

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2025 at 7:00 PM, Hiram Township Complex

Present: Trustees; Chairman Jack Groselle, Steve Pancost and Debra Blake. Fiscal Officer Eric Hankinson. Zoning Inspector Rich Gano. Road Supervisor Tom Matota. Public; None

This meeting is being recorded to facilitate the written minutes. The recording will be preserved until the minutes are approved.

Reading of the Minutes:

Mr. Hankinson read the minutes from the August 19, 2025 meeting. Mr. Pancost motioned to accept the minutes. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Fiscal Officer:

- Mr. Hankinson updated the Trustees on the status of the Ohio Edison LED Street Light upgrade contract. The contract is null and void as stated by Ohio Edison. The light fixtures themselves have not changed in price. Mr. Hankinson will follow up with Ohio Edison on what else can be done given the Township's request to replace all Street Lights with LED Fixtures.
- Mr. Hankinson received the information from the US Treasury SLFRF fund to repay the unspent \$1,416.20 by mid November.

Public Comment:

None

Old Business:

Mr. Pancost contact Frank Harmon in Columbus regarding the Township's Medical Insurance coverage. The Township is looking to hire a new employee for Maintenance with the opportunity to also drive Snow Trucks and such after the employee receives their training.

Mr. Pancost also spoke with Chris Craycroft from the Portage County Parks District about the Township doing some park related updates to the back of the 6532 SR 82 property. She suggested that the Township put together a survey to be provided to residents prior to making any further decisions on moving forward. Mr. Hankinson asked Mr. Pancost if the Parks District could provide ideas and suggestions on the questions to be included in the survey. Mr. Pancost will follow up on that in the next conversation with the Parks District.

Mr. Groselle did mention to The Portager that the Township is looking for a Maintenance Worker for the Road Crew. Mr. Matota provided an initial written copy of the advertisement for the position.

The Trustees had a discussion about the Township's Medical coverage at the time of renewal after the start of next year.

New Business:

The Trustees discussed the need to renew the contact for Trash Pickup with Kimble. Mr. Pancost motioned to accept the bid for Trash from Kimble. Mr. Groselle seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes **Resolution 2025-009**

Road:

The Chip & Seal has been completed and Melway Paving has a little bit of cleanup to finish. A Norton Rd resident did not want the Township to mow in-front of her property. She did not notify the Road Crew of this, and instead called the County Sherriff later that day. A Cadek Road resident called Tom requesting a ditch be cleaned. A neighbor of the resident called Tom as well. Tom met with the neighbor to understand what the actual request is. Tom suggested some possible solutions. The neighbor asked if all the neighbors can get together to correct the problem. Tom said that would be fine. The Township does not view the problem as a responsibility of the Township.

Tom took the International Dump Truck in for service. It requires additional maintenance around \$8,000 regarding emissions components. The truck was purchased in 2013. Over the last 12 years, other than wear & tear maintenance, the additional maintenance is \$18,000 and counting.

Tom called \$47.84 per ton of road salt. The Township committed to 500 tons of road salt, +/- %15

Zoning:

Mr. Groselle asked Mr. Gano about the status of the Amish families living in their Agricultural Buildings on Winchell Rd. Mr. Gano has heard nothing back from the County Health Department. Randy Roberts asked Chris Meduri about contacting the families on August 8, 2025. The Prosecutors Office will send a final letter notifying the landowners a civil complaint will be filed in Portage County Common Please Court in September seeking an injunction against the landowners to comply with all County building and health district regulations. Fines will be assessed until compliance. Mr. Groselle asked if the letters were sent out. Mr. Gano said he does not know as he no longer gets copies of letters from the County Prosecutor.

Mr. Pancost asked if the Township should maybe consider independent counsel to handle these types of issues.

No response from Jim Dye regarding letters sent to him. Mr. Gano also requested that Chris Meduri send a letter to him and also the Herr Drive resident with the camper, construction debris and more on the property.

Possible Variance Application for a Garage in-front of the house at 6447 Allyn Rd.

Nathan Yoder, at corner of Rt 305 and Wheeler, will build a second house behind the current one. Once the new house is built, the existing one will be destroyed.

Police:

August 2025: 113.5 Patrol Hours, 13 Traffic Stops, 8 Citations Issued

Fire:

August 2025: 31 Runs, Average Response Time 6:11

Mr. Pancost motioned to pay the bills, Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Mr. Groselle adjourned the meeting. Meeting ended at 7:59pm

09-16-25 Meeting Payments and Receipts

Warrant	Payee	Description	Expenses	Received
12505	Ohio Edison		\$484.47	
12506	Charter Communications		\$140.00	
12507	Centerra Co-Op		\$945.59	
12508	Medical Mutual of Ohio		\$108.04	
12509	UH Occupational Health		\$85.00	
12510	Mantua Hardware Lawn & Garden		\$87.52	
12511	Cuyahoga Asphalt Materials		\$823.50	
12512	Charles Harris & Associates		\$600.00	
12513	Allied Corporation		\$829.31	
12514	Mars Electric		\$159.84	
12515	Village of Hiram		\$1,821.87	
12516	TL Express		\$22.50	
electronic	Wages		\$12,001.80	
electronic	Windstream		\$120.85	
electronic	United Site Services		\$128.49	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	ACH Service Fees	\$25.00	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	Interest		\$1,719.03