

HARRIS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, August 4, 2025
Time: 7:30 pm

Location: 321 Rice Street, Elmore

In Attendance

Board Members:

Trustees Bev Haar, Jerald Haar, DJ Greenhill II
Fiscal Officer, Laura Hazel

Employees/Visitors:

Corey Campbell, Assistant Fiscal Officer
Paul Perry, Zoning Inspector
James Wilburn, Fire/EMS Chief (in at 7:50 pm, left at 9:30 pm)
Tom Jackson, Village of Elmore Mayor (left at 8:32 pm)
Bill Miller, resident (left at 8:10 pm)
Todd Heck, resident (left at 8:05 pm)
Angela LeForce, resident (left at 9:00 pm)
Tom Paule, resident (left at 8:05 pm)
David Haar, resident (in at 7:55 pm, out at 8:05 pm)

Chairman B. Haar opened the meeting at 7:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting, held Monday, July 21, 2025 were read by Chair Beverly Haar. Trustee D. Greenhill made a motion to accept the minutes as written; Trustee B. Haar seconded the motion that the minutes be approved. **Motion carried.**

Finance

Trustees reviewed invoices, signed vouchers, reviewed and initialed payroll, and reviewed and signed purchase orders as applicable.

A motion was made by Greenhill and seconded by J. Haar that the attached list of billings be approved as the lawful obligations of Harris Township and that the Fiscal Officer be permitted to issue warrants in favor of the same. **Motion carried.**

Department Reports

Budget/Administrative – Fiscal Officer report (Laura Hazel)

- Pay adjustment recommendation from Johnson for interim cemetery sexton (Probst)
- Resignations of Paramedics Kelly Stoudinger, Allie Waters, Kim DeVos, and EMT/FF Dan Dewyre. Motion to accept resignations made by Greenhill; seconded by B. Haar. Motion carried.
- Trustees reviewed draft audit report for fiscal years 2023 and 2024. Chairman Beverly Haar and Fiscal Officer Hazel signed the AUP Representation Letter to complete the audit.

Zoning – Inspector's report (Paul Perry)

- No report

Cemetery – Sexton's report (Andy Rodriguez)

- OCA-250 Call to Duty Salute – requesting permission for placement of special marker to be placed at cemeteries where veterans are interred. Trustees had no objections and information will be forwarded to Rodriguez to contact.
- Request for medical leave from 9/20 through 11/20/25 (estimated return date) approved.
- Frosty sections of grass in north section and the mausoleum section are a result of a chemical trying to thin out some of the buckhorn.

Roads – Superintendent's report (Cary Johnson)

- Dumpsters scheduled for an additional pick up due to clean out of new building
- Request to purchase Crozier's Yale 8000 lb. pneumatic gas Forklift and basket with 1800 hours for \$8,500. Seller does wish to be able to complete future personal projects and requests to be able to use said forklift. After discussion and input from Perry, Wilburn and Haar on cost comparisons, Trustees approved the purchase and request for personal use pending purchase agreement to be drafted by legal on a motion made by B. Haar and seconded by J. Haar. Motion carried.
- Discussion on external and internal security lights, holding an open house, and relocation of dumpsters.
- Amplex quote was significantly more for monthly service than what was being paid for Luckey Ave. Fiscal Officer requested discounts be reinstated by Amplex. No disputes on quoted price for install, just the monthly service.
- Fire inspection needs to be scheduled before full occupancy.

EMS –

- Alex Fertig has accepted the appointment to EMS Assistant Chief and EMS Administrator.
- Fiscal Officer reports that EMS tuition agreements have been signed and 25% cost share paid for Brody Kaylor and Logan Wolph.
- Discussion on EMS administration and conversations with A. Fertig and M. McGinnis.

Fire – Chief's Report (Jim Wilburn)

- Officers' recommendation to approve application for candidate Derek Snider for firefighter approved by B. Haar and seconded by Greenhill. Motion carried.
- Lieutenant position posted.
- Paging system is down due to lightning strike, causing destruction to towers and boards. Parts are becoming obsolete for the 154/100 pager system. Fred Peterson said the 800 system pagers are \$650 each. We currently have 33 pagers in use. I Am Responding app is currently the alert system.

Building & Grounds – Maintenance report (Wilburn)

- J. Haar asked that station grounds get cleaned up before upcoming funeral procession for Sgt. Hasselkus

Executive Session

No session called.

Open Issues

- Continued discussions on the status of Mudd Rd (Weis Rd) being officially non-maintained. This is the 2nd required public meeting regarding placing this section of road on non-maintained status. Five residents were present to express concerns and ask questions.

The discussion on the eastern unpaved portion of Weis Rd, more commonly known as "Mudd Rd" began a while ago (September 2024) when a crossover pipe was found to be collapsing. A TRQ was sent to the Engineer's office for assistance and direction. Upon researching, the last Board minutes regarding maintenance of this section of road was in November 1997 stating "no further improvements besides keeping it passable." The township has since fixed the collapsing pipe and has continued to trim trees and mow the ditches. With assistance from the Engineer's office, the township began looking into "non-maintained status" for this section of road, especially since it was thought to already be in non-maintained status but no proof could be found.

One land owner asked: Why are we considering no maintenance after all of these years? Why didn't Materion take care of the drain pipe? Why wasn't Materion included in notification? They might have been interested in why no maintenance. The noxious weeds get offensive; Canadian thistle went to blossom and then to seed. When it was mowed it looked like snow down the road. What would landowners do when there's a law about noxious weed growth? Trees grow over the road and farmers already can't get down the entire road? Who would be responsible if non-maintained status was approved?

Four lots were surveyed for building housing in the past. What happened to that?

Another property owner referenced vacation of the road instead of non-maintained, as she interprets ORC 5571.20(D)(E) to specifically preclude it. (D-a graveled or unimproved road may not be placed on non-maintained status if the road is the exclusive means for obtaining access to land that adjoins that road and the road is passable year-round. E- For purposes of this section, a road is passable year-round if a four-wheeled, two-wheel drive passenger motor vehicle can be driven on the road year-round, apart from seasonal conditions caused by weather-related events.) Vacating the road would allocate the land to the abutting property owners, placing the responsibility to maintain it with the property owners.

What is the cost to the township for the minimal maintenance we are currently doing? Is it more of a potential liability issue? Or a priority issue with other roads requiring more attention? Should the Township be receiving funding for this section of road? If so, how much?

Another resident questioned: Potential liability issues to the township? Drainage from Materion could cause total replacement in the future. Would the property owners be responsible if vacated? Has anyone called the EPA to find out what's coming through the pipe into the ditch and into Wolf Creek? Their steel barrels are buried right there. Can we communicate with Materion to make them part of this discussion?

Will any of these options create a landlock for the farmers?

Trustees had not considered vacating the road, nor were they familiar with that section of ORC. Trustee B. Haar will reach out to Engineer Toris, Prosecutor VanEerten, and Materion. Residents will be contacted by phone if more information can be arranged for the next board meeting. Residents were assured that another public meeting will be held before any decisions are made, and all comments and concerns will be taken under advisement.

Todd Heck requested to be added to the list and kept informed of any additional communications. He lives at 2456 Slemmer Portage and Weis Rd.

- Trustees reviewed the auditor's revenue certification for renewal of 1.3 mill cemetery levy.

Mr. Donald J Greenhill II moved for the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the amounts of taxes which may be raised within the ten-mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of said Harris Township, Ottawa, County, Ohio;

Therefore, be it RESOLVED, by the Board of Township Trustees of Harris Township, Ottawa, County, Ohio, two thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the benefit of Harris Township, Ottawa, County, Ohio;

For the purpose of maintaining and operating cemeteries,
under Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19 (T);

For which levy is a renewal of an existing tax not exceeding 1.3 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$45.50 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for a term of 5 years, commencing in tax year 2025, first collected in calendar year 2026.

AND WHEREAS, the Ottawa County Auditor has certified to the Board of Trustees that the amount of revenue that would be generated by the renewal tax levy during the first year of collection is \$78,206, which is 1.3 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$22.06 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, based on the current taxable value of the Township of \$113,540,550; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Harris Township Board of Trustees, two thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, that the Board desires to proceed with the submission of the question of levying a renewal tax levy, at the rate not exceeding 1.3 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$22.06 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, to the electors of Harris Township; be it further

RESOLVED, this renewal tax levy will be for 5 years and such levy will include a levy commencing in tax year 2025, first collected in calendar year 2026, if approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon; be it further

RESOLVED, that the question of such levy shall be submitted to the electors of Harris Township, Ottawa, County, Ohio, at the General election to be held therein on November 4, 2025; and be it further;

RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Officer of the Board of Harris Township Trustees is hereby directed to certify, not less than 90 days prior to the election, to the Board of Elections, Ottawa County, Ohio, a copy of the Resolution of Necessity and a copy of this Resolution, together, with the Certification of the Auditor of Ottawa County, Ohio, and notify said Board of Elections to cause notice of election on the question of levying said tax to be given as required by law.

