

Record of proceedings Book for Champion Township Board of Trustees 2026 **1**

The Champion Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 6:00 pm, at the Champion Township Administration Building, 240 Marshall Ave, for the purpose of conducting the business of the township.

Chairman Emerine called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken by Fiscal Officer Miller.

Trustee Jeffers: present
Trustee York: present
Trustee Emerine: present

All in attendance stood and joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fiscal Officer Miller called for a nomination for Chairman of the Board. Trustee Jeffers nominated Trustee Douglas Emerine. Trustee Emerine accepted the nomination. Fiscal officer Miller held the election for Chairman: Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Trustee Emerine – Yes.

Fiscal officer Miller turned the meeting over to the newly elected Chairman for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Chairman Emerine called for a nomination for Vice Chairman of the Board. Trustee Jeffers nominated Trustee Dean Richard York. Trustee York accepted the nomination for Vice Chairman of the Board. Chairman Emerine held the election for Vice Chairman of the Board. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

Chairman Emerine reminded those in attendance that public is encouraged not to interrupt the meeting and to please save all comments for the public comment session at the end of the meeting.

Chairman Emerine also announced that the next scheduled Township Meeting is February 3, 2026, at 6 pm at the Administration Building, located at 240 Marshall Ave. He also reminded the public that all regularly scheduled Township meetings in 2026 would be held on Tuesday evenings.

G2026-2: Trustee York made a motion to approve the following 2026 GovDeals Resolution that was read aloud. Trustee Jeffers Seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.



Champion Township Board of Trustees

Trustee Thomas Jeffers
Trustee Doug Emerine
Trustee Dean R. York
Fiscal Officer Laurie-Jo Miller

TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION

The Board of Trustees of Champion Township, Trumbull County, Ohio in Regular Session on JANUARY 6, 2026, with the following members present:

EMERINE , JEFFERS, YORK

Trustee York moved for the adoption of a resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 505.10 of the Ohio Revised Code permits a board of trustees to sell personal property, including motor vehicles, road machinery, equipment, tools or supplies which is not needed for public use, is obsolete or is unfit for the use for which it was acquired; and

WHEREAS, the board of Township Trustees of Champion Township, Trumbull County Ohio has determined that an internet auction is a cost effective method of disposing of such property; and

WHEREAS, Section 505.10(D) of the Ohio Revised Code permits a board of township trustees to sell such property by internet auction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of trustees of Champion Township:

- Section 1: The pursuant to Section 505.10(D), the Board of Trustees of Champion Township hereby express its intent to sell personal property, including motor vehicles, road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, which is not needed for public use, is obsolete or is unfit for the use for which it was acquired by the Internet auction.
- Section 2: That the Board of Trustees of Champion Township wishes to contract with GovDeals, Inc. to serve as a representative of the Township and conduct auctions on Behalf of the Township "GovDeals, Inc." is a Delaware corporation having its principal place of business at 5913 Carmichael Place, Montgomery, Alabama 26117 (1-800-623-0156).
- Section 3: That the items to be auctioned shall be inventoried, listed by Department, given an appropriate identification number and contains pertinent information (e.g. year, make, model, mileage, or use). A list of any such items shall then be presented to the Board of Trustees at a regularly scheduled meeting for determination as to whether the property is no longer needed for public use or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired. The Board shall then adopt an appropriate resolution declaring said property to not be needed for public use, obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired and shall order the property be sold via Internet auction:
- Section 4: That the Board of Trustees of Champion Township hereby designated the Fire Chief as the official point of contact for all internet auctions. This person shall be responsible for the following:
- A. Establishing a minimum price for each item of Township property auctioned;
 - B. Establishing "terms and conditions" for online sales, which shall be displayed and available for review at the Township Administration Building.
 - C. Ensuring that the property is sold by internet auction in accordance with the resolution and the "terms and conditions" for online sales; and
 - D. Ensuring that the Township receives all monies due and owing to the township as a result of the sale of said property.
- Section 5: That the internet auction will be conducted in the following manner under the following general terms and conditions:
- A. All property will be offered for sale subject to the Champion Township "On-line Sales - Terms and Conditions",

- B. All property is offered for sale "AS IS, WHEREIS." Champion Township, Trumbull County, Ohio makes no warranty, guarantee or representations of any kind, either express or implied as to the merchantability or fitness for any purpose of the property offered for sale. The "buyer" for any Township property is not entitled to any payment for loss for profit or any other money damages -- special, direct, indirect or consequential -- against the Township that in any way relates to the purchase and/or use of the property.
- C. All property will be available to the public on the "GovDeals, Inc." website for a minimum of ten (10) days, including Saturday, Sunday and legal holiday as required in Section 505.10(D) of the Ohio Revised Code;
- D. If any Township property offered for sale by internet auction is not sold within ten (10) days after being posted in the "GovDeals, Inc." website, the Township may withdraw said property from the internet auction at any time;
- E. Township property shall not be transferred to a successful bidder until such time as guaranteed payment had been received in full;
- F. The Board of Trustees, Champion Township, Trumbull County, Ohio reserves the right to reject any bids and to withdraw from sale any item listed on "GovDeals, Inc.,"

Section 6: That Champion Township shall collect all auction proceeds by means of cash, certified check or money order, and ACH. In addition, "GovDeals, Inc." shall be entitled to a fee paid by the purchaser.

Section 7: That this Resolution takes effect at the earliest time as may be permitted by law

Section 8: It has been determined that all formal action by the Board of Trustees of Champion Township concerning the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Board of Trustees of Champion Township and that all deliberation of the Board of Trustees of Champion Township which resulted in formal action were in a meeting open to the public and in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Trustee Jeffers seconded the Resolution and the roll being called upon its adoption the vote results as follows:

EMERINE

Yes

JEFFERS

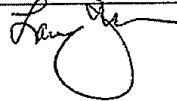
Yes

YORK

Yes

CERTIFIED:

Lauri-Jo Miller



New Business

G2026-3: Trustee York made a motion to approve the salary method of compensation for the Trustees and Fiscal Officer, for fiscal year 2026, to be equal payments on a monthly basis, and as specified in ORC 5505.24 and ORC 507.09. According to the 2026 Compensation Chart published by the Ohio Township Association and per the Original Estimated Resources for fiscal year 2026, Trustees pay shall be \$1,742.50 per month and the Fiscal Officer pay shall be \$2,570.92 per month. Trustee Jeffers Seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-4: Trustee Jeffers made a motion to enact Roberts Rules of Order moving forward to establish a baseline on how to properly conduct meetings. Trustee York seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-5: Trustee York made a motion to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to sign any and all contract documents as required for any motions passes by the Board. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

R2026-6: Trustee York made a motion to accept the 2026 Annual ODOT Mileage Certification of \$41,385 miles, showing no adjustments for the year. The Trustees must sign the certification and return to the Trumbull County Engineer for concurrence and submission to ODOT. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-7: Trustee York made a motion to reappoint Township Legal Counsel Letson & Swader Co., LPA at \$150.00 per hour, on an as needed basis for employment and intergovernmental legal matters. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-8: Trustee York made a motion to reappoint Township Legal Counsel Cherry Poteet, at a rate of \$150.00 per hour. Attorney Poteet will be the preferred legal counsel for any matters for which the Trumbull County Prosecutor, our statutory legal counsel, is not able to take on the cases, outside of employment and intergovernmental legal matters. Reminder to department heads and Zoning Chairman: Two trustees must sign an “Authorization to Utilize Legal Counsel” form in order to obtain legal services. This form ensures that Legal Counsel understands that Counsel is authorized to perform work for the Township and that the Trustees will not see “surprises” on legal counsel billings, sometimes months after the services was rendered. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-9: Trustee York made a motion to reappoint Township Legal Counsel, Mark Finamore, at a rate of \$100.00 per hour. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-10: Trustee York made a motion to approve membership in the Ohio Township and Trumbull County Associations, and approve attendance of the annual State Association Conferences, County Meetings, and payment of expenses at these events for Trustees and Fiscal Officer and any department heads or Zoning board members who wish to be associate members. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-11: Trustee York made a motion to establish 2026 mileage reimbursement rate for approved travel expenses of Township officials and employees at the current 2026 IRS rate (\$.725/mile) for all out of township travel in personal vehicles as allowed by the ORC. Every effort should be made to take a township vehicle when available. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

F2026-12: Trustee York made a motion to appoint Thomas Dempsey, Jason Gray, Justin Martin and Rob Kern to the Volunteer Firefighters Dependency Board. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-13: Trustee York made a made a motion to appoint the Township Records Commission for 2026, to include the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the Fiscal officer, and Carolyn Shaffer, who has significant experience as a volunteer at the Trumbull County Records Center and is a Champion resident. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-14: Trustee York made a motion to approve the receipt of the December Financial Reports to include: Cash Summary by Fund, Revenue Summary, Fund Ledger, Appropriation Status, Fund Status, Fund Summary, and PO Status. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-15: Trustee York made a motion to approve the December Payment Warrant Listing in the amount of \$33,503.84. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-16: Trustee York made a motion to approve the Electronic Funds Report (EFT), for the month of December, in the amount of \$256,855.96. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-17: Trustee York made a motion to approve the December Credit Card Payment Report in the amount of \$325.96. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

G2026-18: Trustee York made a motion to approve the December Supplemental Appropriations Report. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

Motion to approve the employment contracts for Police Chief Skaggs and Fire Chief Dempsey were tabled pending further discussion.

G2026-19: Trustee York made a motion to approve the Champion Township OHIO811 Membership and authorize payment in the amount of \$685.27 for the 2026 dues. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

P2026-20: Trustee York made a motion to approve the ODNR State-Local Project Agreement for the awarded Round 31 Nature Works Project. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

Discussion was held regarding placing an additional Fire Levy on the Ballot in May 2026. A special meeting regarding this topic will take place and be advertised for January 13, 2026, at 6 pm at the Township Administration office located at 240 Marshall Ave. We have staffing issues, and providing as much mutual aid to neighboring townships due to their lack of staffing is causing major hardship on the Champion Fire Department. Meetings will be held with these neighboring townships regarding this problem. The idea of having a staffing levy and a separate equipment levy at the same time was mentioned, however the cost of placing a levy on the ballot would be \$6,000 for each. Chairman Emerine suggested a 2.9 mill levy; and Fiscal Officer Miller suggested 2.5 mill levy, but Chief Dempsey thought that might not cover the needs of staffing and needs of equipment. Chief Dempsey leaned toward 2.75 mills levy. Resident Jack Besse supported one levy to cover the two needs of the department.

Discussion was held regarding the OPBA contract which is due to expire April 30, 2026.

Discussion was held regarding the Free Garage Sale Weekend. It was decided to set the dates as follows: May 21, 2026 – May 31, 2026. Garage Sales must be registered, but the fee is waived.

Discussion was held on whether we should have a Leaf and Limb pickup in our neighborhoods by the Road Department and a Street Sweeping Program.

Discussion was also held on whether to participate in a Mosquito spraying program in 2026 and the decision was to not pursue this.

Discussion was held concerning Mutual Aid provided by the Champion Fire Department for the neighboring townships of Warren and Bristol.

Department heads were reminded to turn in the 2026 Department Inventories.

Old Business

Records Retention Schedule – We are still in need of Police, Road, and Zoning information.

Record of proceedings Book for Champion Township Board of Trustees 2026 ^{6th}

Chairman Emerine suggested that the Board divide up the departments and assign a department to a Lead Trustee to improve communication and efficiency. All trustees supported this idea. Trustee Jeffers will be working with the Fire Department and Chairman Emerine will be the alternate.

Trustee York will work with Road/Zoning and Trustee Jeffers will be the alternate. Chairman Emerine will work with Police and Trustee York will be the alternate.

Trustee York encouraged all full-time employees on the health care plan to get their yearly physical and take advantage of the rewards available in the system.

Department Reports

Zoning Inspector Brown presented the Zoning Report for the month of December 2025.

City/Twp/Village: Champion		Dec-25						
Parcel #	Permit Description	Permit #	Permit Date	Est. Constr. Cost	Property Owner Name	Property Address		
46-321000	new home construction	534	12/19/2025	\$ 250,000.00	Joe Koch Construction	4405 Kincaid Rd., Warren, Ohio 44481	\$ 630.00	
46-181000	fence	535	12/29/2025	\$ 1,575.00	William Sandrella	1006 State Rd, Warren, Ohio 44481	\$ 60.00	

Two Permits

Jan 20th Zoning Appeals Board to meeting deny or approve zoning variance to Wendy's for 40 ft sign from 30 ft.

7pm.

Reported 2025 assessments to fiscal officer for \$1586.16 for mowing of vacant lots, which she has filed with Trumbull County Auditor

Working Foreman Davis presented the Road Department Report.



December 2025

- Plowed and salted 16 times
- Fixed 6 mailboxes (4-poles 6-mailboxes)
- Cold patched roads
- Got things ready at admin. building for tree lighting
- Fixed sink hole on Stewart
- Cleaned and waxed black truck
- Cleaned and waxed one ton
- Finished trim around door, window, and baseboard for Scope
- Trimmed trees on Cross Creek and Mahoning Place due to them hitting truck
- Cleaned up loose blacktop on Republic Ave.
- Put up new street sign on Clearview, Copeland, and Hilltop with new pole
- Cleaned up litter on Shaffer
- Cut up pine tree next to road on Anderson Anthony
- Cleaned up berm from plowing



- Cleaned up curbs due to them being full of leaves and gravel on Waverly and Bond
- Cleaned off basins in allotments
- Community Clean up??
- Tire grant??
- Working in new building??

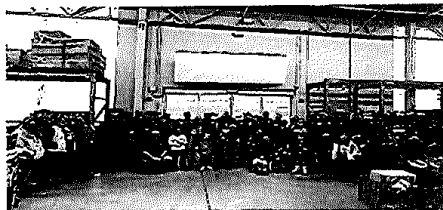
Police Chief Skaggs presented the Police Department Report.



