

AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP

MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO
82 OHLTOWN ROAD
AUSTINTOWN, OH 44515

REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 1, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Austintown Township was held Monday, December 1, 2025 at Austintown Senior Center, 112 Westchester Drive, Austintown, Ohio.

The meeting opened at 5:45 pm 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.

Ross McDonald of NOPEC addressed the residents about Austintown Township's electric membership stating over 249 communities have come together choosing NOPEC to help get a better rate. Mr. McDonald explained that there are grants available for energy efficiency. An opt-out period runs March, 19, 2026 through April 8, 2026. The supply period would start April 24, 2026 and NOPEC has a 24/7 call center based in the United States.

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-01: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the Minutes of the Public Staff Meeting of November 17, 2025, the Special Meeting of November 20, 2025, and the Emergency Meeting of November 22, 2025.

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

Oath of Office given to Lieutenant Daniel Burich, Lieutenant David Yohman, Sergeant Joshua Watkins, Sergeant Chance Hanshaw and Sergeant Anthony Morucci.

The Trustees addressed the Austintown Studio Apartments/Phoenix House explosion and thanked ALL who helped, and continued saying thank you to all who have donated and helped with placing resident to safe locations. Also thanked all the families of the First Responders.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Beaudis – 2604 Barrington Court – Referencing the explosion, commended the Township with what they have done so far. Said to remain vigilant in keeping parties on task.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

- Mr. D’Apolito addressed the recovery phase of Austintown Studio Apartments/Phoenix House explosion. Mr. D’Apolito explained that he will keep pressure on the recovery effort moving forward for the Residents and the Township.
- Mr. D’Apolito mentioned that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Wickliffe sidewalk project will be starting December 8, 2025.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

ROAD DEPARTMENT AND CEMETERY

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-02: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to approve the hiring of Brendon J. Wilson and Jason A. Bird as new Road Department employees having passed their physicals and drug testing with start dates on or after December 2, 2025.

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Delmont presented the November monthly statistics.

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-03: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve the ‘AGREEMENT OF RETROACTIVITY’ between the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 126 and Austintown Township in that the current Collective Bargaining Agreement (which by its terms expires December 31, 2025) shall remain in full force and effect until a new agreement is reached and the new Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be retroactive to January 1, 2026.

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

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-04: Motion by Mr. Shepas to reduce Vacation Leave 25.21 hours as requested by David Potkonicky in his November 17, 2025 email.

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Schertzer presented monthly statistics for November.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-05: 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:

3711 Cumberland Circle
Parcel 48-007-0-238.00-0
Couch stored in an exposed manner near driveway;

3409 Allendale Avenue
Parcel 48-001-0-121.00-0
Wire fence, ladder, makeshift aluminum wall, awning and other junk stored in an exposed manner on the south the yard;

338 North Edgehill Avenue
Parcel 48-024-0-261.00-0
Mattress stored in an exposed manner on the north side of home.

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 #25-12-01-06: 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 noticed is served to the property

owner:

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

3325 Starwick Drive - An inoperable Kia Sorento with flat tires and an expired license plate (ESP 5845) parked in an exposed manner within the driveway; and

3325 Starwick Drive - An inoperable red 2017 Dodge with an expired license plate (HEY 671) parked in an exposed manner within the driveway.

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

PARK DEPARTMENT

- Todd Shaffer said the final Wild You nature class of the season on evergreens, is being held at Pogany Pavilion.

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-07: Motion by Mr. Santos to remove damaged propane grill from inventory – item PK-437 on inventory.

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

SENIOR CENTER DEPARTMENT

- Director Brittney Koch thanked Jim Henshaw for his service to Austintown Senior Center.
- Brittney shared that she appreciates the warm welcome she has received as the new Director of the Senior Center.
- Referencing the Austintown Studio Apartments/Phoenix House, Brittney thanked the community for their donations and compassion.

FISCAL OFFICER

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-08: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to accept November Reports submitted to Board for review:

- a. Fund Status
- b. Revenue Status
- c. Appropriation Status
- d. Payment Listing over \$10,000.00 (Not Applicable)
- e. Requisitions for Board Approval

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

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-09: Motion by Mr. Shepas to increase Fire Appropriations by \$300,000.00 and Maintenance Appropriations by \$25,000.00.

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

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-10: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve a \$500,000.00 transfer to Police and a \$150,000.00 transfer to Zoning.

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

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-11: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve to following Advances:

- \$500,000.00 Police
- \$75,000.00 Lighting District
- \$15,000.00 Zoning
- \$100,000.00 Communications
- \$200,000.00 Communications

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

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-12: Motion by Mrs. Deaver to table all conversion programs to be reduced at a 2-to-1 rate at time of Conversion to ensure that no employee receives more through retirement than had the employee not elected to do a Conversion, and ensure that the leave is properly subtracted from the employee's final Severance. The leave reduction will be retroactive for all current employees who have previously converted Sick Leave.

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

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-13: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to accept a \$1,000.00 donation to the Westchester Fund, from Kris Gregory, to help the Township with the overhead incurred from the explosion at Austintown Studio Apartments/ Phoenix House.

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

OHIO LIQUOR CONTROLL DIVISION

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-14: Motion by Mr. Santos not to request a hearing on Notice to Legislative Authority on the NEW Liquor Permit to DOLGEN MIDWEST, LLC; Dollar General Store #21539; 4381 Kirk Rd., Youngstown, OH 44511 Permit No. #02234815-739; Permit Class C-1.

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

REMARKS FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS

TRUSTEE MONICA DEAVERS:

- The Christmas Tree Lighting is Thursday, December 4, 2025. Caroling begins at 6:45 pm and the tree lighting is at 7:00 pm. There will also be cookies with Santa in the Stacey Pavilion.
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas!