Mr. Jerald Haar seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

D. Greenhill II..... - YES
B. Haar..... - YES
J. Haar..... -YES

Adopted this 4th day of August, 2025.

New Business

- Bill Miller reported that the hole on the west end of Weis Rd is getting deeper. When stone was put in over five months ago, he was told they would fill crossover with blacktop. It has not happened yet. He also has concerns with plans to tar and chip that road and repairs that need to be made. There is a lot of traffic and heavy equipment that travels that road. Netcher Road has imperfections already from the tar and chip recently done. B. Haar explained how the township works with the county engineer's office annually to determine road repairs, tar/chip, and paving, along with OPWC qualifications for grant funding and joint applications.
- Mayor Jackson thanked the Board for the partnership continued with the Village.
 - Village will be voting on a joint purchase with the Township for the Fire Dept enclosed trailer purchase for the Hovercraft. Once the resolution passes, a check will be made to the Township, upon which time delivery of the trailer can be made.
 - Sgt. Hasselkus funeral arrangements and route of procession to cemetery
 - The Village has approved to contract out their grindings at a quoted price of \$21,000/year (comprised of 3 removals at \$7,000 each). They are looking for a cost-sharing partnership with the Township, as there are township residents who bring their brush and yard waste to the village dump. Trustees and Fiscal Officer will consider. No action taken at this time.
 - Discussion on possible joint venture in future years with unlimited trash pickup and education on recycling.

Announcements, Communications, Other

- None

Next Meeting

Regular Meeting, rescheduled for Friday, August 29. 2025 | 11:00 am, Harris Township Fire Station

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by B. Haar and seconded by J. Haar. Chairman B. Haar declared the meeting duly adjourned at 10:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Haar, Chairman

Laura Hazel, Fiscal Officer

Attached: Expenditure listing

| Number | Date | Total | Purpose | Payee |
|----------|---------|-------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 606-2025 | 7/30/25 | \$50.53 | truck wash supplies | Business Card |
| 607-2025 | 7/30/25 | \$1,738.82 | 2026 BWC Group discount services | Business Card |
| 608-2025 | 7/30/25 | \$473.82 | JD6400 hyd hose | Business Card |
| 609-2025 | 7/30/25 | \$6.67 | fees | Business Card |
| 610-2025 | 7/30/25 | \$49.27 | safety glasses & yard signs | Business Card |
| 611-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$1,583.49 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Cary L Johnson |
| 612-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$776.92 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Todd E Northrup |
| 613-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$1,064.66 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Michael Probst |
| 614-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$1,240.13 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Andres F Rodriguez |
| 616-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$577.23 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Jonah I Babcock |
| 617-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$330.11 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Derrick J Berkel |
| 618-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$401.12 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Hannah M Culler |
| 619-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$1,818.73 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Alexander M Fertig |
| 620-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$1,517.69 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Kimberly N Fertig |
| 621-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$387.39 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Elizabeth A France |
| 622-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$811.31 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Carl J Popielarczyk |
| 623-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$625.38 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Michelle R Reynolds |
| 624-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$1,341.64 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Brian Richards Jr. |
| 625-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$1,968.95 | Biweekly Hourly - 7/6 to 7/19/2025 | Nicholas E Zimmerman |
| 627-2025 | 7/24/25 | \$1,767.61 | Payroll withholding and employer match | United States Treasury |
| 628-2025 | 7/29/25 | \$308.24 | retro pay | Jonah I Babcock |
| 630-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$283.33 | monthly salaried July 2025 | COREY CAMPBELL |
| 631-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$1,119.89 | monthly salaried July 2025 | Donald J Greenhill II |
| 632-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$936.51 | monthly salaried July 2025 | Beverly K. Haar |
| 633-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$1,038.65 | monthly salaried July 2025 | Jerald A. Haar |
| 634-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$1,690.57 | monthly salaried July 2025 | Laura J. Hazel |
| 635-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$353.28 | monthly salaried July 2025 | Paul L Perry |
| 636-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$233.90 | monthly salaried July 2025 | James M. Wilburn |
| 638-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$649.52 | Payroll withholding and employer match | United States Treasury |
| 639-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$1,029.54 | Payroll withholding | TREASURER STATE OF OHIO |
| 640-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$12.17 | Payroll withholding | Ohio School District Income Tax |
| 641-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$694.59 | Payroll withholding | R.I.T.A. |
| 642-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$16.02 | Payroll withholding | City of Oregon |
| 643-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$25.22 | Payroll withholding | City of Toledo |
| 644-2025 | 7/31/25 | \$9,753.83 | Payroll withholding and employer match | OPERS |
| 645-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$1,583.49 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Cary L Johnson |
| 646-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$1,042.47 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Todd E Northrup |
| 647-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$1,024.26 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Michael Probst |
| 648-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$1,374.00 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Andres F Rodriguez |
| 650-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$436.61 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Derrick J Berkel |
| 651-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$385.26 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Hannah M Culler |
| 652-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$2,572.39 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Alexander M Fertig |
| 653-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$1,283.08 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Kimberly N Fertig |
| 654-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$194.42 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Elizabeth A France |
| 655-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$425.02 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Carl J Popielarczyk |
| 656-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$345.69 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Michelle R Reynolds |
| 657-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$1,016.84 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Brian Richards Jr. |
| 658-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$1,243.20 | Biweekly Hourly - 7-20 to 8-02-2025 | Nicholas E Zimmerman |
| 660-2025 | 8/7/25 | \$1,916.48 | Payroll withholding and employer match | United States Treasury |
| 661-2025 | 8/6/25 | \$189.64 | natural gas at fire station (July 2025) | COLUMBIA GAS |
| 662-2025 | 8/6/25 | \$56.02 | natural gas at garage (July 2025) | COLUMBIA GAS |
| 663-2025 | 8/6/25 | \$25.14 | natural gas at new garage | COLUMBIA GAS |
| 664-2025 | 8/6/25 | \$0.00 | -VOID- | GPM Investments, LLC |
| 665-2025 | 8/6/25 | \$75.23 | EMS wireless hook ups for EMS squads (June) | Verizon Wireless |
| 666-2025 | 8/6/25 | \$103.21 | IPad service for fire & EMS, squad cell phones (June) | Verizon Wireless |
| 667-2025 | 7/25/25 | \$55.24 | Electric at Twp garage (June) | VILLAGE OF ELMORE |
| 668-2025 | 7/25/25 | \$70.67 | Electric at Twp garage (June) | VILLAGE OF ELMORE |
| 669-2025 | 7/25/25 | \$739.42 | Electric/Water/Sewer at Fire Station (June) | VILLAGE OF ELMORE |
| 670-2025 | 7/25/25 | \$45.72 | Electric/Water at Cemetery | VILLAGE OF ELMORE |
| 32302 | 8/12/25 | \$81.44 | Document Destruction (7/29/2025) | AccuShred, LLC |
| | | | Operating supplies for new maintenance garage (7/31/2025) | |
| 32303 | 8/12/25 | \$106.23 | bathroom supplies | Ahrens Oak Harbor Hardware |
| 32304 | 8/12/25 | \$44.92 | 443 - 5" clamps for exhaust | Fremont Auto Parts |
| 32305 | 8/12/25 | \$109.34 | Hydraulic Fluid | Fremont Auto Parts |
| 32306 | 8/12/25 | \$210.97 | 447 - new battery | Fremont Auto Parts |
| 32307 | 8/12/25 | \$753.00 | repairs and clean AC unit | Harvey's Mechanical Service |
| 32308 | 8/12/25 | \$217.50 | Email for May, Proofpoint for June | Link Computer Corporation |
| 32308 | 8/12/25 | \$217.50 | Email for May, Proofpoint for June | Link Computer Corporation |
| 32309 | 8/12/25 | \$50.00 | Ad to reclaim cemetery plot 8/4 | THE Suburban/Metro Press |
| 32310 | 8/12/25 | \$1,490.84 | 442 - replace DEF head (labor only) | W. W. Williams |
| 32311 | 8/12/25 | \$680.00 | Dispatch Radio Install- Oak Harbor PD | P & R Communications Service, Inc. |
| 32312 | 8/12/25 | \$309.16 | Landfill fees | Wood County Landfill |
| 32313 | 8/17/25 | \$1,210.91 | Fuel/gasoline Fire, EMS, Cem | GPM Investments, LLC |
| | | \$58,362.04 | | |