CHAMPION POLICE DEPARTMENT



DECEMBER 2025



Month	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	256	471	494	393
February	266	471	484	367
March	325	538	448	516
April	324	541	572	547
May	333	545	557	530
June	324	535	549	515
July	494	633	581	582
August	345	576	563	570
September	424	586	502	519
October	518	465	539	493
November	435	424	535	465
December	363	452	511	498

Traffic Crash Investigations	23
Traffic Stops	170
Citations Issued	18
Adult Arrests	4
Juvenile Arrests	0
Warrants from Investigation	1
Domestic Violence / Disputes	4
Incident Reports	38

Mutual Aid Calls: 3 Asst other agency
4 Asst CPD

Highlights

*Want to thank the Champion community for the wonderful support for the holiday events. The events have grown each year.

****Special thanks to the Emerine, Peace, Schwab, and Clementino families, and (my wife). Also Yanessa Teuscher for all the help with the Ladies Aux.

*Took 16 children shopping at Wal-Mart on Dec. 13th. Each child was given \$250.00 to spend with an officer.

*Provided another 8 teenage children with gift cards for Amazon.

*Handed out 16 fresh hams for the holidays during traffic stops that were provided by AGS

Serving our Community with Honor and Commitment



**CHAMPION POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



DECEMBER 2025

Custom Graphics.

- *Delivered 10 full Christmas dinners to Champion families.
- *Conducted a K9 search at Champion Local Schools and TCTC Campus
- *Completed all annual CPIT training for the year.
- *Applied for additional MARCS radio equipment from the Ohio State Highway Patrol
- *Officer Evans was allowed to return to work.
- *Completed inventory for new year of all equipment.

Pending:

- *1-Felony Strangulation case was filed.
- *BCI is still investigating the Officer Involved Shooting incident from Oct 12, 2025.
- *Awaiting estimate for damages to CPD 59. Officer Pascoe was rear-ended by an OVI on Dec. 31st and sustained minor injuries.
- *Annual evidence room audit, vehicle and weapons inspections.
- *Officers are continuing to monitor the construction site on Educational Highway (Mercy Health) several times each shift to prevent theft and or criminal damaging. Traffic patterns during the day have been good.
- *Upcoming K9 searches will be conducted in collaboration with Champion Local Schools and TCTC in January and February.
- *Officers have been conducting extra patrols in the outlying areas to target thefts from vehicles and shed break ins. Officers have also been targeting speed violations in the Shafer Road and State Road areas when possible.

Admin:

- *PT Officer Blasko is progressing well through his training period with Officer Manes.
- *PT Officers Darbey and Borkholder have been filling openings in the schedule.
- *Looking to find wall cabinets for the equipment room to hold evidence collection gear, bags, and kits. Mice have become a problem coming into station from old section of the building.
- *CPD 57 needs a new/used ABS module and is still out of service.

Reminder:

- *Prescription Drug Take Back is available 7 days a week for residents at the station.
- *Lock your doors and do not leave valuables visible in your car.

Fire Chief Dempsey presented the Fire Department Report for December 2025.



CHAMPION TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

139 Champion Street West • Warren, OH 44483 • Phone (330) 847-0311 • Fax (330) 847-0313
 Fire Chief Thomas Dempsey

January 6, 2026

To: Champion Township Board of Trustees
 Mr. Doug Emerine
 Mr. Dean "Rick" York
 Mr. Thomas Jeffers
 Mrs. Laurie Jo Miller, Fiscal Officer

From: Thomas Dempsey, Fire Chief

Personnel:

- > Accept the resignation of FF Shane Uhrain.

Public Relations/ Public Education:

- > One inspection completed.

Vehicle and Equipment Status:

- > M21 back in service from body shop.

Facility Status:

- > Sec attached.

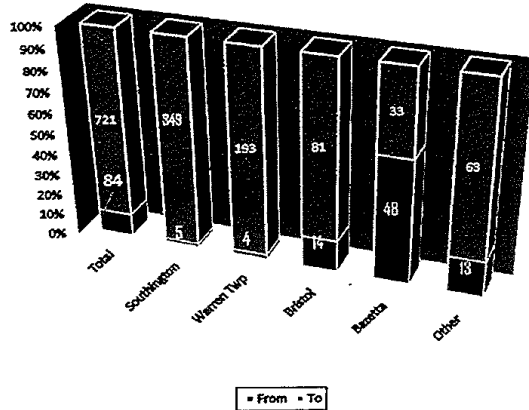
Training:

- > 6 hours EMS training

Other:

- > Applied for the SFM Grant \$14,675 for 3 sets turnout gear and 5 structure helmets.

2025 Mutual Aid Report



December Alarms

Total calls: 292

EMS: 226

Fire: 27

Consecutive Calls: 47

YTD Calls: 2724 (+5)



CHAMPION TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

139 Champion Street West • Warren, OH 44483 • Phone (330) 847-0311 • Fax (330) 847-0318
Fire Chief Thomas Dempsey

January 6, 2026

Facility Status, Issues and Future

I just wanted to take a couple of minutes and discuss our current station and what the future holds for Champion Fire and its facilities. As you are well aware the main section of our station is now 72 years old, and the other two bays are 55 years old and 35 years old respectfully. We are truly at the cross roads when it comes to making a decision on staying in this facility and doing major upgrades or start looking at the construction of a new facility. The mission of the Champion Fire Department has grown over the last 25 years, to the point that our current facility will no longer provide any room for growth or services needed for our community. The staff here has done a wonderful job in helping keep the department clean, and providing some of the basic maintenance items such as paint, minor electric, heating and cooling. Unfortunately we have finally reached a point with the facility that we are going to need to put a large sum of money into the building if we plan on staying here for the immediate future. Some of the items that will need addressed in the next 3 to 5 years are:

1. Roof replacement over the original section of the station.
2. 7 overhead garage doors and 5 openers.
3. Roof and decking issues over the truck bays.
4. Electrical issues and upgrades.
5. Plumbing/interior draining issues.
6. Cracking and loss of mortar on roof cap and block work.
7. Replacement of 3 rear man doors due to corroding and settling of the building.

I want you to understand that I am not just throwing things out there so you think that there is so much wrong with the building. The items that I have addressed are serious issues. I would invite any of you to stop by and look around the facility to see for yourself the condition of the building and its utilities.

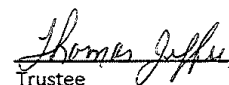
F2026-21: Trustee York made a motion to accept the resignation of Reserve Firefighter Shane Uhrain. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

Public Comment

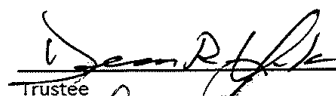
Silas Dozier, 6158 Shaffer Road, commented that residents will complain about not having the street sweeper program. Chairman Emerine reiterated that the street sweeper we had was no longer OSHA compliant and was sold for parts, as a result. Mr. Dozier inquired if the Levy Special Meetings were open to the public, Trustee Emerine assured the him that those meetings are open to the residents. Mr. Dozier also inquired about the mutual aid meetings being made public. Mr. Dozier inquired about the sale of equipment and where the sale money goes. Chairman Emerine answered that the sale money goes back into the department of the equipment that was sold.

Christine Guesman, 214 Chapel Hill, expressed concerns with water issues on her road, which seem to be getting worse. Working Foreman Davis advised her that he would come by and take a look at it. She was given the standard flood information.

Trustee York made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Jeffers seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.


Trustee


Trustee


Trustee


Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees held a Special meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 6:00 pm, at the Champion Township Administration Building, 240 Marshall Ave, for the purpose of discussion, with a possible motion, on placement of an additional Fire Levy on the May Ballot, as well as, approval of payment of miscellaneous township bills.

Chairman Emerine called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken by Fiscal Officer Miller.

Trustee Jeffers: present
 Trustee York: present
 Chairman Emerine: present

All in attendance stood and joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Emerine reminded all that this is a public meeting and any interruptions can be subject to removal. The public is encouraged to not interrupt the meeting and save all comments for the public comment session at the end of the meeting. This includes township personnel in the audience unless specifically addressed by the Board to speak.

The following announcements were made by Chairman Emerine:

1. The next regularly scheduled Township Meeting is Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 6pm, at the Township Administration Building located at 240 Marshall Ave.
2. Trustees have tentatively set a Special Meeting for Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6pm at the Township Administration Building, located at 240 Marshall Ave, for the purpose of taking action, if necessary, regarding the proposed additional Fire Levy.

New Business

F2026-22: Trustee Jeffers made a motion to approve a payment to In Command Consulting, LLC, 4388 Hideout Ct, Ashtabula, O, 44004, in the amount of \$10,927.74. Trustee York seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.

Trustees discussed the need for an additional Fire levy to be placed on the May 2026 ballot. Fiscal Officer Miller shared the following information showing the projected need for an additional Fire Levy for the next 5 years.

CHAMPION TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT and PROJECTION				
	2025 Actual	2026 Planned	2027 (6%)	2028 (6%)
APP BUDGET	\$1,465,662	\$1,643,106	\$1,741,692	\$1,846,194
REVENUE	\$1,588,451	\$1,588,450	\$1,588,450	\$1,588,450
	\$122,789	(\$54,656)	(\$153,242)	(\$257,744)
CARRYOVER				
	\$873,376	\$818,720	\$665,478	\$407,734

* Revenue in 2025 greatly exceeded the planned Revenue. This Projection has carried over that Revenue to 2028.

CHAMPION TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT ADDITIONAL BUDGET NEEDS					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
EQUIPMENT	\$45,700	\$17,500	\$19,000	\$20,500	\$22,000
AMBULANCE	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$36,000
FIRE TRUCK	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
FACILITY UPDATE	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
STAFFING	\$360,000	\$360,000	\$370,800	\$381,924	\$393,382
TOTAL	\$649,700	\$621,500	\$633,800	\$646,424	\$659,382

\$3,210,806 (2.46 Mil)

Fiscal Officer Miller also shared the following options, as obtained from the Trumbull County Auditor's Office:

FIRE		Using tax year 2025 collection year 2026 values		**	Approx	Estimated Yearly
	Class I	Class II	Pub Util	Collection Yearly	Home Value	Currently
	228,323,380	26,210,710	6,652,790			
2.00 New Levy	2.00	2.00	2.00	522,373.76	100,000.00	70.00
2.25 New Levy	2.25	2.25	2.25	587,670.48	100,000.00	78.75
2.50 New Levy	2.50	2.50	2.50	652,967.20	100,000.00	87.50
2.75 New Levy	2.75	2.75	2.75	718,263.92	100,000.00	96.25

** = Full voted rate

The following points were made during the open discussion:

The current budget does not have any monies set aside for Capital needs.

If an additional Levy is approved, there is a current Fire Levy set to expire in 2028 that would most likely still need to be renewed as this revenue was included in our projections.

There are departmental Equipment issues and Equipment needs. Some equipment has a state mandated life span. We have three ambulances, a 2014 with 60,000 miles on it and is used as a reserve ambulance due to it containing a manual cot; a 2017 Ambulance purchased with Cares Act Money, and a 2023 Ambulance purchased through an ARP award from the Trumbull County ARP Funds. An ambulance costs approximately \$180,000 and has a life span of 5 years. Chairman Emerine feels that the cost of an ambulance will be closer to \$200,000, when we are in a position to order one and there are also hidden costs, such as transfer of equipment and application of graphics. The need for a fire truck is upcoming. We are currently using a 1994 Fire Truck that is helpful with our rural calls, but how much longer will it last is the question. The cost of a fire truck is estimated at \$1,000,000.

Chief Dempsey presented a list of needed repairs for our Fire Station facility at the January 6, 2026 meeting. Right now, the bay garage doors are from the 1970's and are super heavy and the springs made today do not hold up well with the weight of these doors. Replacements are needed. Fiscal Officer Miller said we might be able to get that completed this year.

Chief Dempsey advised that we are in need of 3 full time firefighters. In order to meet NFPA Standards, the Department needs to hire 3 full time firefighters. Trustee York questioned how not having the NFPA suggested staffing guidelines affects the Township and Chief Dempsey answered that this is a liability for the township and increases our risk.

Public Comment

Kevin Bosak, Mahoning Ave, asked about the NFPA guidelines for staffing. He also noted that there is a two year wait to receive a fire truck after an order is placed, so he wondered about the cost being even higher. Chief Dempsey responded that we pay the quoted price, regardless of when it is received.

Peggy Miller, 401 Lauder, reiterated that Columbus has cut a lot of funding to Townships in the last few years.

Brittany and Jason Schwab, 5355 Alva Ave, expect the residents to show pride and respect for the Fire Department. They believe residents will respond favorable and take ownership in the community.

Chairman Emerine reiterated that the community needs to be fully informed of what the needs of the department are.

Jack Besse, 351 Durst, suggested the trustees consider 2.95 mills. Trustee Jeffers and Chairman Emerine feel that is too much of an ask of the community. Trustee York was in favor of 2.95 mills.

Chairman Emerine asked the residents in the audience for their opinion. Most attendees supported a 2.95 mills; One resident suggested 2.5 or 2.6 mills to be considerate of the fixed income residents of the community.

Chairman Emerine felt that doing a 2.5 or 2.6 mill now and then possibly doing a replacement levy in 2028, rather than renewal, if needed. His thought was that by 2028 we should have a clearer picture of the revenue stream associated with the JEDD and the Marijuana Dispensary.

F2026-23: Trustee Jeffers made a motion to adopt the following Resolution declaring it necessary to levy a 2.65 mill additional tax in excess of the ten mil limitation, for the purpose of Fire/EMS, for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2026, first due in calendar year 2027. Said levy shall be submitted to the electors in the special election to be held on 5/5/26. Chairman Emerine seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – No; Chairman Emerine – Yes.



Chairman Douglas Emerine
Trustee Thomas Jeffers
Vice Chairman Dean Richard York
Fiscal Officer Laurie-Jo Miller

**RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY A
TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION**

The Board of Trustees of Champion Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, met in special session on the 13th day of January 2026 at 240 Marshall Avenue, N.W., Warren, Ohio 44483 with the following members present:

Mr. Thomas Jeffers
Mr. Dean Richard York
Mr. Douglas Emerine

Mr. Thomas Jeffers moved for the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, this Board finds, determines and declares that the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of said Champion Township, which is located exclusively in Trumbull County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, a resolution declaring the necessity of levying an additional tax upon the electors of Champion Township in its entirety under R.C. 5705.03, 5705.19(I), and 5705.191 outside the ten-mill limitation must be passed and certified to the county auditor of Trumbull County in order to permit the board of trustees to consider the levy of such a tax and must request that the county auditor certify to the board of trustees all information required by R.C. 5705.03; and

WHEREAS it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with law; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Champion Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, being Resolution No. F2026-23, that it is necessary to levy an additional tax in excess of the ten mill limitation for the benefit of and upon the entire territory of said Champion Township, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.03, 5705.19(I), and 5705.191, 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 therefore, 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, at a rate not exceeding 2.65 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, for a period of five years; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the levy be placed upon the tax lists commencing in 2026, first due in calendar year 2027 if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof; and

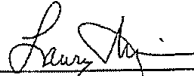
BE IT RESOLVED that the Fiscal Officer of this Board of Trustees of Champion Township is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor with the request that said County Auditor certify to this Township Board of Trustees all information required by R.C. 5705.03; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with R.C. 5705.03, 5705.19(l), and 5705.191, that the provisions of said tax levy be submitted to the electors of the entire territory of said Champion Township, in the primary election to be held on the 5th day of May 2026; and

Mr. Douglas Emerine seconded the Motion and the roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Thomas Jeffers	YES
Mr. Dean Richard York	NO
Mr. Douglas Emerine	YES

Adopted the 13th day of January 2026.



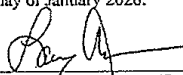
LAURIE-JO MILLER, FISCAL OFFICER
CHAMPION TOWNSHIP
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO

CERTIFICATE

The State of Ohio }
Trumbull County } SS:

I, Laurie-Jo Miller, the undersigned Fiscal Officer of Champion Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. F2026-23 is taken and copied from the Record of the Proceedings of said Township; that the same has been compared by me with the Resolution on said Record and that it is a true and correct copy thereof.

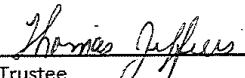
Witness my signature, this 15th day of January 2026.

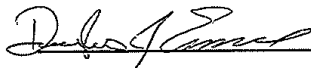


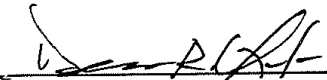
Laurie-Jo Miller, Fiscal Officer
Champion Township
Trumbull County, Ohio

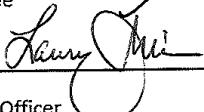
Trustees set a special meeting for January 20, 2026, at 6 pm for purposes of taking action on the Motion to Proceed with an additional Fire Levy to be placed on the May 2026 ballot. In addition, the Trustees will reach out to surrounding communities about coming that evening for discussions about mutual aid.

Trustee Jeffers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee York seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes.


Trustee


Trustee


Trustee


Fiscal Officer

The Champion Township Board of Trustees held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6:00 pm, at the Champion Township Administration Building, 240 Marshall Ave, for the purpose of taking action on a Resolution to Proceed with the placement of an additional Fire Levy on the May Ballot, as well as, to hold discussions with surrounding community leaders regarding mutual aid.

Chairman Emerine called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken by Fiscal Officer Miller.

Trustee Jeffers: present
Trustee York: present
Chairman Emerine: present

All in attendance stood and joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Emerine read the following reminder: This is a public meeting and any interruptions can be subject to removal. The public is encouraged to not interrupt the meeting and save all comments for the public comment session at the end of the meeting. This includes township personnel in the audience unless specifically addressed by the Board to speak.

The following announcement was made by Chairman Emerine:

- The next regularly scheduled Township Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 6pm at the Township Administration Building located at 240 Marshall Ave.

F2026-24: The Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue from the Trumbull County Auditor has been received and is shown below. Trustee Jeffers made a motion to approve the following Resolution to proceed with an additional fire levy to be placed on the May 2026 ballot:

To adopt a Resolution determining to proceed with the submission to the electors the question of levying an additional tax in excess of the ten mil limitation, for the purpose of Fire/EMS, that the county auditor estimates will collect \$692,145.00 annually, at an annual tax rate of 2.65 mill(s) for each \$1 to taxable value, and which amounts \$93 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's market value, for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2026, first due in calendar year 2027, if approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon. Said levy shall be submitted to the electors in the general election to be held on May 5, 2026. Trustee York seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes

Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue

DTE 140R
Rev 01/26
R.C. 5705.01, 5705.03

Use this form when a taxing authority certifies a millage rate and requests the revenue produced by that rate.

The county auditor of Trumbull County, Ohio, does hereby certify the following:

- On January 15, 2026, the taxing authority of the Champion TWP (political subdivision name) certified a copy of its resolution or ordinance adopted January 13, 2026, requesting the county auditor to certify the current taxable value of the subdivision and the amount of revenue that would be produced by (2.650) mills, to levy a tax outside the 10-mill limitation for fire purposes pursuant to Revised Code § 5705.19(I), to be placed on the ballot at the May 5, 2026 election. The levy type is additional.
- The property tax revenue that will be produced by the stated millage, assuming the taxable value of the subdivision remains constant throughout the life of the levy, is calculated to be \$ 692,145.
- The total taxable value of the subdivision used in calculating the estimated property tax revenue is \$ 261,186,880.
- The millage for the requested levy is (2.650) mills per \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$ 93.00 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's market value.
- Applicable only if this form is being completed by a school district with a current expense levy. The amount by which the carry-over balance in the school district's general operating budget from the preceding fiscal year exceeds the school district's general fund expenditures made in the preceding fiscal year, is \$ _____, and _____ % of those expenditures.

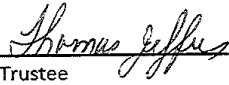
Mitchell C. Gorder (Rao) January 15, 2026
Auditor's signature Date


Instructions

- "Total taxable value" includes the taxable value of all real property in the subdivision as indicated on the tax list most recently certified for collection and estimates of the taxable value of public utility personal property for the first year the levy will be collected as set forth on the worksheets prescribed in conjunction with this form. If the subdivision is located in more than one county, the home county auditor (where the greatest taxable value of the subdivision is located) shall obtain the assistance of the other county auditors to establish the total tax valuation of the subdivision.
- For purposes of this certification, "subdivision" includes any agency, board, commission or other authority authorized to request a taxing authority to submit a tax levy on its behalf. See R.C. 5705.01(A) & (C).
- "Levy type" includes the following: (1) additional, (2) renewal, (3) renewal with an increase, (4) renewal with a decrease.
- In completing Lines 1 and 4 of this form, mills should be identified in whole numbers or fractions thereof, i.e., 5 mills or 5.25 mills, rather than as a fraction of a dollar, i.e., \$0.005. This expression is consistent with the prior practice of identifying mills in whole numbers or fractions thereof per \$1 of valuation.
- "The county auditor's market value" means the true value in money of real property. R.C. 5705.01(P).
- For any levy or portion of a levy, an estimate of the levy's annual collections, rounded to the nearest dollar, 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 most recently certified by the county auditor under R.C. 319.28(B). See R.C. 5705.03(B).
- Line 5 of the form should only be completed if the purpose of the tax is for current expenses or current operating expenses and the resolution is by a city, local, or exempted village school district. Any amounts designated in the school district's resolution for current or future permanent improvement must be excluded in determining the school district's carry-over balance. See R.C. 5705.03(B)(2)(f).
- Please file this certificate with the subdivision as soon as possible, so the taxing authority can pass a resolution to proceed not later than 90 days before the election.

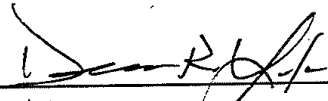
Public discussion was held regarding the mutual aid emergency services that Champion Township has been providing in Warren Township and Bristolville. Trustees and Fire Chiefs for Warren Township, Champion Township, and Bristol Township were present and participated in the public discussion. Champion Township Trustees brought to the attendees' attention that Champion Township cannot keep covering unstaffed hours for our surrounding areas. It is important for these townships to try and staff their departments and not rely on Champion Fire Department for coverage of their departments. This puts a tremendous strain on the Champion Fire Department. All attending Fire Chiefs voiced concerns that staffing their departments is extremely difficult due to the shortage of qualified personnel in the field. All the departments are struggling to get part time help to cover many hours. Champion Trustees let all those in attendance know that they do not want to place lives in jeopardy or turn their backs on neighbors, but that we must ensure we can sustain services to the residents of Champion Township. All agreed that this is a very difficult situation, to which there is no easy solution. All agreed to go back to their respective townships and give more thought to what can be done.

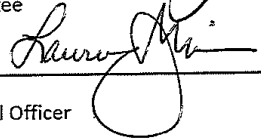
Trustee Jeffers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee York seconded. Roll Call vote was taken: Trustee Jeffers – Yes; Trustee York – Yes; Chairman Emerine – Yes



Trustee


Trustee



Trustee


Fiscal Officer