

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS **REGULAR TRUSTEE MEETING HELD JANUARY 13, 2026**

The Fairfield Township Trustees held a Regular Trustee Meeting Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at the Administration Building, 6032 Morris Road, Fairfield Township, OH 45011, for conducting Township business. Meeting was called to order by Mr. Berding, Board Chairperson at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL: Fiscal Officer, Shelly Schultz

Trustee Chairperson, Michael Berding	Present
Trustee Vice Chairperson, Shannon Hartkemeyer	Present
Trustee, Joe McAbee	Present

Pledge of Allegiance

Motions

- A. Motion to open floor for nominations for Chairperson for the Board of Trustees.
Motion made by Mr. Berding, second by Mrs. Hartkemeyer to open floor for nominations for Chairperson for the Board of Trustees. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’, and Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’.
Motion passes.
- B. Motion to close floor for nominations for Chairperson for the Board of Trustees.
Motion made by Mr. Berding, second by Mrs. Hartkemeyer to close floor nominations for the Chairperson for the Board of Trustees. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’, and Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’.
Motion passes.
- C. Motion to appoint Michael Berding for the Chairperson for the Board of Trustees.
Motion made by Mr. Berding, second by Mrs. Hartkemeyer to appoint Mr. Berding for Chairperson for the Board of Trustees. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’, and Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’.
Motion passes.
- D. Motion to open floor for nominations for Vice-Chairperson for the Board of Trustees.
Motion made by Mr. Berding, second by Mr. McAbee to open floor for nominations for Vice-Chairperson for the Board of Trustees. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’, and Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’.
Motion passes.
- E. Motion to close floor for nominations for Vice-Chairperson for the Board of Trustees.
Motion made by Mr. Berding, second by Mrs. Hartkemeyer to close floor for nominations for Vice-Chairperson for the Board of Trustees. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’, and Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’.
Motion passes.
- F. Motion to appoint Mrs. Hartkemeyer Vice-Chairperson for the Board of Trustees.
Motion made by Mr. Berding, second by Mrs. Hartkemeyer to appoint Mrs. Hartkemeyer Vice-Chairperson for the Board of Trustees. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’, and Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’.
Motion passes.
- G. Motion to set the public hearing date of March 10, 2026, for the Comprehensive Plan.
Motion made by Mr. McAbee, second by Mr. Berding to set public hearing date of March 10, 2026, for the Comprehensive Plan. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’, Mr.

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- Berding – ‘aye’, and Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’. Motion passes.
- H. Motion to approve Shelly Schultz to take a Public Records Training for the Elected Officials. Motion made by Mr. Berding, second by Mr. McAbee to approve Shelly Schultz to take a Public Records Training for the Elected Officials. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’, and Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’. Motion passes.

ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

A. Old Fire Station/Public Works Building

Mrs. Lapensee – We had the appraisal completed on the old fire station building and it came in around \$410,000. My question to you is do you want to move forward with trying to sell or do you want to remodel it or use it for something else. Do you want to raze it and use the vacant land. Sell the vacant land. What’s your suggestions?

Mrs. Hartkemeyer – I’d like to hear some proposals for that. I think it would make sense for us to look if we’re not going to use it, I don’t know why we’re holding it.

Mrs. Lapensee – Right now we use it for storage and fire training.

Mr. Berding – I guess I would ask our chief and Mr. Bennett if you’d like to weigh in.

Chief Berter - It’s nice to have fire training but we’re very limited to what we can do inside the building. It’s non-destructive type training. We can’t do live fires. We can’t throw ladders because it’s a single-story building. So, we’re limited to what we can do. While it’s nice to have, I’m of the opinion that we sell it.

Mr. Bennett – Since we traded in the two plow trucks, I no longer have any vehicles inside the building. In the back garage I have a bush hog and a couple other things that I think we could probably move over to the shop and cover it up to keep the weather off of it. I personally feel like we should probably sell the building. I think it’s a little rough on the inside.

Mr. McAbee – We could put it up for sale and see what kind of interest we get.

Mr. Berding – At first, I was at the thought process that we should try to keep it. I know that we were using it for storage and I’m not one to sell property if we don’t have to. But I agree, I think it’s a building that we don’t need.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer – As I mentioned earlier, I don’t think that we have a compelling reason to keep it now. It seems like it’s something that we’re putting money into and we’re not really getting any substantive use out of it. I think we could probably use other places for training, and it sounds like we don’t need it for storage any longer. So, I don’t know if we need to hang on to it.

B. Fire Station 211 renovations/repairs

Mrs. Lapensee stated that CDA has finished their drawing through the repairs and renovations. The total cost of repairs will be \$2,464,043.00. They have also proposed some alternatives for us to consider, and I would recommend that we complete these alternatives since the building will already be under construction and the employees will already be out of the building. The additional items include a kitchen renovation, replacement of lightning rods, epoxying the apparatus bay, replacing the fire alarm, and providing new light fixtures. The total cost of these extra additions will be \$130,567.89. We’re also going to have to replace the alerting system and that’s probably going to cost another \$100,000.00. It’s 25-years old and there’s a repeating factor that goes on every time the alert system goes off. There’s also a later item on the agenda to discuss financing the project over a 5-year period versus using up all our TIF money. We have our consultants in the audience if you have any questions.

Hi, my name is Amy Hucke. I am an architect at Community Design Association and we

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provided the initial study of the existing fire station, determined what the needs were, what the renovations needed to be, wants, and those kinds of things. Then we worked with HGC to come up with the cost estimates that Mrs. Lapensee presented tonight. We're going to do just the internal renovation, find the water infiltration areas and repair most of which comes from the roof. So, that renovation would be eliminating the current roofscape as it is and putting a single slope roof on the building.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer - I'd like to have an idea of what it's going to look like for staff when they're in the building, out of the building, how that's going to work.

Ms. Hucke – We have talked about that and along with HGC and with Chief Berter they are going to move out of the building and find temporary housing. So, the complete fire station except for the apparatus bays will be in use. The living quarters and the administration offices won't be in use, just the fire bays.

Chief Berter – That looks like keeping 3 firemen in this firehouse 24 hours a day. Moving the remaining staff to Gilmore Road to run out of Gilmore Road, which is our shift supervisor and the other medical unit as well as all of the administrative staff. The living quarters for the 3 guys that are going to stay at this firehouse is going to be a temporary trailer in the side lot adjacent to the base just south of them. That will allow the construction crews to use most of the bay for their equipment and tools while maintaining fire and EMS.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer – How will that impact operations.

Chief Berter – Operations will not be impacted.

Mr. Berding – This item is on the agenda later as a first read with an option to approve. I know that the original estimates when they came in the cost of replacing the fire station if I remember correctly were near \$8,500,000 or \$9,000,000 and if we were to add on it could go up as much as \$12,000,000. At the time we asked to try and stay around \$10,000,000 so I think that you've done that for the most part. It's a little higher than I really wanted to go but I understand that we can't control expectations. I think the one thing we didn't anticipate was having to remove a significant portion of the roof.

Mrs. Lapensee – If you look on the resolution, I attached the cost to it. Most of the cost is the roof. It's a membrane and sheet metal roofing. So that's the biggest cost out of everything. Then the HVAC comes in second.

Chief Berter - This roof has almost leaked since day one.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer - I do think we need to look at the financing. I'm interested in seeing a five year, but I'm also interested in seeing maybe a 10 year or 20 year would look like. I really don't like taking on debt but in the interest of preserving our cash position I'd like to explore that a bit more.

COMMUNICATION

Paul Yeckel, 7856 Bridgewater Lane - First, congratulations to the both of you on your reelection. I don't think Paul Yeckel is going to be the only one up here at the microphone here in a couple of months. Last Friday, the Fairfield City School Board announced plans. They have two public hearings scheduled to place a 1.25% income tax on the ballot in the spring for continuing operating costs of the district. As everyone that lives in Fairfield Township knows, there are no income taxes in Fairfield Township. Income tax is a lot of money. And tonight the reason I'm here is to discuss Items I and J. placing a property tax levy for fire and police, I remember the township administrators, saying I guess we'll find out what those numbers are here real soon but it seemed like the combined amount of property tax that'll be requested is going to be on the level of 7 to 9 mills. As you all know, I've been up here before. I am a

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huge fan of our public works, fire and police. I think they are the best around here. They do an outstanding job. However, everything has a cost. Here's my fear. If the board goes for property tax along with the school district money, it's going to be ugly. There is my fear all three are going to fail. For as many people value police, fire, and the good, wonderful work of public service that the public works department and the township staff does, 8 to nine mills, that alone is a lot of money. And as you know, I've long said I've long been a supporter of the fire and police levy. And I'm also a supporter of the school levy as well, 1.25%. And you think about the average income in Fairfield Township being between 50 and 100 grand. This would amount to 60 - 80 a month just for the school. I'm a little bit disappointed that the board's even considering such a large amount. And I'm disappointed maybe in who I voted for in that election to even entertain that. And I know they're going to have public hearings and they may change that, but just to throw that out there kind of offends me a little bit because they should know and I don't know how much discussion they had with the township trustees, but we have serious needs here in the township if fire and police levies don't pass this year. So, the only thing I want to bring to the board and to the people who are assembled tonight is the discussions are going to get intense here if the board goes for this in the spring. I know you're prepared for it, but I didn't know that you knew the amount. I think I brought that up to the one trustee and I think I might have caught that person on off guard a little bit. So, I hope that the trustees have some discussion with the school board to try to reduce that amount so all three can pass. And I thank you very much for your time this evening.

Motions/Resolutions for the agenda:

All items under the Consent Agenda are considered by the Board of Trustees to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. Any Trustee may remove an item from the Consent Agenda by request. No second is required for removal of an item. Items removed for separate discussion will be considered after the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Mrs. Hartkemeyer, second by Mr. McAbee to adopt the Consent agenda.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer made a motion to approve Consent Agenda; Mr. Berding seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mrs. Hartkemeyer – ‘aye’, Mr. McAbee - ‘aye’, and Mr. Berding – ‘aye’. Motion passes.

Fiscal Office Business - Consent Agenda Items

- A. Recommend motion to suspend reading of the minutes of the following minutes:
 - 1. Trustee Regular Meeting, December 9 and Special Meeting December 29, 2025.
- B. Recommend motion to approve the minutes.
- C. Recommend motion to approve payment of the bills by the Fiscal Office.

RESOLUTIONS – Consent Agenda Items

- A. Resolution 26-01 – Resolution Approving Open Purchase Order Balances.
- B. Resolution 26-02 – Resolution Declaring Nuisance and Ordering Abatement on Properties.
- C. Resolution 26-03 – Resolution Approving the 2026 annual invoice to Miami Valley Crime Laboratory.
- D. Resolution 26-04 – Resolution Authorizing contract with Dell for Microsoft Licensing.
- E. Resolution 26-05 – Resolution Reappointing Paul Weingartner, member of the Zoning Appeals Board, for a five-year period ending January 31, 2031.

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F. Resolution 26-06 – Resolution Kara Chaney, member of the Zoning Commission Board, for a five-year period ending January 31, 2031.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT – Shelly Schultz, Fiscal Officer, the report you have in front of you is the ending balances. Obviously, these are the most important as it's the end of the year. So, we ended up carrying over \$16.9 Million in our fund balances. Our revenue to date was \$16.2 Million. Expenditures were \$17.5 Million and appropriations for 2025 were \$23.6 Million. Payments made in December were \$1.1 Million. EMS billing for the entire year was \$945,000. Our current balance in our investment account is \$15.3 Million. We earned \$39,000 in interest in December and JEDD revenue year to date Hamilton was \$690,000 and Fairfield \$47,000. The audit is starting early since we have an IPA now instead of the state.

FISCAL OFFICERS REPORT – JANUARY 1, 2026

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$1,871,826.00
JEDD REVENUE RECEIVED YTD (Hamilton)	\$690,898.64
JEDD REVENUE RECEIVED YTD (Fairfield)	\$47,381.97
INVESTMENT ACCOUNT BALANCE (2.95%)	\$15,355,627.87
Interest Earned in DECEMBER	\$39,576.83
GRANT MONEY RECEIVED	\$0.00
EMS BILLING RECEIPTS TO DATE	\$945,838.84
REVENUE TO DATE (97.752%)	\$16,219,016.81
REVENUE BUDGETED FOR 2025	\$16,204,430.19
EXPENDITURES TO DATE (72.060%)	\$17,594,736.23
APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2025	\$23,599,065.00
PAYMENTS MADE IN DECEMBER	\$1,119,732.65
MAJOR FUND BALANCES	
1. GENERAL	\$8,773,023.76
2. ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND	\$37,930.23
3. POLICE FUND	\$8,542.28
4. FIRE LEVY FUND	\$111,731.91
5. SAFETY SERVICES FUND	\$163,486.27
6. FIRE RESCUE, AMBULANCE, EMS FUND	\$309,107.02