TRUSTEE ROBERT SANTOS:

- Thanked the Austintown Junior Women's League Dale Gaus & Brittney Koch for all their help during the explosion saying he was sorry if he had missed any individuals when he was talking about it earlier.
- Wished the community Happy Holidays!

TRUSTEE BRUCE SHEPAS:

- Friday, December 19, 2025 there will be a bake sale at the Stacey Pavilion from 5:00 – 8:00 pm
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-15: Motion by Mr. Shepas to recess to Executive Session at 6:45 pm.

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

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-16: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:50 pm.

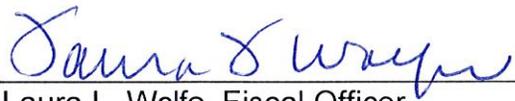
Mr. Santos seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Santos, yes; Mrs. Deavers, yes; and Mr. Shepas, yes.

RESOLUTION #25-12-01-17: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to adjourn at 8:55 pm.

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

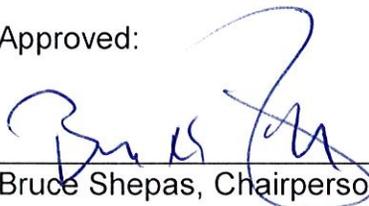
This is to certify that the foregoing is an accurate record of the proceedings of the board of township trustees at its meeting held on the date listed above.

Date: 1/26/2026



Laura L. Wolfe, Fiscal Officer

Approved:



Bruce Shepas, Chairperson Board of Trustees



REC'D
Date 12/9/25 ATO

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that on **December 1, 2025**, commencing at **5:00 p.m.**, and again at **7:00 p.m.** at Austintown Township, Township Hall, 82 Ohltown Road, Austintown, Ohio 44515, the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council ("NOPEC"), on behalf of Austintown Township, will hold public hearings with respect to the Plan of Operation and Governance for the aggregation of competitive retail electricity (the "Aggregation Program"), as previously authorized by such members pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 4928.20. The Aggregation Program will apply automatically to all eligible customers of retail electricity within Austintown Township, except for those who elect to opt-out. Customers may opt-out without charge during a designated opt-out period prior to initiation of service under the Aggregation Program and not less than every three (3) years thereafter. NOPEC seeks to provide competitive electricity service for consumers by selecting a supplier through a negotiation process and leveraging the combined resources and buying power of member communities in NOPEC. The Plan of Operation and Governance addresses the following topics regarding the Aggregation Program: (1) goals, operations and funding; (2) consumer participation, including terms of opting out; (3) customer care; (4) organizational structure and management of NOPEC; and (5) the steps toward establishing the Aggregation Program.
Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council
By Order of the Board of Trustees
#327-2T-November 23, 30, 2025-#1234

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of Florida, County of Orange, ss:

Ankit Sachdeva, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Eastern Ohio Newspapers Inc, publishers of The Tribune Chronicle and The Vindicator (an edition of the Tribune Chronicle), newspapers printed and in the general circulation of Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana Counties in Ohio and in Mercer County in Pennsylvania, and that this affidavit is Page 1 of 1 with the full text of the sworn-to notice set forth on the pages that follow, and the hereto attached:

PUBLICATION DATES:

Nov. 23, 2025

Nov. 30, 2025

NOTICE ID: cuW97OXpgoDr2hFD68kM

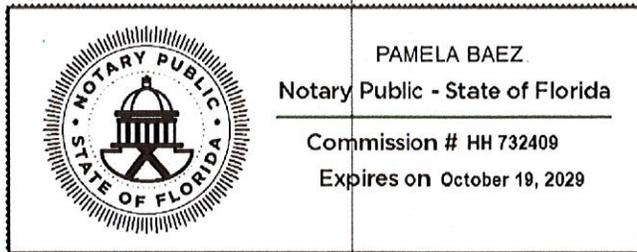
PUBLISHER ID: L16377

NOTICE NAME: Austintown Township Electric Hearing Notice L

Publication Fee: 485.56

Ankit Sachdeva

(Signed)



VERIFICATION

State of Florida
County of Orange

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 12/01/2025

Notary Public
Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.



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Publication Fee: 485.56

Ankit Sachdeva

(Signed)

VERIFICATION

State of Florida
County of Orange

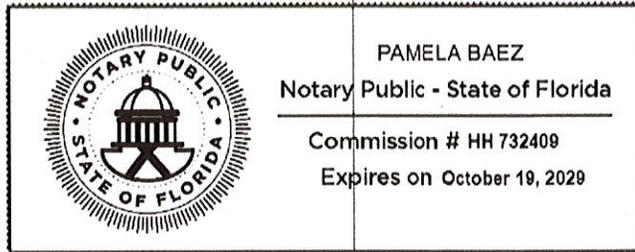
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Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council
By Order of the Board of Trustees
#327-2T-November 23, 30, 2025-#1234



PAMELA BAEZ
Notary Public - State of Florida
Commission # HH 732409
Expires on October 19, 2029

AGREEMENT OF RETROACTIVITY

DECEMBER 2025

This agreement is made on the 1st day of December 2025, between AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP, [TOWNSHIP] and THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE 126 [UNION].

The Union and the Township are parties to a Collective Bargaining Agreement which by its terms expires December 31st, 2025. However, the parties are in negotiations and may be proceeding to fact finding or arbitration. Accordingly, the parties seek to extend the terms and conditions of the present Collective Bargaining Agreement until a final resolution of their negotiations is reached either by way of settlement, fact finding resolution, or conciliation decision.

Therefore, the Parties agree that their Collective Bargaining Agreement shall remain in full force and effect until a new agreement is reached and the new Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be retroactive to January 01, 2026.

FOR AUSTINTOWN F.O.P.126

FOR AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP

