

Hiram Township Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

November 18, 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; Hiram Village Fire Chief Bill Byers

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

Mr. Hankinson then read the Meeting Minutes from the October 21, 2025 meeting. Some corrections were noted. Mr. Pancost motioned to accept the minutes with corrections. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote on the Motion: All Ayes.

Fiscal Officer:

- Called Amy at Ohio Edison. Ohio Edison is awaiting a ruling by the PUCO (Public Utilities Commission of Ohio) to determine if the upgrades will be free. The PUCO has yet to rule on this. Amy was directed by Mr. Hankinson to get the project moving regardless of the PUCO ruling. If the PUCO Ruling comes through before the Invoice is paid, then the Township will determine the proper course of action.

Public Comment:

None

Old Business:

Ms. Blake has not heard any further news about intersection signage study on Pioneer Trail.

New Business:

Mr. Groselle asked Mr. Hankinson if we have something for the OTARMA MORE Grant. Mr. Matota stated the Township needs Road Delineators which can easily meet the maximum \$1,000 of the Grant. Mr. Hankinson will then file the MORE Grant once the Delineators are purchased.

Mr. Pancost mentioned that Todd Peetz at Regional Planning was discussing doing the Comprehensive Plans, are costly per community, to combine Hiram, Nelson, Freedom & Windham together to do the Comprehensive Plan. The Trustees felt that the Township Comprehensive Plan doesn't need any updates at the moment as nothing drastic has changed within the Township limits.

Mr. Groselle received an email from a resident to erect a No Jake Brake sign on Limeridge Road towards the top of the hill heading down towards the Headwaters Trail (between Goodell and Headwaters Trail). Ms. Blake will follow up with the County to request the sign to be erected.

Mr. Groselle mentioned that the State of Ohio sent out information regarding the State Legislation around the State wanting to remove Property Taxes from the Townships.

Road:

Mr. Matota asked some clarifying questions about the insurance for the Road Crew position that the Township is hiring for. The Trustees came to the agreement that if an employee comes from another Township, we would honor their total possible accumulated PTO hours (not possible to take that PTO right at time of hiring, it has to be earned). Also, the employee has to be employed at least their 180 days probationary period prior to using any PTO time. The Township will provide insurance to the employee and immediate dependents insurance coverage as long as the immediate dependents don't have any other insurance coverage.

Mr. Hankinson asked the Trustees how changes to the Employee Handbook have been done in the past. Mr. Groselle mentioned that in the past, any changes were brought to the Trustees to be discussed and voted on for inclusion in the Employee Handbook.

Mr. Matota reported that the first major snow was fine. Salt was applied to the roads and everything went fine. Tom had the waste oil picked up and an invoice will be sent from Eco-Maxx.

Zoning:

6474 Winchell Rd has 2 permits for a Home and Ag Building. Still issues with the Norton Rd house, now regarding burning on the property. Chad Murdock did send letters on behalf of the Township. Rich fielding a lot of phone calls and upcoming permits.

Police:

October 2025: 100 patrol hours, 16 traffic stops, 13 citations issued

Fire:

October 2025: 20 Runs, Average Response Time 4:13 Mr. Byers was unable to get the AEDs to sync properly. The Service Rep will be follow up on next steps to correct the problem or replace the AED units in the Township Facility.

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

Mr. Groselle adjourned the meeting. Meeting ended at 7:54pm

11-18-25 Meeting Payments and Receipts

Warrant	Payee	Description	Expenses	Received
12539	Thomas Matota		\$1,300.40	
12540	Gee-Ville Auto Parts		\$6.00	
12541	Mantua Auto Parts		\$830.79	
12542	Mantua Hardware Lawn & Garden		\$56.50	
12543	Powerplan (Murphy)		\$95.47	
12544	Standwade Metal Products		\$14.75	
12545	stamm Contracting		\$20.00	
12546	Centerra Co-op		\$1,284.12	
12547	Ascendance Trucking		\$458.00	
12548	Cleveland Plumbing Supply		\$20.50	
12549	Industrial Connections		\$72.77	
12550	Cuyahoga Landmark		\$396.57	
12551	Hiram RCCA		\$105.00	
12552	GMElectric		\$134.80	
12553	Ohio Edison		\$963.22	
electronic	Payroll		\$130,512.52	
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