

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, Jill Beckett-Hill and Hans Schell.

Others present: Fiscal Officer Bud Zappitelli, Chief Connor, Assistant Chief Ecleberry, Maintenance Supervisor Bob Pharris, and Finance Officer Courtney Rogers.

Visitors present: Mark Wilson and Jeremy Nicholas

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Mollard requested an executive session at the end of the meeting pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G) for the purpose of employment.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Ms. Mollard made a motion to pay the pending warrants in the amount of \$756,555.26

Mr. Schell seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 26081901)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Mollard made a motion to approve the August 5, 2026 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting minutes. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye. (Resolution 26081902)

NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL LIAISON – MIKE DURIK

Mr. Durik reported:

- The Planning Commission approved changes at New Albany Links to convert the driving range area into a short nine-hole golf course.
- The City approved trash and recycling contracts. Curbside composting was discussed but did not move forward after participation and cost concerns; existing centralized composting drop-off options remain.

- An outdoor skating rink at the McCoy Center was approved as a three-year arrangement. The rink is expected to operate seasonally beginning around November 22 through late February, with skate rentals available.
- Discussion included possible changes to the tree-lighting location and upcoming community events including Oktoberfest and Diwali.
- The Trustees discussed attending a City Council meeting in October to present township updates. October 20 was mentioned as a tentative date.
- Ms. Mollard raised concerns regarding a July 29 gas leak near State Route 605 and Snider Loop. She mentioned the communication gaps and neighborhood access limitations. She would like to the city to revisit the Snyder Loop/Cedarbrook emergency connector concept. Mr. Durik said he would discuss this prior to the city's capital spending meeting.
- Mr. Schell noted that beginning in September, the first Wednesday Township meetings will move to 5:30 p.m., while the second Township meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month will remain at 8:00 a.m.

NEW ALBANY PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS – MARK WILSON

- Mr. Wilson introduced Jeremy Nicholas as the new school board representative to the Township, succeeding Colleen Barber.
- The first day of school is today, following staff convocation earlier in the week.
- The district reported significant student diversity, including 68 countries of origin and approximately 40 languages represented. Spanish, Japanese, and Chinese were noted among common languages other than English, and English language learner enrollment was noted at approximately 5.4%.
- Updates on the school campus were discussed.
 - The 50-acre athletic campus project has an expected completion/opening date of February 2028.
 - The primary school project was reported to be progressing with underground plumbing, electrical work, masonry walls, and structural work underway.
 - Updates were also provided on the tech hub, including demolition completion and ongoing structural, masonry, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, acoustics, and rotunda work.
 - Phase two was described as the fine arts and science hub, with staff feedback being gathered on the layout.
 - The transportation center relocation to an area off Beech Road was discussed, including City partnership, traffic considerations, and future use of the existing transportation property.

ADMINISTRATOR

The Township Administrator was not present.

Ms. Mollard made a Motion to table Resolution No. 260819A1.

Be it Resolved, that in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 507.11, the Board of Trustees hereby restates the Plain Township employee purchase authority limits as follows:

Purchases - \$10,000 per transaction limit – Administrator Ben Collins

Purchases - \$10,000 per transaction limit for vehicle or facility repairs– Fire Chief Pat Connor

Purchases - \$5,000 per transaction limit – Fire Chief Pat Connor

Purchases - \$2,500 per transaction limit – Assistant Fire Chief Greg Ecleberry, Fire Marshal Kevin Sponaule, Maintenance Superintendent Bobby Pharris, and Finance Officer Courtney Rogers

Purchases - \$750 per transaction limit – Captain Joe Herren, Lieutenant Joe Pershing, EMS Coordinator Brad Essik, and Administrative Coordinator Mary Fee

Credit Line – Englefield Oil – Emergency Fuel - (Account Limit \$10,000) – Maintenance Department and Fire Department

Credit Line – Sam’s Club (Account Limit \$15,000) – Bobby Pharris, Mary Fee, Chris Pabst, Brian Reasoner, Joe Herren, and Courtney Rogers

Credit Line - Micro Center (Account Limit \$5,000) – Pat Connor, Jason Miller, Mary Fee, Ben Collins, and Courtney Rogers

Credit Line - CDW-G – (Account Limit \$2,500 per transaction) – Pat Connor, Jason Miller, Mary Fee, Ben Collins, and Courtney Rogers

Credit Line - Staples (Account Limit \$10,000) – Plain Township – Mary Fee (Primary Purchaser)

Mr. Schell seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

ZONING

No update

ROAD/MAINTENANCE

Mr. Pharris reported:

