

AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP

MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO
82 OHLTOWN ROAD
AUSTINTOWN, OH 44515

REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 6, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Austintown Township was held Monday, April 6, 2026 at Town Hall, 82 Ohltown Road, Austintown, Ohio.

The meeting opened at 5:30 pm with a salute to the flag led by Chairperson Robert Santos.

Roll Call was as follows: Mrs. Deavers, present; Mr. Santos, present; and Mr. Shepas, present.

Mr. Santos introduced the Board Members, Department Heads, and Sergeant of Arms.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-01: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the Minutes of the March 16, 2026 Public Staff Meeting.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

NOPEC Representative, Ross McDonald, spoke in reference to the new electric aggregate contract.

- Ross encouraged residents to keep up on the changing rates for a more permanent rate.
- Austintown Township residents, that are part of the aggregate, are locked in at 8.99 for May-June-July 2026.
- There are no fees to enter or leave NOPEC, and the call center is very helpful.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Terlecki, 5600 Cider Mill Crossing:

- Complimented Trustees on meeting at the Senior Center. He was able to "lock-in" his electric rate @ \$8.49 for 12 months.

Mike Beaudis, 2604 Barrington Court:

- 4553 Barrington Court – Greenbrier Mall. Rhea Terlecki requesting Township to take over \$392.44 balance on account.

Lauren Zelts, 6401 Boulder Creek Drive:

- 505.08 Stormwater Emergency...5' x 8' wide 3-4' deep sinkhole. There is also the formation of a second sinkhole. Wants Township to authorize repair.

Jordan Pegues, 115 North Raccoon:

- Running for State Representative

Tom Wallace, 55 North Beverly Avenue:

- Corner of North Beverly and Yorkshire, the property is always wet. Also has an issue with drainage issues on North Raccoon Road.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Mr. D'Apolito has nothing new at this time.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

ROAD DEPARTMENT AND CEMETERY

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-02: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve ODOT Road Salt participation agreement for the 2026–2027 Winter season as per attached.

Mrs. Deavers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-03: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the Estimate from Z-Tech Builders & Excavators, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$35,500.00 for the Boulder Creek sink hole project.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-04: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Austintown Township Trustees, the Board of Mahoning County Commissioners and the Mahoning County Engineer regarding the application of the funds from the additional non-emergency ¼% sales and use tax for the repair, maintenance and improvements of roads, bridges and other infrastructure located in Mahoning County.

Mr. Santos seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-05: Motion by Mr. Shepas, pursuant to ORC 9.15, to certify that Rene Gavilla was an indigent person in that his income did not exceed one-hundred-fifty percent of the federal poverty line, as revised annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Mrs. Deavers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Delmont presented March monthly statistics for the Police Department and Communications Department.
- April 12-18, 2026 is designated as a week to honor Dispatchers.
- A grant application has been made to the Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Program, covering twenty-seven (27) bulletproof vests. The vests are good for five (5) years.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-06: Motion by Mr. Shepas to accept the letter of resignation from Dispatcher Danielle Yuhas, with her last day of work being April 6, 2026

Mrs. Deavers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-07: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the hiring of Lily Boylen, having passed her pre-employment screenings, with a start date of April 13, 2026.

Mr. Santos seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-08: Motion by Mr. Shepas to renew the Grant Writing position Memorandum of Understanding, with pay rate equal to, and increasing into the future with, the Patrolman-Step 3 Classification for the 2026–2028 Fraternal Order of Police Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mrs. Deavers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-09: Motion by Mr. Santos to approve an 'appreciation' donation of \$200.00 from Frederick Romeo.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Schertzer presented March monthly statistics for the Fire Department.
- Grant applications have been applied for:
 1. ODOT Ohio Drones for First Responders
 2. Ohio EMS Grant

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-10: Motion by Mr. Santos to accept an anonymous \$25,000.00 donation for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a Safe Haven Baby Box at Fire Station #1.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-11: Motion by Mr. Santos to accept an anonymous \$600.00 donation for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a Safe Haven Baby Box at Fire Station #1.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-12: Motion by Mr. Santos to approve the agreement with the Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. (“SHBB”) an Indiana non-profit corporation, for the provision of one Safe Haven Box to be located at Fire Station #1. Any cost associated with this program, not covered by the \$25,000.00 donation, shall be covered by the Opioid Settlement Funds (non-tax revenues). This Board finds that there is a connection between the services provided by this program and the harms caused by the opioid epidemic.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-13: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to authorize the Township Administrator, Mark D’Apolito, pursuant to R.C. 505.032, to execute the Quote from Skydio in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00. This purchase is to be reimbursed by the State of Ohio through the ODOT Drone First Responder Pilot Program with a target date to have them running as June 1, 2026.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-14: Motion by Mr. Santos to approve the following nuisance resolution:

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees of Austintown Township has determined that the following properties constitute and are declared a public nuisance pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 505.87:

6874 Berry Blossom Drive
Parcel 48-133-0-120.00-0
Fence leaning and is in need of repair or removal;

6884 Berry Blossom Drive
Parcel 48-133-0-122.00-0
Fence leaning and is in need of repair or removal;

1244 Bexley Drive
Parcel 48-118-0-067.00-0
High grass and weeds throughout property;

152 North Canfield-Niles Road
Parcel 48-030-0-076.00-0
Fallen tree leaning against telephone pole with caution tape around it;

1251 Cavalcade Drive
Parcel 48-118-0-078.00-0
Junk and debris stored in an exposed manner throughout property and trash stored in an exposed manner in truck bed;

104 North Edgehill Avenue
Parcel 48-025-0-305.00-0
Trash, junk and debris stored in an exposed manner on the south side of the property;

45 North Four Mile Run Road
Parcel 48-023-0-176.00-0
Junk and debris stored in an exposed manner throughout the property and rear yard;

57 North Four Mile Run Road
Parcel 48-023-0-174.00-0
Carpet stored in an exposed manner at the curb and a large pile of branches in front yard;

5285 Kirk Road
Parcel 48-021-0-012.00-0
Junk and debris stored in an exposed manner throughout the property, including but not limited to two (2) toilets;

4343 Mahoning Avenue
Parcel 48-011-0-598.00-0

Junk and debris stored in an exposed manner in rear parking lot near south property line;

4822 Mahoning Avenue
Parcel 48-027-0-185.00-0

East wall of dumpster enclosure collapsed and is in need of repair, and rubble and building material stored in an exposed manner;

81 North Main Street
Parcel 48-025-0-529.00-0

Junk and debris stored in an exposed manner in the side and rear yards;

850 North Meridian Road
Parcel 48-036-0-052.00-0

Trash, junk and debris from construction site blowing onto neighboring properties;

168 South Meridian Road
Parcel 48-010-0-078.00-0

Junk and debris within the waterway obstructing water flow;

202 South Meridian Road
Parcel 48-009-0-338.00-0

Gutter hanging from the north side of building in need of repair;

60 North Roanoke Avenue
Parcel 48-025-0-240.00-0

Building materials stored in an exposed manner in the south side yard;

6994 Ruby Courts
Parcel 48-134-0-058.31-0

Fence in need of repair or removal;

4852 Shadow Oak Drive
Parcel 48-118-0-110.20.0

Fallen tree in rear yard;

455 South Turner Road
Parcel 48-060-0-008.00-0

Junk and debris stored in exposed manner throughout property;

5680 Vassar Avenue
Parcel 48-120-0-067.00-0

High grass and weeds throughout property;

5516 West Webb Road

Parcel 49-044-0-043.00-0

Junk and debris stored in an exposed manner at the south and rear property lines;

4813 4823 Westchester Drive

Parcel 48-016-0-035.00-0

Fallen fence panels along south property line near carports;

2910 Whispering Pines Drive

Parcel 48-103-0-044.00-0

Large pile of branches in rear yard;

3388 White Beech Lane

Parcel 48-003-0-028.00-0

Down tree and branches in rear yard in need of removal, and junk and debris stored in an exposed manner throughout the property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Austintown Township that the above referenced properties constitute a public nuisance and the property owners are hereby **ORDERED** to abate, control, or remove said nuisances. If said nuisances are not abated, controlled or provision for abatement, control, or removal is not made within **SEVEN (7) DAYS** or **FOUR (4) DAYS** for a repeat violation within 12 calendar months from the below date of adoption, the **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** will provide for the abatement, control, or removal, and any expenses incurred-**\$500 minimum**-by the Board of Trustees in performing that task will be entered upon the tax duplicate and will be a lien upon the land from the date of entry.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-15: Motion by Mr. Santos to find the following motor vehicles meet all of the following criteria: 1) Three model years or older; 2) Apparently inoperable; and 3) extensively damaged, including, but not limited to, any of the following: missing wheels, tires, engine, or transmission and to declare the following vehicles public nuisances under Ohio Revised Code 505.871 and order the removal of the junk vehicles within 14 days after noticed is served to the property owner:

3548 Starwick Drive- An inoperable silver with black top convertible, un-licensed, parked in an exposed manner within the driveway;

1057 Compass West- An inoperable Silver Buick with an expired license plate (KOZ 2746) parked in an exposed manner within the North parking lot.

1015 Compass West- An inoperable Tan Kia SUV with an expired license plate (HFV 6930) parked in an exposed manner within the North parking lot.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Shepas, yes; and Mr. Santos, yes.

PARK DEPARTMENT

- General Foreman Todd Shaffer presented March monthly reports for the Park Department.
- Mr. Shaffer stated there will be a Kite Festival on April 26, 2026 from 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm at the Austintown Township Park to support Noah's Ark.

SENIOR CENTER DEPARTMENT

- Director Brittney Koch presented March monthly statistics for The Senior Center.
- Mrs. Koch stated that on average 127 people per day check into The Senior Center.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-16: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to accept a \$325.00 donation from The Woodlands at Austinwoods.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

FISCAL OFFICER

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-17: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to accept March Reports submitted to the Board for review:

- a. Fund Status
- b. Revenue Status
- c. Appropriation Status
- d. Payment Listing over \$10,000.00

i. **MAINTENANCE:**

\$57,553.00 – Greenwood Chevrolet
2025 Chevrolet Silverado 2500
Resolution #26-02-23-20

ii. **POLICE:**

\$19,516.00 – Motorola Solutions, Inc.-Command
Central for Communications 11/1/25-10/31/26
Per Public Staff Meeting of 10/20/2025

e. Requisitions for Board Approval – None

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-18: Motion by Mr. Santos to repay 2021 Fire Truck FNB Equipment Financing Loan \$250,352.64 before April 17, 2026, the date the pay-off is valid through.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-19: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve the repayment of Advances to the General Fund (1000) from:

\$650,000.00 from Police (2081)
\$540,000.00 from Fire (2111)

Mrs. Deavers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Santos, yes; Mr. Shepas, yes; and Mrs. Deavers, yes.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-20: Motion by Mr. Shepas to move the May 4, 2026 meeting to The Senior Center due to the Board of Elections setting up in Town Hall.

Mrs. Deavers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Santos, yes; Mr. Shepas, yes; and Mrs. Deavers, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-21: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to hire the following for the 2026 Summer Work Program... Gregory Faunda, Jackson Potkonicky, Jonathan Ruggles, and Dominic Lipinsky.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-22: Motion by Mr. Shepas to provide no more than 10-yards of surplus grindings to Austintown Community Baseball, a non-profit, free of charge – consistent with Res. #24-12-01-11.

Mr. Santos seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

REMARKS FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS

TRUSTEE MONICA DEAVERS:

- Thanked all who participated in the Easter Hop.
- Appreciates community involvement with Baby Box.

TRUSTEE BRUCE SHEPAS:

- Commended Department Heads for staying in control of their budgets.

TRUSTEE ROBERT SANTOS:

- Encouraged voting for the ¼% Road Sales Tax
- Ohio 250 Flag – America 250 Community Celebration to be held August 1, 2026 from 12:00 pm – 10:30 pm.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-23: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to recess to Executive Session at 6:53 pm.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Santos, yes; Mr. Shepas, yes; and Mrs. Deavers, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-24: Motion by Mr. Shepas to reconvene from Executive Session at 10:32 pm.

Mrs. Deavers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Santos, yes; Mrs. Deavers, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-04-06-25: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to adjourn at 10:35 pm.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Shepas, yes; and Mr. Santos, yes.

This is to certify that the foregoing is an accurate record of the proceedings of the board of township trustees at its meeting held on the date listed above.

Date: 04/20/2026



Laura L. Wolfe, Fiscal Officer

Approved:



Robert Santos, Chairperson Board of Trustees