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7. JEDD FUND (HAMILTON)	\$2,191,549.76
8. JEDD FUND (FAIRFIELD)	\$50,744.10
9. TIF (STORYPOINT)	\$639,237.51
10. TIF (PRINCETON)	\$1,807,703.93
11. TIF (SEWARD)	\$597,165.04
12. TIF (BRIDGEWATER)	\$5,984.33
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$16,964,936.24

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT, Mrs. Kim Lapensee

Resolutions

****FIRST READ****

1. Resolution 26-07 – A Resolution to approve the renovation of Fire Station 211 by HGC Construction at a base cost not to exceed \$2,464,043.00 plus alternates in the cost of \$130,567.89 for a total of \$2,594,610.89 and paid from multiple funds. Mrs. Lapensee stated this will be the first read with an option to approve. The lead time on the trusses can range from 8 to 12 weeks. If we approve this meeting, they are estimating the project could be complete by July. If we decide to finance the construction, the financing will be in place by the end of March.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer – I'd like to see some financing options on this.

Mr. McAbee – I guess I'd question where this fits into the financial situation, we're in.

Mr. Berding - I think we need to show the residents we need to take care of capital that they have invested in. We have these buildings which are housing our equipment and housing our firefighters and it's in need of desperate repair. I don't want our firefighters working in unfit working conditions. I don't want our equipment to be in danger of being ruined. So, I think you know we do have the money and TIFF funds to pay for it or we could finance it as well, but I think we need to show the residents that we are using money judiciously to protect their investments. I know that we're going to be asking them to approve an operating levy for our fire department and our police department. I feel like to need to show them that we are at least protecting what they've already paid for. That's my opinion.

Mr. McAbee – I don't disagree with that. We've had years to do something about it and we really haven't done anything. If we're concerned about safety, then we should go ahead and make that move. Get a temporary trailer and move the rest of them to Gilmore Road. But if the levy fails, what's the solution then? We spend \$2.7 million on a building we can't staff full-time firefighters.

Mr. Berding – It would be a maybe lower level of staff. But you know I still feel like we need to repair that building. I just wanted to give everybody time to absorb that figure and figure out what they would like to do before calling for a vote.

Mr. McAbee – I don't want to be negative about it but like Mr. Yeckel has said three levies on the ballot in May and none of them are going to pass. Everybody is going to back to it in November. If we don't have any more money at the end of the year coming for 2027 from

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where I'm sitting, we might not need but 1 fire station. So, to me I understand taking care of it and I know we have held the costs down but I think that's a real situation that could arrive. Mr. Berding – Lets keep this as a first read and continue our discussion.

Mr. McAbee – We could vote in March, April or May. To me we're not going to know anything more next month than we do now as for as a financial picture of the township. Whether we want to say it out loud or not there will be drastic cuts if we don't get additional funding this year or we can go one or year like we did this year and it just gets worse. It concerns me greatly that we're in this situation.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer - To my earlier point I'm very interested in looking at what the finance picture would look like because that would allow us to preserve that cash position which I know no one really has an appetite for that but if worse came to worse we would have \$2.5 Million in the TIF fund which we could use to pay salaries if we had to. That's not my first choice obviously but I think that if we decide we must make the repairs maybe financing is the way to go. Maybe waiting is the way to go. But I think that we need that key piece that data analysis to tell us what that looks like.

2. Resolution 26-08 – A resolution authorizing the administrator to execute agreement with The Butler County Emergency Management Cooperative Program, at a total cost of \$12,600.50. Mrs. Lapensee stated this is the same agreement as last year and will be paid with multiple funds.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer made a motion to approve Resolution #26-08, Mr. Berding seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mrs. Hartkemeyer – 'aye', Mr. Berding', and Mr. McAbee - 'aye'.

Motion passes.

3. Resolution 26-09 – A Resolution authorizing CLOUT membership in the amount of \$200 for year 2026. Mr. Berding made a motion to approve Resolution #26-09, Mrs. Hartkemeyer seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – 'aye', Mrs. Hartkemeyer', and Mr. McAbee - 'aye'.

Motion passes.

4. Resolution 26-10 – A Resolution appointing Katherine Barbiere Law Director pursuant to ORC Section 504.15 and dispensing with the second reading. Mrs. Lapensee stated this will appoint/approve Ms. Barbiere's contract with the township. Mr. McAbee made a motion to approve Resolution 26-10, Mr. Berding seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. McAbee – 'aye', Mr. Berding', and Mrs. Hartkemeyer - 'aye'. Motion passes.

5. Resolution 26-11 – A Resolution appointing Lawrence Barbiere Assistant Law Director pursuant to ORC Section 504.15 and dispensing with the second reading. Mrs. Lapensee stated this will appoint/approve Mr. Barbiere's contract with the township. Mr. McAbee made a motion to approve Resolution 26-11, Mrs. Hartkemeyer seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. McAbee – 'aye', Mrs. Hartkemeyer', and Mr. Berding - 'aye'.

Motion passes.

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6. Resolution 26-12 – A Resolution establishing and approving the 2026 Zoning Fee Schedule. Mrs. Lapensee stated this resolution will increase our fees for 2026 by varying amounts. New Zoning fee schedule is attached. Mr. McAbee made a motion to approve Resolution 26-121, Mr. Berding seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’, Mr. Berding’, and Mrs. Hartkemeyer - ‘aye’. Motion passes.
7. Resolution 26-13 – A Resolution authorizing Then and Now Purchase Order to Strategic Solutions in the amount of \$8,588.13 for public records document scanning and paid from the General Fund. Mrs. Lapensee stated this bill is the final bill to scan all old documents that were sent eight years ago. We will still have the annual amount to pay to use their software to search for and find the scanned images. Mr. McAbee made a motion to approve Resolution 26-13, Mrs. Hartkemeyer seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mrs. Hartkemeyer’, and Mr. McAbee - ‘aye’. Motion passes.
8. Resolution 26-14 – A Resolution approving changes to the Police Department Policy Manual for Fairfield Township. Mrs. Lapensee stated this is the first read with an option to approve. Considering the recent vehicle chases that have occurred over the last few months, the Chief would like the board to approve changes to the policy that would limit the items we would undertake pursuits. Chief Chabali stated that overall, the policy is more contemporary. It produces less liability, a little bit more restrictive for our personnel to engage only in certain crimes. It also allows for some discretion depending on what the crime is but it kind of minimizes some of the pursuits that we have. Mr. McAbee made a motion to approve Resolution 26-14, Mrs. Hartkemeyer seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. McAbee – ‘aye’, Mrs. Hartkemeyer’, and Mr. Berding - ‘aye’. Motion passes.
9. Resolution 26-15 – A Resolution determining to proceed to Levy and additional tax in excess of the Ten-Mill limitation within the Township. Mrs. Lapensee stated this will be to place a 4.49 mill levy on the allot for May. The fire levy will generate \$4,693,427.00 a year over a 5-year period and cost \$157.00 per \$100,000 in valuation. Mr. Berding made a motion to approve Resolution 26-15, Mrs. Hartkemeyer seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – ‘aye’, Mrs. Hartkemeyer’, and Mr. McAbee - ‘aye’. Motion passes. Mr. Berding – I know that we’ve done all kinds of analysis on our current staffing level, what we need, where our shortcomings are. We haven’t filled positions that people have left. This levy is intended to fund the fire department at the current levels without that including the staff that we haven’t replaced. We’re watching the budget numbers but it’s asking the citizens, would you like to keep funding? Would you like to keep the fire department as it was operating in 2023-2024 levels? Essentially that’s what we’re asking for. We’re not asking for an extra exuberant. We need to put some extra money aside in case we want to

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expand. This is at current funding levels. That's what we're asking our residents. Do you want to maintain that level? If you do not, then don't vote for the levy. If you do, this is what all the experts have decided, that's the current level that we need to fund the fire department. That's what the ask is. When I was out talking with our residents about the overwhelming major, not all, the majority were in favor of funding our safety services.

10. Resolution 26-16 – A Resolution determining to proceed to Levy an additional tax in excess of the Ten-Mill limitation within the Township. Mrs. Lapensee stated this will be to place a 2.99 mill police levy on the ballot for May. The police levy will generate \$2,459,542.00 per year over a 5-year period and cost \$105.00 per \$100,000 in valuation.

Mr. McAbee made a motion to approve Resolution 26-16, Mrs. Hartkemeyer seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – 'aye', Mrs. Hartkemeyer', and Mr. McAbee - 'aye'.

Motion passes.

11. Resolution 26-17 – A Resolution authorizing the Township Administrator to sign all documents related to the self-insurance plan. Mrs. Lapensee stated there are multiple documents that need to be signed to implement the self-insurance plan. These include banking agreements, hospital agreements, pharmacy agreements, etc. Mr. McAbee made a motion to approve Resolution 26-17, Mr. Berding seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. McAbee – 'aye', Mr. Berding', and Mrs. Hartkemeyer - 'aye'.

Motion passes.

12. ****TABLED**** Resolution 26-18 – A Resolution authorizing the Township Administrator to sign a letter of engagement with Bradley Payne for municipal advisory services. Mrs. Lapensee stated this will allow us to hire Bradley Payne to get the lowest rates for financing The fire station project. I would recommend a five-year term. They are going to go through all the financing. They're going to send out a letter. It's a one sheet letter and it basically asks the same questions and they're going to send it to 30 different banks and then they're going to ask based on all these questions what the financing could be. Depending on the term so if it's a 5-year term or it's a 10-year term or 20, obviously you're going to get different rates associated with it, but they would do all of that work for us. They would combine it and then they would give it to us in the best format for us to decide. They're going to weed through all the qualifications for all the different banks, and you know what each individual is offering. It'll just cut down on all the work for us because we're not experts in finance.

Mrs. Hartkemeyer – I would be interested in the 10-year, and 20-year note options if we could get an early payout option.

Mr. Berding – If we don't go with the financing option what is the fee for them.

Mrs. Lapensee – Except for annual fees all financing fees are contingent upon successful closing of the transaction. I think it would be a couple of thousand dollars for them to do the annual disclosure report.

Mr. Berding – I'm not comfortable voting on something I don't know what the actual fee is going to be.

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Mrs. Hartkemeyer made a motion to table Resolution 26-18, Mr. Berding seconded the motion.

Motion Tabled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Transportation Improvement District (TID) – Trustee McAbee – We met yesterday and we have a busy slate for the next 5-years. All project are moving forward.
- B. Emergency Management Agency (EMA) – Trustee Hartkemeyer – Nothing to report on EMA
- C. Ohio, Kentucky, Indian Regional Council of Government (OKI) – Trustee Hartkemeyer – We met last week and the one key takeaway is that the transportation bill on the federal level is still in process. It's anticipated to be finalized by 3rd quarter.
- D. The Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Township (CLOUT) – Trustee Hartkemeyer – We have the CLOUT luncheon at the OTA.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Berding – I hope the residents understand that trustees don't take the tax issues lightly. I think all of us try to be fiscally conservative. We are very proud of our police and fire department and the services they provide, and we would like to continue that for our community. But we have to ask the community what they want. If they come back and say we can't. We want that but we can't afford it then we might have to go another direction. But we at least have to put that question out to them for them to make that decision.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Martin Luther King Day Observed – Monday, January 19, 2026. All Township offices will be closed.
- Zoning Appeals Meeting – Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 7 PM.
- Advanced Manufacturing and Workforce Innovation Hub Grand Opening – Monday, February 2, 2026, from 10 AM to 12 PM.
- Regular Trustee Meeting – Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 7 PM.

Motion to move to Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G) (1) to consider the discipline, appointment, employment or compensation of a public employee or official, and ORC 121.22 (2) to consider the purchase of property for public purposes, the sale of property at competitive bidding, or the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use property in accordance with section 505.10 of the revised code.

Michael Berding made a motion to go into Executive Session, Mr. McAbee seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Berding – 'aye', Mr. McAbee 'aye', and Mrs. Hartkemeyer – 'aye'. Motion passes.

President convenes Executive Session at 8:04 PM.

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President resumes regular meeting at 8:49 PM

ROLL CALL

Mr. Berding	Yes
Mrs. Hartkemeyer	Yes
Mr. McAbee	Yes

No action will be taken at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Berding, second by Mrs. Hartkemeyer to adjourn at 8:50 PM
All in favor.

Minutes submitted by:

Shelly Schultz, Fiscal Officer

Michael Berding, Trustee Chairperson

Shannon Hartkemeyer, Trustee Vice-Chairperson

Joe McAbee, Trustee