- Recent storms resulted in cleanup work, including debris and tree-limb removal at Hoover Reserve.
- Mowing operations are behind due to saturated grounds and recent rain.
- The new truck was picked up, with decals and reflective tape being installed.
- The Station 121 sign was repaired.
- Quotes to repair tuck pointing and brick separation at the township office are being obtained.
- Fire extinguisher boxes were installed and a door closer was repaired at a rental property.
- A roof replacement may be needed at 39 2nd Street after leaks were discovered during heavy rain. Multiple roofing quotes are being pursued.
- New Albany requested a meeting regarding shared road snowplowing responsibilities.
- The pool remains open, with future maintenance needs identified, including re-staining the main building and addressing cracked concrete.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Connor reported:

- Station 122 site work began, including pad preparation, pond excavation, and underground utility work. The City of New Albany is assisting with relocation of a street sign and tree trimming to improve safe site access.
- The need for professional documentation, photography, video, and social media communications for the Station 122 project was discussed. Ms. Beckett-Hill is meeting with a videographer this afternoon and will request a proposal.
- Firefighter Knicely returned to full duty. Inspector Gilmore was scheduled for neck surgery and is expected to be out approximately two to three weeks.
- The maintenance team assisted promptly after storm-related damage to landscaping.
- Promotional testing for lieutenant is being reviewed, with estimated costs of approximately \$10,000 to \$13,000. A proposal is expected at the next meeting.
- Continuum software connected to ImageTrend is live and being configured for data tracking, annual reporting, and strategic planning purposes.

Assistant Chief Ecleberry reported:

- The department responded to Crooksville flood-related emergency needs through Central Ohio strike team and emergency response plan activations. The Board expressed appreciation for the crews' service.
- Annual hose testing was completed using the Marburn Academy parking area. The final report is pending.
- Ladder truck fenders were removed for painting and are expected to be reinstalled after completion.
- Fire station bed replacement planning continued, including whether to purchase beds for the new station as part of a bulk order and whether bond-interest proceeds may apply to new-station equipment.
- The Board discussed reviewing and potentially extending the current fire department strategic plan rather than undertaking a full new planning process immediately.
- The garage next door to the fire station was discussed due to roof leaks, pests, limited current use, and possible demolition considerations.
- First Arriving software was installed and is live, providing rotating screens with staffing, traffic cameras, weather, announcements, and call-routing information.
- Fire Prevention Week plans were discussed, with October 4th noted as the likely Open House date.
- Run statistics were reviewed, including a notable decrease in Columbus runs to approximately 6%, with Plain Township runs at approximately 75%.

Ms. Beckett-Hill made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 260819F1. Be it resolved to pay Taylor Tire Company \$12,187.34, for the purchase and installation of ten tires for the 2019 Sutphen Ladder, out of fund 2111-220-58024 (Fire - Repairs - Non-Routine). Ms. Mollard seconded the Motion. Vote: All Aye.

FISCAL OFFICE

- The July 2026 Bank Reconciliation and Month-End reports were presented.
- The Township received approximately \$1.3 million in first-half TIF money from the City of New Albany.
- TIF funds received through Huntington Bank will be transferred to RedTree, Star Ohio and Huntington savings as appropriate.

Mr. Schell made a Motion to pass Resolution No. 260715B1. Be it Resolved, to increase the following fund receipts by the amounts indicated:

- **Fund 1000-000-47001 Interest-General Fund receipts by \$50,000.00**
- **Fund 2231-000-47001 Interest-Permissive receipts by \$7,000.00**
- **Fund 2111-000-42009 Fire-Other-Fire Prevention inspections and permits receipts by \$120,000.00**
- **Fund 2111-000-48051 Fire-Sale of Assets receipts by 12,000.00**
- **Fund 2171-000-42016 Pool-Swim Lesson receipts by \$13,000.00**

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

OLD BUSINESS

- **Mr. Schell shared that he is still working with the City of New Albany on the data center noise complaints. Sound testing is occurring. Mr. Schell will follow up with Jennifer Chrysler.**
- **Trustee absences were noted for upcoming meetings. Ms. Mollard will miss the 1st October meeting and Ms. Beckett-Hill will miss the 2nd September meeting.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Mollard made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 9:00 a.m. pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) for employment. Mr. Schell seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Aye

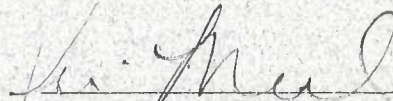
Chief Connor and Assistant Chief Ecleberry attended the executive session.

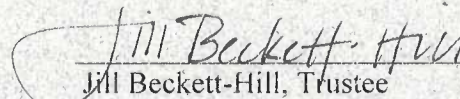
Ms. Mollard made a motion to close out of executive session at 9:52 a.m. Ms. Beckett-Hill seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: All Aye

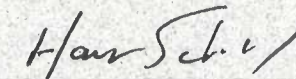
ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mollard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m. Mr. Schell seconded the motion. Vote: All Aye

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:


Kerri Mollard, Trustee


Jill Beckett-Hill, Trustee


Hans Schell, Trustee


Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer