

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

*Minutes of Meeting*

Plain Township Board of Trustee Meeting

The Plain Township Board of Trustees met in regular session at 8:00 a.m. at the Fire Station, 9500 Johnstown Road, New Albany, OH 43054.

Ms. Mollard called the meeting to order. Ms. Mollard led the Trustees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Members Present: Kerri Mollard and Jill Beckett-Hill. Others present: Fiscal Officer Bud Zappitelli, Township Administrator Ben Collins, Assistant Chief Ecleberry, Maintenance Supervisor Bob Pharris, and Finance Officer Courtney Rogers. Visitors present: Mike Durik. Mr. Ferguson was absent.

### **ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Mr. Pharris added Resolution M1. Ms. Rogers would like to add a meeting at the end of December for bill pay.

### **PAYMENT OF THE BILLS**

**Ms. Mollard made a motion to pay the pending warrants in the amount of \$749,430.13  
Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 24112001)**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Ms. Mollard made a motion to approve the November 6, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting minutes as submitted. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 241120602)**

### **MIKE DURIK – CITY COUNCIL LIAISON**

Mr. Durik thanked the Trustees for attending the City Council meeting last night. He said that Council appreciates the updates from the Township. City Council reviewed the 2025 budget and will finalize it at the first meeting in December. Council approved the final plots for 9 lots on the Northeast corner of State Route 605 and Central College. Council also approved two TIFs for the Steiner property, one residential and one commercial. The City Manager approved an intergovernmental agreement between Franklin County and Gahanna for the re-paving of Morse Road between State Route 62 and State Route 605. There is a verbal agreement with Columbus to annex the land to New Albany and Gahanna and then the road will be improved and widened.

**ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Collins added that the residential TIF for the Steiner property will return the fire levy taxes back to the township, the commercial TIF is yet to be determined.

The Joint Parks District requested an intergovernmental agreement with the Township and City of New Albany to allow the field house project to move forward with development. The township would consent to the annexation of the property to the City of New Albany. The field house zoning and building review would proceed with the City of New Albany.

The Columbus Foundation reported on how the metropolitan area benchmarks against 22 other areas. Columbus finds itself in the top 5 of four key measures of obesity, diabetes, overdose deaths, and infant mortality.

Mr. Collins reported that the slide tower project is still under plan review. There was a delay in obtaining the necessary plans from Whitewater, and the plans required a minor modification for a building code update since 2002.

**Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 241120A1. Be it resolved, that the Plain Township Board of Trustees hereby accepts the renewal of Delta Dental insurance coverage for a twelve-month term beginning January 1, 2025 with an 8.0% increase in premium at the rates below, and to authorize the township administrator to sign any agreements.**

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Employee only	\$37.50	\$40.50
Employee + Dependent	\$72.27	\$78.05
Employee + 2 or More	\$137.48	\$148.48

**Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.**

**Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 241120A2. Be it resolved, that the Plain Township Board of Trustees hereby accepts the renewal of Standard Vision insurance coverage for a twelve-month term beginning January 1, 2025 with a 4.2% increase in premium at the rates below, and to authorize the township administrator to sign any agreements.**

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Employee only	\$8.56	\$8.98
Family	\$18.20	\$18.96

**Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.**

**ZONING**

Mr. Collins reported the township has received a variance request for a residential pool to allow a pool safety cover instead of the required four foot fence. The Ohio building code requiring a four-foot fence for residential pools may have been amended. Mr. Collins attended the Mid-

Ohio Regional Planning Commission zoning training yesterday. ODOT is holding a stakeholder meeting on the development of the 6-mile corridor of State Route 62 between New Albany and Johnstown.

### MAINTENANCE

Mr. Pharris reported that the maintenance department has had several funerals since he last attended a board meeting. The department has also cleaned up the subdivision on Walnut Street, next to Rock Fork Park. The new dump truck is next in line to be built and he expects delivery early 2025. He also has a resolution on the agenda to dispose of obsolete equipment.

