

# Hiram Township Trustees

## Regular Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2025 at 7:00 PM, Hiram Township Complex

**Present:** Trustees; Chairman Jack Groselle, and Steve Pancost. Fiscal Officer Eric Hankinson. Zoning Inspector Rich Gano. Road Supervisor Tom Matota. Public; Gary Burden

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 February 18, 2025 meeting. Some corrections were noted. Mr. Pancost motioned to accept the minutes with corrections. Mr. Groselle seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

### Fiscal Officer:

- Resolution to participate in NOPEC 2025 Energized Community Grant Mr. Pancost motioned to participate in the grant. Mr. Groselle seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2025-003**
- Signed missing agreement for Ohio Edison street lighting project.
- The Trustees reviewed the FY2025 budget submitted by Mr. Hankinson. After some review, Mr. Groselle motioned to accept the budget. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes **Resolution 2025-005**

### Public Comment:

Mr. Burden mentioned to the Trustees about the web site OhioCheckbook.gov

### Old Business:

Mr. Pancost received the 2024 Annual Report from Regional Planning. The team there is also going to visit the Trustees about the current Zoning Book.

### New Business:

Mr. Pancost mentioned that at the State level, the Cannabis tax income could possibly be kept at the State level. Also looking to take away from the local government the ability to control the building of facilities related to Cannabis.

The Novaks were supposed to attend the meeting, but could not make it. There is an issue with a neighbor leaving manure in their yard which is under 5 acres.

The Hiram Village Police Chief is retiring. The Village wants to extend the Kimble Trash contract so that it ends the same date as the Recycling contract. The Village will provide further information to the Township in the near future.

### **Road:**

Mr. Matota updated the Trustees as to the status of the new signage from the ODOT Street Sign grant. The installation of all the signs are almost completed. A tree came down in the Riverside Cemetery. Mr. Matota will get a quote to complete the removal of the tree including stump grinding.

Mr. Matota reminded the Board that it's time for the Chip & Seal bidding process for 2025. The Trustees agreed that the Township will submit for the bidding process. The County Engineers told Mr. Matota that anything after April 18 would be fine for bid submissions. The Trustees agreed to move the April meeting to Tuesday April 22, 2025. Mr. Groselle motioned to allow the Portage County Engineers to prepare a big packet, based on input from Mr. Matota, to be advertised for public bids. Mr. Pancost seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes. **Resolution 2025-004**

Mr. Matota noted that the Trustees should consider writing an article explaining how the Road & Bridge 3mil levy will affect homeowners.

### **Zoning:**

New home permit on Mumford Rd. The Winchell road situation is still in progress. Randy at the County Building Department has engaged Attorney Chris Meduri. There will be a quarterly Zoning Meeting starting up for all Zoning Inspectors located in Portage County. A Winnebago was converted into a manure wagon. Photos were taken and sent to Chris Meduri. Mr. Gano has heard nothing yet. Norton road resident with trash still an issue. Mr. Gano has taken photos to document the issue. Mr. Gano has received calls about the Umbaugh property next door to the Township. Mr. Gano told the callers that the lot would need split in order for both buildings to be occupied as homes to conform to Zoning regulations. Mr. Gano met the new prosecutor that has replaced Brett Bencze.

### **Police:**

February 2025: 96 patrol hours, 12 traffic stops, 4 citations issued

### **Fire:**

February 2025: 21 runs for the Township. Average response time 3:57

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

Mr. Groselle adjourned the meeting. Meeting ended at 8:24pm

**03-25-25 Meeting Payments and Receipts**

<b>Warrant</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Received</b>
12416	Catalyst Life Services		\$56.88	
12417	Cuyahoga Landmark		\$1,084.92	
12418	Ohio Insurance Agency		\$79.00	
12419	Village of Hiram		\$42,684.00	
12420	Morton Salt		\$7,037.06	
12421	Mantua Auto Parts		\$7.49	
12422	Sarchione Chevrolet		\$87.30	
12423	Mantua Hardware		\$39.98	
12424	Dexter Company		\$3,150.00	
12425	Oscar Brugmann Sand and Gravel		\$186.62	
12426	Sedgwick		\$695.00	
12427	Carter Lumber		\$2.37	
12428	Municipal Signs & Sales		\$90.00	
12429	Portage County Health District		\$275.00	
12430	Charter Communications		\$139.98	
12431	Centerra Co-op		\$1,851.59	
12432	Jonathan VanGeest		\$74.46	
12433	Ohio Edison		\$93.46	
electronic	Wages		\$23,385.36	
electronic	Windstream		\$113.85	
electronic	United Site Services		\$128.49	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	ACH Service Fees	\$25.00	
electronic	Middlefield Bank	Interest		\$1,803.19