

AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP

MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO
82 OHLTOWN ROAD
AUSTINTOWN, OH 44515

REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 5, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Austintown Township was held Monday, May 5, 2025 at the Senior Center; 112 Westchester Dr. Austintown, Ohio.

The meeting opened at 5:30 P.M. with a salute to the flag led by Chairperson Bruce Shepas.

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

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-01: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 3, 2025 and the Public Staff Meeting of March 17, 2025.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Mashika; 3942 Artmar Dr.

Was at the last meeting – felt disrespected.

Asked why he hasn't been given a response in regards to his 3 concerns.

Was upset with him for addressing it on Facebook.

Katie Guzzo; 3919 Potomac Ave.

Monday Memorial Day; parade – 5.26.25 starts @ 10:00 a.m. at Marc's; will travel down Idaho Rd to the High School

9-11 Memorial Park – 5.17.25 @ 9:00 a.m. will be a Clean-up Day; rain date will be 5.24.25

Thanked Home Depot for purchasing and spreading mulch.

The committee has received a \$50,000.00 federal grant for walkthrough museum to be built at the 9-11 Park.

Cheryl Altizer; 4402 Barrington Dr.

Had questions regarding the electric aggregation process to get the rate. Mr. Shepas addressed the question. The township has Free Opt-Out program; take advantage of this process if you want to shop around. Mr. D'Apolito, Mr. Santos, and Mrs. Deavers also commented on the process for the aggregation programs.

Andy Pazillo; 2960 Spring Meadow Ct
Invited all to shop around first.

William Musser; 1284 Cavalcade
His road needs fixed.

Jason Murzda; Austintown Police Dept.

Works with the K-9 Unit. Explained how important that Dept. is to the township. The dogs are great in tracking, building searches, article searches, and criminal apprehension. Because of the lower numbers of officers in the township, a dog will work a building in minutes, whereas it may take 5 officers to do that same building, if not more. In another city, Officer Murzda created a K-9 donation program. The program is self-supportive and they now have 3 K-9s. Asked the Trustees to at least table the motion to see if they can come with alternative funding.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Stated paving to start at the end of June, beginning of July.
- Noted the ¼% sales tax funds the township has been receiving will be ending soon).
- Issue 2 – Grant Funding is on the Ballot for tomorrow's voters. If passed the township will continue to receive the ¼%, if it does not pass, the roads to be paved in 2027 will be a lot smaller.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

ROAD DEPARTMENT AND CEMETERY

The Township along with the Weathersfield Township will be doing a joint project to pave County Line Rd and West Webb Rd. This project was funded by a federal grant. The Trumbull County Engineer bid the TRU-County Line Rd./West Webb Rd Improvement Project. The low bidder was Kirila Contractors in the amount of \$906,027.00. Construction is expected to start mid-May or early June.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Delmont presented April's monthly statistics. Also discussed stats of the K-9s; approximately 2 years of service remaining. Maintenance costs for the K-9s are \$19,000.00 - \$20,000.00/year

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-02: Motion by Mr. Santos to early retire both Austintown TWP K-9 Officers; Gunney & Eras, effective July 6, 2025. Handlers shall have the opportunity to purchase the K-9 for \$1.00.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-03: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve Capt. Tom Collins severance payment in the amount of \$61,863.09. The severance was calculated pursuant to the rules set forth in the FOP contract.

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Schertzer presented call statistics for the month of April.

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-04: Motion by Mr. Santos to approve the hiring of Nicholas Handwork as a PT Firefighter conditional on the passing of his pre-employment testing.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-05: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the hiring of Conner Sullivan as a PT Firefighter conditional on the passing of his pre-employment testing.

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

ZONING DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-06: Motion by Mr. Santos to approve the following:

RESOLUTION

The Board of Trustees of Austintown Township, Mahoning County, State of Ohio, meeting on **Monday, May 5, 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:

MINUTES – MEETING OF MAY 5, 2025
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137 North Beverly Avenue
Parcel 48-025-0-191.00-0
High grass and weeds;

3045 Evelyn Road
Parcel 48-074-0-062.00-0
High grass and weeds;

44 Evans Avenue
Parcel 48-027-0-194.00-0
High grass and weeds;

6270 Fairview Road
Parcel 48-081-0-021.00-0
High grass and weeds;

505-507 North Four Mile Run Road
Parcel 48-066-0-141.02-0
Junk and debris stored in an exposed manner at the curb including couches and a mattress. High grass and weeds;

525-527 North Four Mile Run Road
Parcel 48-066-0-141.01-0
High grass and weeds;

1192 Idaho Road
Parcel 48-118-0-049.00-0
High grass and weeds;

4018 Lanterman Road
Parcel 48-072-0-023.00-0
Miscellaneous items, junk and debris stored in an exposed manner at the front of garage and rear yard. High grass and weeds;

5627 London Drive
Parcel 48-059-0-044.00-0
High grass and weeds;

4321 Mahoning Avenue
Parcel 48-011-0-594.00-0
High grass and weeds;

4450 Mahoning Avenue
Parcel 48-026-0-067.00-0
High grass and weeds;

4470 Mahoning Avenue
Parcel 48-026-0-065.00-0
High grass and weeds;

5192 Mahoning Avenue
Parcel 48-028-0-102.00-0
High grass and weeds;

4492 New Road
Parcel 48-075-0-018.00-0
Miscellaneous items, junk and debris stored in an exposed manner within the rear yard including at the side and rear of the shed. Two large branches/brush piles stored in an exposed manner within the rear yard behind the shed;

1303 Northfield Drive
Parcel 49-088-0-025.00-0
High grass and weeds;

4284 Patricia Avenue
Parcel 48-108-0-187.00-0
Trash, tires and debris stored in an exposed manner on the east side yard;

1875-1885 South Raccoon Road
Parcel 48-104-0-180.00-0
Fallen stockade fencing indeed of repair, replacement, or razing;

1889-1899 South Raccoon Road
Parcel 48-104-0-181.00-0
Fallen stockade fencing indeed of repair, replacement, or razing;

3423 Rebecca Drive
Parcel 48-112-0-154.00-0
Miscellaneous items, junk and debris stored in an exposed manner on the north side of the dwelling and throughout the rear yard including construction materials. Two woodchip piles stored in an exposed manner beside the driveway in need of spreading or removal. High grass and weeds;

4584 Rita Ave
Parcel 48-075-0-076.00-0
High grass and weeds;

4278 Wedgewood Drive
Parcel 48-108-0-083.00-0
High grass and weeds;

5396 West Webb Road
Parcel 48-042-0-018.00-0
High grass and weeds;

1274 Woodhurst Drive
Parcel 48-114-0-081.00-0
High grass and weeds;

6024 Yorktown Lane
Parcel 48-126-0-042.00-0
High grass and weeds;

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.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-07: 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:

1318 Northfield Drive - An inoperable red Chevrolet Caprice Classic with an expired license plate (CK 12 DH) is parked in an exposed manner within the driveway;

1318 Northfield Drive - An inoperable blue Chevrolet Monte Carlo with an expired license plate (FIC 2803) is parked in an exposed manner within the driveway;

1318 Northfield Drive - An inoperable blue Oldsmobile Lacrosse with an expired license plate (HCE 5133) is parked in an exposed manner within the driveway; and

3325 Starwick Drive - An inoperable red 2017 Dodge with an expired license plate (HEY 9671) parked in an exposed manner within the driveway.

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

PARK DEPARTMENT

Park Supervisor, Todd Shaffer stated on 5/15/25 the Splash Pad will be readied and opened closer to Memorial Day. Also reminded all the Summer Concerts start on June 3 and go through August 26; time 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Also noted that the grass cutting has started.

SENIOR CENTER

Director, Jim Henshaw stated the Senior Center is having a First Aid Class and a 'Fraud Bingo' game to help Seniors who are being scammed.

FISCAL OFFICER

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-08: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to accept April Reports submitted to Board for Review:

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

FIRE:

Fallsway Equipment Co. \$11,576.33

Resolution #25-03-03-08

- e. Requisitions for Board Approval

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-09: Motion by Mr. Santos to authorize the township Administrator to take steps and execute all agreements necessary to provide for the renewal of the township's OTARMA Insurance.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-10: Motion by Mr. Santos to release prosecutor's opinion, per email from Assistant Prosecutor Karen Gaglione to Administrator

Mark D'Apolito on Tuesday April 15th, 2025 @ 12:51 p.m. relating to the appointment in the fiscal office: Assistant Fiscal Officer (2025 MISC 0543/2024 MISC 0686).

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

OHIO LIQUOR CONTROL DIVISION

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-11: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to Not request a hearing on Notice to Legislative Authority on the Stock Transfer of Nick Da Dhaba, Inc, DBA Nick Da Dhaba; 870 N Canfield-Niles Rd, Unit B & Patio; Austintown TWP, Youngstown, OH 44515.
Permit No. 6381741; Permit Class(es) D1, D2, D3
No objections.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-12: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to table until next meeting - Notice to Legislative Authority on a NEW permit for Vice & Virtue Juice Bar, LLC, DBA Vice & Virtue Juice Bar; 40 S Meridian Rd., Austintown TWP, Youngstown, OH 44509.
Permit No. 9265510; Permit Class(es) D2, D3, D3A

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-13: Motion by Mr. Santos to Not request a hearing on Notice to Legislative Authority on the Stock Transfer of Klafatters, Inc, DBA Smoker Friendly #12; 1698 S. Raccoon Rd., Units 2 & 3, Austintown, OH 44515
Permit No. 46894600010; Permit Class(es) C1
No objections.

Mrs. Deavers 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 helped with Trunk Hop – Rotary; AJWL; Party Space, etc.
- Congratulated the Class of 2025
- Teachers & Nurses Appreciation Week
- Wished All moms a Happy Mother's Day!

TRUSTEE ROBERT SANTOS:

- Happy Mother's Day to all mothers
- On Wednesday – testifying on the Marijuana Dispensary Issue: 20% - to last 5 years as long as ours is opened by June 20th
- Hopes to come back with Good News!

TRUSTEE BRUCE SHEPAS:

- Will be testifying on the Marijuana Dispensary as well
- Meijer opens Thursday May 8th
- When levy failed – we cut budgets; pay-outs with retirements not initial savings
- Spoke on Cuts being made – re: K-9 Unit
- Thanked everyone for coming tonight
- Happy Mother's Day

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-14: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to recess to Executive Sessions at 6:39 P.M.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-15: Motion by Mr. Santos to reconvene from Executive Session at 10:24 P.M.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-16: Motion by Mr. Santos to hire Jonathan Ruggles; Dominic Lipinsky; and Greg Faunda for the Road Summer Work Program 2025 at the 2024 rate.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-17: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to reimburse Robert Santos for expenses in relation to Congressional Direct Spending in the amount of \$800.00.

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

RESOLUTION #25-05-05-18: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve a leave of absence for Firefighter Michael L. Smith from June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

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

Santos, yes; and Mrs. Deavers, yes.

Trustees were briefed on appointment made for 05/26/25, re: Amy O'Brien's appointment.


RESOLUTION #25-05-05-19: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to adjourn at 10:28 P.M.

Mr. Santos seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deavers, yes; Mr. Shepas, 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: 6/2/25


Fiscal Officer

Approved:


Chairperson Board of Trustees