**Ms. Mollard made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 241120M1. Be it Resolved, that the following township personal property is declared unneeded, obsolete or unfit for township use and is to be disposed of by internet auction:**

<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Minimum Price</b>
<b>Lot 1: 1981 INGERSOLL RAND AIR COMPRESSOR Model # P-100A-W-W-U Serial # 124754V81135</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Lot 2: PB60 INGERSOLL RAND Jack Hammer</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Lot 3: Alegro fresh air compressor pump</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Lot 4: 2 fresh air helmets</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>

**Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.**

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Assistant Chief Ecleberry reported that the department is progressing forward with the transition to the Licking County dispatch system. Westerville PD and New Albany PD are looking into CAD to CAD communications. Three firefighters are attending training on the dispatch system at Licking County this week.

The Fire Department has had several high acuity runs recently with a fatal accident on Market Street and a couple of cardiac arrests.

The Fire Department continues to meet with the school board regarding the joint bus depot and fire station project. He expects construction to start in 2025. Planning for the timing of equipment is challenging with the long lead times for fire engines and medics. Both are expected to be delivered in early 2027. AC Ecleberry also noted that most manufacturers have indicated that prices are going to go up after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. He would like to order an engine and a medic soon. AC Ecleberry will provide information on the needed fire truck and medic and request approval to order these at the next meeting.

EMS Coordinator Brad Essick has been busy with community events, such as CPR training at the middle school, the age-based communities, and quality assurance.

## FISCAL OFFICE

The October credit card statements were presented.

Ms. Rogers presented the 2025 Temporary Appropriations. She explained that the new fire levy receipts are not yet certified by Franklin County, so she had to reduce the Fire Buildings and Additions, as well as the Fire Transfers, to balance. Franklin County will certify receipts in January 2025 and we can revise the expenses in the Permanent Appropriations that are due before April 1, 2025. Ms. Rogers and AC Ecleberry met last week and discussed a few items that AC Ecleberry would like to have added back into the budget, such as a Battalion Chief car and emergency equipment. Mr. Collins added that the township will want to purchase more deck furniture for the pool, as well as to possibly replace some of the larger umbrellas. Mr. Collins also reported that social security is providing a 2.5% cost-of-living increase for 2025. The trustees indicated that they would discuss township raises in December. Mr. Zappitelli also reported that he, Mr. Collins, and Ms. Rogers had a preliminary conversation with township attorneys to discuss funding options for the new fire station and equipment.

It was decided to move the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting to December 17<sup>th</sup> because of a conflict that Mr. Ferguson has. An additional bill-pay meeting was scheduled for December 30<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

## NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Beckett-Hill attending the New Albany Plain Local School Board meeting. The School Board presented a master plan update and shared a nice report on the collaboration between the school district and the township. Superintendent Michael Sawyers was recognized by his peers, superintendents from across Ohio, by the Buckeye Association of School Administrators for exemplary leadership. The Trustees want to publicly recognize and congratulate Superintendent Sawyers for this award.

## OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Collins reported that the cutoff to buy wreaths for the Wreaths Across America event is December 3, 2024. The township currently has 100 wreaths purchased. The trustees will share more information on social media.

Ms. Mollard also shared that the Plain Township historical society is building a sculpture to honor a Gold Star family from Plain Township. They are accepting donation.

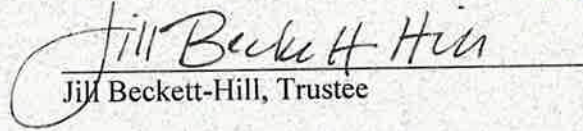
## ADJOURNMENT

**Ms. Mollard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 a.m. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

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David Ferguson, Trustee

  
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Kerri Mollard, Trustee

  
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Jill Beckett-Hill, Trustee

  
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Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer