Yoder, Member