

# AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP

MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO  
82 OHLTOWN ROAD  
AUSTINTOWN, OH 44515

## REORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 5, 2026

The Reorganizational & Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Austintown Township was held Monday, January 5, 2026 at the Township Hall, 82 Ohltown Road, Austintown, Ohio.

### REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Bruce Shepas opened the meeting at 5:30 pm with a salute to the flag.

Fiscal Officer Laura Wolfe continued the meeting as Chairman Pro-Tem.

Roll Call taken by Fiscal Officer, Laura Wolfe. Mrs. Deavers, present; Mr. Shepas, present; and Mr. Santos, present.

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-01:** Fiscal Officer Laura Wolfe, acting as Chairperson Pro-Tem asked for nominations for 2026 Chairperson. Mrs. Deavers made a motion to nominate Mr. Santos as 2026 Chairperson.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-02:** Fiscal Officer Laura L. Wolfe acting as Chairperson Pro-Tem asked for nominations for 2026 Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Shepas made a motion to nominate Mrs. Deavers as 2026 Vice-Chairperson.

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

Fiscal Officer Laura Wolfe adjourns the Reorganizational Meeting and turns the meeting over to Chairperson Mr. Santos.

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

Presentation of a Proclamation was given to Austintown Fitch High School Senior, John Check who received a perfect score on his ACT.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Gene Conners, 5116 Norquest Blvd. – Shared concerns regarding speeding traffic and traffic noise on Norquest and is looking for some helpful suggestions, wondering if Trustees can help with an ODOT sound barrier; also said there are rats in his backyard due to neighborhood chickens.

Zoning Director Darren Crivelli responded to Mr. Conners inquiry regarding the sound wall.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT AND CEMETERY**

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-03:** Motion by Mr. Shepas declaring it necessary to Levy a Tax in Excess of the Ten Mill Limitation and Requesting Certification from the Mahoning County Auditor. This tax is a RENEWAL TAX (for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges).

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-04:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers declaring it Necessary to Levy a Tax in Excess of the Ten Mill Limitation and Requesting Certification from the Mahoning County Auditor. This tax is a RENEWAL TAX (for the purpose of resurfacing and repair of roads).

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-05:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers, pursuant to ORC 9.15, to certify that Aaron Kuti was an indigent person in that his income did not exceed one hundred fifty per cent of the federal poverty line, as revised annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-06:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve a Quote Doug Estok received from Myers Equipment Corporation to equip the 2026 Chevrolet 3500 totaling \$15,510.00.

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

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Valorie Delmont presented December statistics and yearly statistics for both the Police Department and Communications Department.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief David Schertzer presented December statistics and yearly statistics for the Fire Department.

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-07:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers to appoint Chief Schertzer the Township's representative for the Mahoning County Haz-Mat Executive Board.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-08:** Motion by Mr. Shepas to authorize Chief Schertzer to sign non-monetary mutual aid contracts as they are presented throughout the year.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-09:** Motion by Mr. Shepas to continue the Mutual Aid Agreement with the Mahoning County HAZ-Mat Team. This contract includes a 10¢ cents per capita fee not to exceed \$4,000.00. The Mahoning County Commissioners match our 10¢ cents per capita.

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

**ZONING DEPARTMENT:**

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-10:** Motion by Mr. Shepas 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:

4355 Burkey Road  
Parcel 48-080-0-023.00-0

Junk, trash and debris stored in an exposed manner not bagged or secured near curb;

4189 Crum Road

Parcel 48-066-0-013.00-0

Miscellaneous junk and debris stored in an exposed manner within side yard and driveway;

702 North Meridian Road

Parcel 48-036-0-034.00-0

Fallen perimeter fence in need of repair or replacement-site deemed dangerous and unsecured;

5074 East Rockwell Road

Parcel 48-032-0-069.00-0

Junk, trash and debris stored in an exposed manner in front yard and driveway;

120-122 Rosemont Avenue

Parcel 48-011-0-538.00-0

Trash, junk and debris stored in an exposed manner at curb, east front yard and rear yard;

4185 Staatz Drive

Parcel 48-104-0-243.00-0

Trash and matters stored in an exposed manner on east side of the dwelling;

4154 Staatz Drive

Parcel 48-104-0-214.00-0

Chair, trash and debris stored in an exposed manner in front driveway and east side of the dwelling;

1436 South Turner Road

Parcel 48-061-0-028.00-0

Large amount of miscellaneous items, junk and debris including used tires and inoperable lawn mowers stored in an exposed manner throughout property;

1200 Victory Hill Lane

Parcel 48-081-0-003.25-0

Fallen and damaged fence in rear yard in need of repair or removal;

538 Westgate Boulevard

Parcel 48-095-0-287.00-0

Junk and debris stored in an exposed manner in driveway and north side of dwelling.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-11:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers 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:

**1436 South Turner Road** - An inoperable red GMC Envoy with an expired license plate (GEV 9296) parked in an exposed manner within the driveway; and

**34 Wickliffe Circle** – An inoperable red Ford commercial truck with an advertising decal for “Tree and Landscaping, (330) Alliance, Ohio” on the driver side door and two different expired license plates (PLH 4711 and PCM 6005) parked in an exposed manner at the west side of the property

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-12:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers to certify to the Mahoning County Auditor that the spreadsheet entitled “Austintown Township Nuisance Assessments October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025” be made part of the minutes of this meeting is an accurate description of the properties declared public nuisances and includes all costs incurred in providing for the abatement, control, or removal of any vegetation, garbage, refuse, or other debris as provided by Ohio Revised Code 505.87 including the board's charges for its services, the costs incurred in providing notice, any fees or interest paid to borrow monies, and the amount paid for labor, materials, and equipment. The Board of Trustees requests the Mahoning County Auditor place the costs as listed upon the tax duplicates of the described properties. The costs will be a lien upon the lands from and after the date of the entry. The costs shall be returned to the Township and placed in the Township's General Fund.

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

**PARK DEPARTMENT**

Nothing to add.

**SENIOR CENTER**

There will be an Open House at the Senior Center on Friday, February 13, 2026.

**FISCAL OFFICER**

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-13:** Motion by Mr. Shepas to Accept December 2025 Reports submitted to Board for Review:

- a. Fund Status
- b. Revenue Status
- c. Appropriation Status
- d. Payment Listing over \$10,000.00
  - i. GENERAL:  
\$36,333.83 – Ohio Public Works Commission  
Loan CF31 – 2021 Road Resurfacing Payment  
Res. #20-12-15-04
  - ii. FIRE:  
\$48,980.00 – Phoenix Safety Outfitters, LLC  
Turnout gear; safety gear - hoods, gloves, etc.  
#25-10-06-09
  - iii. ROAD:  
\$15,124.73 – Morton Salt – Road Salt  
#25-04-07-03
- e. Requisitions for Board Approval-None at this time.

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-14:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve reasonable and necessary expenses for 2026 Ohio Township Association conventions, seminars, and CLOUT meetings and State Auditor's and Bureau of Workers Compensation Seminars attended by Fiscal Officer, Trustees, and/or Administrator or their designee.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-15:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers to adopt the attached Austintown Township, Mahoning County Tax-Exempt Certificate Use and Sales Tax Policy as recommended by the Auditor of State in the issuance of Bulletin 2025-013.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-16:** Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve the Ohio Emergency Management Agency Grant Agreement as per attached.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-17:** Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve Consulting Services Contract with KO Consulting, LLC for year 2026 as per attached.

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

Administrator Mark D'Apolito honored Darren Crivelli for his many years of service, as this is his last Trustee Meeting.

## **REMARKS FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS**

### **TRUSTEE BRUCE SHEPAS:**

- Thanked Darren Crivelli for ALL he has learned throughout his service.

### **TRUSTEE MONICA DEAVERS:**

- Commended Darren Crivelli on his service to Austintown.
- Wished all a Happy New Year!

### **TRUSTEE ROBERT SANTOS:**

- Thanked Darren Crivelli for his insight and service to Austintown.

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-18:** Motion by Mr. Shepas to recess to Executive Session at 6:50 pm.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-19:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:45 pm.

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

**RESOLUTION #26-01-05-20:** Motion by Mrs. Deavers to adjourn at 8:53 pm.

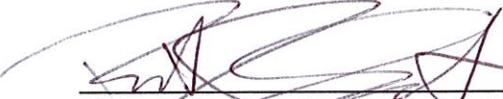
Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Shepas, yes; and Mr. Santos, yes.

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: 1/26/2026

  
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Laura L. Wolfe, Fiscal Officer

Approved:

  
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Robert Santos, Chairperson Board of Trustees