

AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP

MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO
82 OHLTOWN ROAD
AUSTINTOWN, OH 44515

PUBLIC STAFF MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2025

The Public Staff Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Austintown Township was held Monday, March 17, 2025, at Town Hall, 82 Ohltown Road, Austintown, Ohio.

The meeting opened at 9:30 A.M. with a salute to the flag led by Chairperson Bruce Shepas.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-01: Motion by Mr. Santos to appoint Mark D'Apolito as Fiscal Officer Pro Tem in the absence of Laura L. Wolfe.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-02: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve the regular minutes of December 2, 2024; public staff meeting of December 27, 2024; regular/reorganizational meeting of January 6, 2025; public staff meeting of January 27, 2025.

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

Zoning Matters:

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-03: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve the minutes of the public hearings for Amendments 2024-01-Z and 2024-02-Z.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-04: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the minutes of the public hearings for Amendments 2022-02-Z, 2022-03-Z, and 2023-01-Z.

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

and Mr. Shepas, abstain.

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-05: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the following nuisance resolution:

RESOLUTION

The Board of Trustees of Austintown Township, Mahoning County, State of Ohio, meeting on **Monday, March 17, 2025**, did adopt the following 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:

3460 Almerinda Drive

Parcel 48-113-0-121.00-0

Miscellaneous items, junk, debris and branches stored in an exposed manner within the front, side, and rear yards;

3395 Black Oak Lane

Parcel 48-001-0-284.00-0

Miscellaneous items, junk, debris and litter stored in an exposed manner within the front porch, driveway, and front yard;

3802 Cannon Road

Parcel 48-007-0-196.00-0

Miscellaneous items, junk, pallets and doors stored in an exposed manner near curb and in front of the attached garage;

3887 Cannon Road

Parcel 48-007-0-159.00-0

Miscellaneous items, junk, debris and litter stored in an exposed manner within the front porch, driveway, and front yard;

127 Kimberly Avenue

Parcel 48-065-0-187.00

Two mattresses stored in exposed manner within the driveway;

4018 Lanterman Road

Parcel 48-072-0-023.00-0

Miscellaneous items, junk, debris and litter stored in an exposed manner within the front yard, driveway, and rear yard.

1705-1739 South Raccoon Road

Parcel 48-108-0-005.00-0

Trash and debris stored in an exposed manner within the north easterly rear parking

lot and east property line and south easterly property line and within the dumpster enclosures;

120 Woodleigh Court

Parcel 48-104-0-267.00-0

Miscellaneous items, junk, debris and litter stored in an exposed manner within the rear yard along with down trees.

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 #25-03-17-06: Motion by Mr. Shepas 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 notice is served to the property owner:

267 Parkgate Avenue - An inoperable and wrecked 2013 Cadillac SRX (License Plate KFZ 3238) parked in an exposed manner within the driveway;

3325 Starwick Drive - An inoperable 2004 Dodge truck with an expired license plate (2004 GF) parked in an exposed manner within the driveway.

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

Police Matters:

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-07: Motion by Mr. Shepas to take a brief recess at 9:53 a.m.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-08: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to return to open session at

10:00 a.m.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-09: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve the transfer of the GMC Acadia from PD to Zoning: Zoning will do the maintenance on vehicle; Vehicle will be returned to PD once Darren Crivelli retires.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-10: Motion by Mr. Santos to approve requisition to support the Mahoning Valley Crisis Response Team in the amount of \$2,500.00. To be paid from the Opioid Fund (2908) based on understanding these funds support the purchase of equipment and training that's relevant to the opioid crisis.

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

Chief Delmont gave a department update:

- Chief Gavalier has provided a list of necessary updates – all items/timing needing to be done
- Jail Audit: Approved for a 2-hour holding cell
- Evidence room: putting items together; dispose of old items past the retention period
- LEADS audit was successful
- 2020 Stats – FBI Base
- Re-organized rooms, cabinets
- Informed FOP the Sergeant and Lieutenants position will be filled

Also stated that Cochran Ford (formerly Fred Martin Ford) would perform unauthorized work on the cruisers – addressed the situation and established that any work to be done on the vehicles has to be authorized.

Communications and COG Matters:

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-11: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to authorize the Township administrator to enter into purchase agreements for the purchase of MARCS compatible radios for police and fire communications in an amount not to exceed \$200,000. We will pursue reimbursement, to the maximum extent possible, pursuant to the March 4, 2025 motion/resolution of the ABM joint communications district. The road department will be transitioning to a different platform.

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

Further discussion on radios;

- For the Police Dept. to update mobiles in the vehicles and backups, costs between \$280.00 - \$400.00 depending on what needs done.
- For the Fire Dept.- radios in all vehicles; \$40,000.00 to \$100,000.00 which the cost will go back to the COG for re-imbursement.
- The Austintown and Boardman Towers have been updated to the MARCS standards.
- The Road Dept. through the COG, can get 20 radios for \$24,000.00 plus a 3-year warranty.
- Verizon also has a plan with radios.

Budget Session:

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-12: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve Advances from the General Fund (1000) to:

\$15,000.00 to Zoning (2181) 3.4.25

\$15,000.00 to Maintenance (6001) 3.4.25

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-13: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve to 2025 Permanent Appropriations – *as per attached*

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

Senior Center Matters:

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-14: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to Recess for lunch at 12:45 p.m.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-15: Motion by Mr. Shepas to return to open session 1:15 p.m.

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

New Business:

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-16: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve Consulting Services

contract with Kristen L. Olmi, CEO, KO Consulting, LLC in support of the Westchester Fund and Congressionally Directed Spending of its permissible purposes, starting April 1, 2025 and authorizing the township Administrator to complete all necessary paperwork.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-17: Motion by Mr. Shepas to authorize the Township administrator to enter into an agreement with the COG for the Road, Park, and Maintenance departments, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00, for 3 years' service, including all accessories and to complete all necessary paperwork.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-18: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve insurance settlement of township's plow truck #38 and authorizing township Administrator to complete all necessary paperwork.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-19: Motion by Mr. Santos to go into Executive Session at 1:16 p.m.:

To consider the compensation of a public employee or official

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

Also in attendance: Mark D'Apolito

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-20: Motion by Mr. Shepas to return to open session at 2:15 p.m.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-21: Motion by Mr. Santos to revoke the banking privileges for all departments, eliminating any cash-out option for vacation and sick time effective 1/1/2025, for new department heads, including: Dave Schertzer, Fire Department; Dominic Moltchan, Zoning Department, Mark D'Apolito, Administrator, and Valorie Delmont, Police Department.

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

yes; and Mr. Santos, yes.

Park Matters:

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-22: Motion by Mr. Shepas go into Executive Session at 2:40 p.m.:

To consider the compensation of a public employee or official

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

Also in attendance, Mark D'Apolito

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-23: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to return to open session at 2:49 p.m.

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

New Business 'Continued':

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-24: Motion by Mr. Santos to go into Executive Session at 3:17 p.m.:

To consider the compensation of a public employee or official

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

Also in attendance: Mark D'Apolito

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-25: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to return to open session at 3:54 p.m.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-26: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to table discussion on modifying zoning ordinances by prohibiting car washes and vape shops.

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

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-27: Motion by Mr. Shepas to accept Fok & Sons' Engineering Services Proposal; ODOT 2025 Township; Safety Sign Grant Program

in the amount of \$6,000.00.

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

Administrator's Report:

- Austintown TWP Community Electric Aggregation Program will continue with Dynegy as our new supplier with the rate of \$.0933 per kwh. Contract will be for one year.
- Received information from Michelle Barratt – pickleball instructor at the park
- Received notification that hearing aids, PT, OT, and chiropractors are being added to health care coverage.
- Still discussing renewal contract with Clemmons-Nelson

RESOLUTION #25-03-17-28: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to adjourn meeting at 4:25 p.m.

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

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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: 5/5/25



Fiscal Officer - Pro Tem

Approved:



Chairperson Board of Trustees