

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

Held on March 9, 2026

The Board of Harpersfield Township convened in regular session from 7:00 PM to 8:52 PM in the Administration Building. Lisa Linehan, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present: Lisa Linehan; Edwin Spoor; Ed Pristov

Employees: Larry Lister, Frank Henry and Jared Petro

Visitors: Tim and Bonnie Burzanko; Kim Gregory; Mark and Debbie Mihalik; Brenda Sanders; Gary Somnitz; Judy Parker; Doug Dean; Dave Snyder; Shawn Steigner; Lorrie Scott; Sandy Kelps; Jeff Laing; John Green; Joannie Keehn; Amy Fernandez, Bella Baker, Camryn Bushnell.

Ed Spoor stated that Sherry Cybulski would like to clarify that her concern about the traffic on Old Orchard with the new development is for safety reasons. Ed S. made a motion to accept meeting minutes; Ed P. seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Frank reported 19 calls for the month of Feb; 38 so far for the year. He stated that A-Tech students may show up for Fire training. Frank said that there are 2 fish fries left. Ed Pristov reported that over 550 dinners were sold at the last fish fry. Frank reported that the community continues to express that it's the best fish fry around. Frank also reported Feral Glass on South River Road passed last inspection and stated they would like to be open this May.

Lisa reported that Cody Craine resigned from his position as Road Superintendent and that Jared Petro will be the new Road Superintendent.

Jared would like to do dust control bids for 40,000 gallons of CRS-2p and 10,000 gallons AEP.

Jared reported that the broom bristles for the truck need to be replaced. He has a quote for \$1106.76. Ed made a motion to approve purchase of broom bristles, Lisa seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Larry reported Chipotle has opened.

Larry reported that there is a BZA meeting set for variance of sheets parking lot tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. Larry will be checking on training classes for zoning board members. Larry

recommended Joannie Keehn for the BZA Board as an alternate. Lisa made a motion to have Joannie join BZA as an alternate; Ed P. seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed S. made a motion to pay bills; check #15089 thru #15113 and ACH 26-2026 thru 48-2026 in the amount of \$62,133.28; Ed P. seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed S. stated that Trumbull waffle breakfast is March 28th 8 -12. Everyone is welcome. Trustees are doing the leg work of putting an together for Ohio Sip magazine. The cost will be \$300.00 for each winery. Ed has been contacting the wineries in Harpersfield to see if they would like to participate and is receiving positive response.

Ed S. will be attending Chamber dinner at VFW -recognizing all the students that got scholarships.

Ed S. thanked Lisa for updating Gazette contacts.

Ed S. talked to Jim Hockaday about the grant that came out thru Dave Joyce's office regarding getting a trail – Jim recommended passing on this one right now stating that when the Safe Streets grant is passed, we will be further ahead.

Ed S. attended NAD meeting. There were 52 calls year to date for Harpersfield with a 7.3 minutes response time; 651 total calls year to date.

Ed S. stated he is looking at GIS (Satellite) for our cemeteries. The cost is \$50.00 per hour and maximum of \$500.00 per year. He stated it will be money well spent and suggested we start with one cemetery and see how it goes.

Ed S. stated that he talked to Scott Yamamoto regarding Cyber Security. Scott will send Ed information on what we need to do to get in compliance. Ed P. offered to work with Ed S. to get the township in compliance.

Ed P. stated that he and Larry met with Emily Cardani. They created an introductory video for marketing the Windgate by Wyndam Facebook page. There was a lot of emphasis on Harpersfield.

Ed P. stated he will be working on First energy light upgrade. Lisa made a motion to replace our lights with the 3000k LED lights; Ed S. seconded. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed P. stated that Alyssa Ollis from Ferrante Winery is interested in having fireworks show for America's 250th Birthday Celebration. Discussions with all parties, including the Fire Department, will continue.

Ed P. stated that he will work on getting information for BZA and zoning members training.

Lisa reported:

1. SPIRE meeting: Still waiting to hear from SPIRE regarding plowing of trail. Talked to Sandy about public parking for the trail – they are proposing ten designated spaces south of Townplace Suites for both the trail and the community park to be combined with a future Hilton parking lot. Parking spaces would be reserved using signs with the option of adding more as needed – I will reach out to Sandy and get drawings for the parking spaces and how they would be incorporated into a future hotel parking lot.
2. ACTA: February's ACTA meeting was hosted by the County Engineer's office. The County Engineer went over their annual report. This month's meeting will be on the 19th at the Engineer's office.
3. Reminder that the public portion of the Verdantas meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 18th at 6:30pm at the Harpersfield Community Center. Verdantas will be presenting the changes to the zoning text that the committee has been working on. As soon as they have the proposed changes ready, we will post them on our social media for the public to view prior to the meeting.
4. Spire's BZA appeal - I am working with Larry to gather all documents related to the BZA hearing and appeal. These will be submitted to our OTARMA agent for consideration. If they charge for representation, we will turn it over to the county prosecutor to represent the BZA. McClain Transcripts has agreed to transcribe our BZA hearing audio recording for the appeal for around \$360.
5. Wind Energy Zoom Meeting from OSU extension office – Windfarms that are 5Mw and larger are regulated by the Ohio Power Siting Board (authority thru the ORC). SB 52 in 2021 gave some significant local control over the OPSB's decisions on: location, taxation, and decommissioning requirements. This oversight was granted to county commissioners in terms of location and taxation. Our commissioners are planning to speak with each township's trustees to hear what they want for their specific communities. Presentation included pros and cons of large-scale wind energy, including a very data-driven analysis of common complaints and perceptions. Windfarms that are less than 5mw are regulated by local zoning commissions and are addressed in HB 501 from 2023. OSU offered to do another zoom meeting focusing on these windfarms.
6. Insurance – due to miscommunication with our insurance broker, we missed March's window to accept SummaCare's quote. We will remain with Medical Mutual thru March and then switch to SummaCare effective April 1st.
7. Cody and I updated the Road Department Personnel Policy

8. I purchased two original 1874 Harpersfield Township plat maps from Ebay. The Heritage Society is buying one. We can get the other framed to put up in the office for about \$100 total.
9. Harpersfield's Heritage Society is requesting the contents of a bookshelf at the old town hall be removed – mostly old phone books and outdated compliance, county plans, and ORC codes from 1999-2007, as well as permission to revitalize pictures that are hanging on the walls.

Lisa stated that the BZA appeal transcript is needed. Ed S. made a motion to pay the bill; Ed P. seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed P. made a motion that we stay on Medical Mutual for this month and then switch to Summa Care effective April 1. Ed S. seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed S. made a motion that we reimburse Lisa for purchase of cemetery plot map for \$30.00; Ed P. seconded; The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Lisa made a motion to enter into Executive Session with the Board of Trustees and Fiscal Officer pursuant to ORC 121.22G1 at 8:18 pm. Ed S. seconded; The Board voted unanimously in favor. Ed S. made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:28 pm; Ed P. seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Lisa made a motion to promote Jared to Road Supervisor at the current Supervisor pay; Ed S. seconded; The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ed P. made a motion to accept NOPEC grant Resolution 2026-1; Ed S. seconded; The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Gary Somnitz mentioned that Joannie is a wizard at newsletters and that she has agreed to work with him on the Township newsletter.

Jim Pristov stated that he was pleased to see the large crowd we had at the meeting tonight. He suggested that we meet with Ferrantes to discuss ideas for America's Birthday celebration.

Tim Burzanko printed copies of an article from the News Herald which discusses short term rental bans in Concord Township.

Bonnie Burzanko stated NO to Data Centers, Wind Farms or Solar Farms, we need more food and dairy grown in our area.

Debbie Mihalik is looking for update on zoning complaint on their neighbor. Larry stated that he has not sent a letter out yet. Larry said he has until June 1st to get rid of camper and move semi-trailer. Larry stated that the markers are gone.

Lorrie Scott said that she hopes someone is doing a traffic study on Old Orchard with the new road being put in because there is a lot of traffic on that road and nobody is governing the speed.

Kim Gregory asked about recycling. Ed responded by saying that the Township will not be getting recycling back in the near future. It was a big problem and mess when the township had it and it became too much work for the road department.

Jeff Lang asked if LaFever Rd. is going to be seal coat or black topped. Jared said it has been brought to their attention and it is to be determined.

Ed P. made motion to adjourn; Ed S. seconded; the Board voted unanimously in favor.



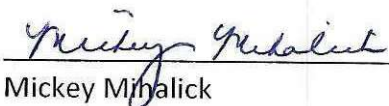
Lisa Linehan



Ed Spoor



Ed Pristov



Mickey Mihalick