

MINUTES OF THE WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SEPTEMBER 16th, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Board of Trustees President Brad Coffman called a regular meeting of the Wayne Township Board of Trustees to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Elected officials present included: Trustee and Board President Brad Coffman; Trustee Diane Colvin; Trustee Andrew Jacobs; Fiscal Officer Scott Fitzsimmons. Township Staff present included: Administrator Donald Edwards; Fire Chief Jason Beckett; Road Superintendent Scott Camery; and Zoning Officer Stacey Lowing.

Guests and residents

Dave Albers, Cheryl Davidson, Pat Davidson, Sam Fitzsimmons, Kelly Martin, and Matt Mumma

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Colvin moved and was seconded by **Mr. Jacobs** to approve the **September 2nd, 2025**, regular session meeting minutes. A voice vote was conducted with the following results: 3 yea/0 nay/0 abstain.

Additions, Removals, or Disclosures from the Posted Agenda

The Township Administrator reported the following resolutions were added:

- **2025-70** Resolution to Amend Street Lighting Appropriations.
- **2025-71** Approve a Then-Now Purchase Order to Purchase Street Light Fixtures.
- **2025-72** Resolution Approving an Advance to the Street Light Fund from the General Fund.
- **2025-73** Resolution Approving a Then-Now Purchase Order for Contractual Service with Fillmore Construction.
- **2025-74** Resolution Approving the Posting of and Additional Speed Limit Sign on Carter Drive.

Citizens' Comments

Cheryl Davidson made the following comments:

Mrs. Cheryl Davidson, a former long-time member of the fire department, raised several concerns and questions regarding current Fire and EMS operations. She expressed frustration over the staffing levels at the new fire station, noting that the \$6 million facility is reportedly staffed with only two full-time personnel during the day and two at night.

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She questioned how many of the current personnel are Wayne Township residents and voiced concern about the decline in local volunteer participation since the current Fire Chief's appointment. The resident also asked for clarification on how many volunteers have left, why some long-serving members were told there was "no place" for them, and why the Chief is not required to live within the township while elected officials must.

During the meeting, when Mrs. Davidson was informed of the volunteer pay violation, she stated that other local departments are doing it the old way and that Wayne township has always done that, even when she was on the department for years.

Mrs. Davidson challenged the fairness of changes made due to federal labor law (FLSA) compliance, arguing that longtime volunteers lost compensation and motivation to serve. She expressed skepticism about the township's ability to maintain adequate response coverage, pass future fire levies, and recruit new volunteers under current conditions.

Additionally, she shared a personal account illustrating concerns about response times and stated a loss of confidence in the department's availability during emergencies. The resident urged township officials and fire leadership to rebuild relationships with the community, increase visibility and outreach, and actively recruit volunteers. She concluded by emphasizing disappointment with township leadership and urged renewed collaboration among officials, staff, and residents to strengthen fire and EMS services.

Trustee Colvin addressed Mrs. Davidson's questions and concerns regarding volunteers. Colvin said that in Sept of 2024 the township was notified that we were in violation of a federal pay law for volunteer and volunteer/part-time employees. The township engaged their lawyer and voluntarily back paid 2 years worth of pay. If the state auditor had been the finder of the violation, we would have had to pay 3 years plus be fined. Colvin said that job descriptions were updated and personnel were asked if they wanted to remain volunteer or switch to part-time. Colvin stated that if other local departments are also in violation, someone should tell them.

The trustees addressed the question of legalities of who is required to live in the township. The elected officials must live in the township but the fire chief is not required to. He did move closer to the township, in a house that fits his family's needs after he was hired.

Trustee Coffman shared that his family had experienced a barn fire the weekend before the meeting and was thankful for the Wayne Township volunteers, part-time and the fire chief who came to his aid, along with mutual aid from Clearcreek and Turtlecreek.

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The trustees and fire chief informed Mrs. Davidson that there is only 1 full-time employee, which is the fire chief. The others are part-time and volunteer. We used to have another full-time employee, but he has been back to part-time for a while after he was hired full time at Clearcreek.

The Fire Chief and Trustees thanked Mrs. Davidson for her comments and acknowledged the depth of concern within the community about staffing, volunteer participation, and emergency response. The Chief explained that the department currently operates with two firefighter/EMS employees on duty per 24 hour shift, around the clock, which reflects both the township's financial capacity and the available staffing pool. Chief Beckett explained that volunteer staff still have the capabilities to run whenever they want, contrary to what Mrs. Davidson had stated. All they have to do is call and say they are available. The on-duty part-time crew would take the 1st call and the volunteers would come in and take the 2nd piece of equipment out the door. While this level meets minimum operational needs, the Chief and Trustees agreed that it is not ideal and that rebuilding volunteer strength and expanding staffing remain top priorities.

Addressing questions about pay and volunteer changes, the Chief re-iterated the FLSA pay violation and explained the volunteer credit system that has been established to pay volunteer staff so that we are in compliance with the FLSA law.

Trustee Jacobs said that in his youth sports activities, they have a challenging issue getting volunteers for sports. He related those efforts to the same that he sees within our fire department.

The Trustees echoed that the decline in fire volunteerism is a nationwide issue and has been declining for many years and is, not unique to Wayne Township, and that the township must adapt. They highlighted efforts underway to increase engagement — including community outreach, visibility at local events, and programs like the Fire Cadet Program to involve younger residents in public safety.

The Chief also noted that he is actively present in the community, attending events, meeting residents, and maintaining open communication with those who wish to discuss concerns directly. Trustees concluded by reaffirming their commitment to transparency, community partnership, and strengthening fire and EMS services through collaboration, recruitment, and creative problem-solving.

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Pat Davidson made the following comments:

Mr. Pat Davidson, a former township trustee and long-term member of the fire department, spoke regarding the status of WTFD, Inc., the fire department's association. He asked whether the organization remains active, who currently serves as officers, and whether it continues to hold regular meetings.

Mr. Davidson expressed concern about the funds and assets accumulated by the association over the years, emphasizing that many volunteers and community members "worked hard" to raise that money. He inquired about the current account balance, whether those funds are public information, and what plans exist for their use. He noted hearing that the association recently contributed \$1,000 toward launching the new Fire Cadet Program, which he described as "awesome."

He also asked about the fire department trailer and other equipment historically purchased by WTFD, Inc., seeking reassurance that those items are being properly stored and maintained. Mr. Davidson mentioned that he had heard the annual Christmas party might not take place this year and expressed hope that tradition continues.

Reflecting on his tenure as trustee, Mr. Davidson shared pride in the township's strong volunteer tradition and the dedication of members who helped build the department's reputation. He encouraged remaining and former members—"some of us old-timers," as he said—to stay involved and continue to have a voice in the future of the association and its support of the fire department.

The Fire Chief and Trustees thanked Mr. Davidson for his long-time support. The Chief confirmed that WTFD, Inc. remains an active nonprofit, separate from the township, and that its members recently voted to donate \$1,000 to help start the Fire Cadet Program. Mr. Davidson should direct questions regarding WTFD, Inc. to the association and he was given the current meeting schedule provided by other WTFD, Inc. members present in the audience.

Chief Beckett explained that he stepped away from managing the association to avoid any conflict of interest, but the group continues to support the department through its own funds and property. The fire department trailer and equipment are still owned and stored safely, with the trailer being kept in Massie Township Fire Department.

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Kelly Martin made the following comments:

Ms. Kelly Martin expressed concern about the township's fire and EMS staffing and encouraged finding new ways to connect with the community and recruit volunteers. She suggested hosting community events such as an ice cream social or similar outreach, modeled after efforts in other townships, to build trust and raise awareness about volunteer opportunities.

Drawing from her background in the insurance industry, Ms. Martin discussed the importance of the township's ISO protection class rating, which affects homeowners' insurance costs. She noted that limited staffing and slower response times could negatively impact those ratings and raise insurance premiums for residents. She shared that she currently lives in an area without hydrants and is worried about delayed fire response given that only two part-time staff are on duty.

Ms. Martin cited a recent nearby fire where no township engine responded due to lack of available personnel. She urged the township to work together to rebuild the roster, cross-train staff, and make better use of the new fire station for community engagement and meetings.

She also spoke about growing frustration among residents regarding township communication, rumors, and lack of transparency. Ms. Martin warned that it will be difficult to pass another fire levy - especially with concerns over taxes, rising insurance rates, and a possible statewide property tax change. She emphasized that residents are financially strained and want to see action rather than discussion.

Ms. Martin closed by urging township officials, staff, and residents to unite around solutions, rebuild community confidence, and take proactive steps to strengthen volunteer participation and emergency response.

The Fire Chief and Trustees thanked Ms. Martin for her comments and agreed that community engagement and volunteer recruitment are critical priorities. The Chief confirmed that the department is working to cross-train part-time staff so they can operate both the squad and fire apparatus, helping improve coverage and response capability. He acknowledged that staffing shortages make it difficult to consistently get an engine out during daytime hours but said efforts are underway to strengthen that capacity.

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Trustees expressed appreciation for Ms. Martin's suggestions and emphasized the township's shared goal of improving communication, building trust, and finding creative ways to involve the public. They agreed that outreach events and visible community involvement are important steps toward encouraging volunteerism and public support.

The Chief and Trustees reaffirmed their commitment to exploring practical, community-based solutions to increase participation, improve response times, and maintain the quality of fire and EMS services while being mindful of residents' financial concerns.

Department Reports

Road Department:

Report from Scott Camery, Road Superintendent

1. Mowing and Vegetation Control

Mr. Camery reported that the fourth round of mowing has been completed, with a possible light touch-up round planned once crop harvesting begins. Bushwhacking operations are nearly finished, and cooperation from residents has helped save time and resources.

2. Road and Infrastructure Maintenance

- The large stormwater pipe repair on Thomas Drive is complete.
- All asphalt patching projects have been finished, and the hand chip-seal patching referenced in the written report was completed earlier this week.
- The fence line removal project is expected to be completed by tomorrow (9/17/2025).
- The two guardrail improvement projects remain on schedule for completion before the end of the month.

3. Equipment Maintenance and Availability

- Mr. Camery reported that 100% of all Road Department equipment is currently operational and available for use.
- He noted that the 5075 John Deere tractor required a diagnostic service call from the dealer to identify trouble codes using proprietary software. A replacement part has been ordered, and the tractor will return to full service once repairs are complete. He added that dry conditions have reduced mowing needs in the short term.

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4. Salt Bin End Wall Repair

Mr. Camery discussed concerns regarding the salt storage bin end wall, which was installed in 1996 and is showing signs of wear. The original manufacturer is no longer in business, and he has been in contact with Steel Master of Virginia to explore replacement options.

A full steel end wall replacement is estimated at approximately \$13,500, with a six- to eight-week delivery window. Mr. Camery plans to review additional options and pricing during his upcoming visit to the Ohio Farm Science Review before making a recommendation. He emphasized that the structure remains stable for the upcoming winter, but long-term reinforcement or replacement will likely be needed.

A brief discussion was held regarding the salt bin end wall replacement. Mr. Camery confirmed that the Road Department staff would complete any necessary installation work in-house.

5. Training and Professional Development

Mr. Camery announced plans to take all Road Department staff to the Ohio Farm Science Review on Thursday, September 18, 2025, for professional development and to evaluate equipment and material options for future projects.

Fire Department:

Presented by Jason Beckett, Fire Chief

1. Event Planning and Community Engagement

- Chief Beckett reported that Sauerkraut Festival planning is well underway. He has been working with the committee and taking site measurements to ensure proper booth placement and emergency access. He noted one large vendor booth request may exceed the allowable space but said discussions with festival organizers are ongoing.
- He also announced that the Fire Department Open House will be held on Saturday, October 4, from 1:00–4:00 p.m. at the fire station in recognition of Fire Prevention Month. A flyer promoting the event will be posted to the township website.

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2. Road Closures and Mutual Aid Coverage

The Chief reported that Porter Road and Oregonia Road closed on Monday for a six-week period. During this time, Turtlecreek Township Fire Department will provide primary emergency response for that area due to their closer travel distance. Wayne Township Fire Department will continue to respond to structure fires or other major incidents as needed.

3. Training and Education

The Warren County Career Center is using Wayne Township's confined space simulator for confined space rescue training through Thursday of this week. Both Career Center students and the county's technical rescue team are conducting practice drills at the station.

Additionally, the Chief will attend a State Fire Marshal training on the new fireworks permitting portal at Loveland-Symmes Fire Department. The new system changes how applications and approvals for fireworks displays are managed statewide.

4. Personnel Updates

Two new **part-time firefighter/paramedics** are being hired pending board approval:

- **Molly Doyle**, from Miami Township (Clermont County)
- **John Booth**, Lieutenant, City of Franklin

Both bring extensive fire and EMS experience to the department.

5. Equipment and Grant Activity

Chief Beckett submitted a loan grant application for \$11,111.50 to purchase additional hose and a new battery-powered positive pressure ventilation fan. The new fan will be mounted on Engine 91, with the existing fan reassigned to Engine 92. The purchase will improve air quality and reduce carbon monoxide exposure compared to older gas-powered models.

He noted that the department's current hose inventory—acquired through last year's ARPA grant—is minimal, and this new grant funding would allow for complete replacement of all hose loads and provide backup sections.

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6. Station and Facility Updates

Chief Beckett reported that Station 92 has been nearly cleared out to make room for the Friends of the Museum auction items. The auction will take place soon, and the Chief expressed hope that it will be successful for the organization.

7. Incident Activity

The Chief reported a busy weekend for the department. Crews responded to a significant vehicle-into-structure incident on Old Stage Road and Bellbrook Road, requiring mutual aid from Deerfield and Clearcreek Townships for building stabilization. The county building department responded to assess the structure.

The following night, the department managed a large gas leak on West Ellis Road, evacuating nearby homes until the gas company contained the leak. The Chief thanked crews for their extended efforts during the incident.

8. Burn Ban Reminder

Trustee Colvin asked about the start date of the ODNR burn ban. Chief Beckett confirmed it runs from October 1 through December 1, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., during which no open burning is permitted.

Zoning Officer's Report

Presented by Stacey Lowing, Zoning Officer

1. Board of Zoning Appeals

Ms. Lowing reported that the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) will hold a variance hearing on Thursday, September 18, 2025, for the property located at 3090 Lytle Road.

2. Community Magazine

- Ms. Lowing provided an update on the township's community magazine project. She stated that the printer's draft was reviewed and approved and that the publication is now in production and out for print.
- Fiscal Officer Fitzsimmons has paid the postage, and the magazines are expected to be distributed by October 1, possibly a week earlier than initially planned.
- All community partners have been invoiced, and Ms. Lowing will complete a reconciliation of total project costs once payments are received.

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3. Zoning Code Amendments

Ms. Lowing reported that the zoning code amendments are progressing through the formal approval process. The amendments are scheduled to be reviewed by Warren County Regional Planning on September 25, 2025, and by the Wayne Township Zoning Commission on October 2, 2025.

Administrator's Report

Presented by Gus Edwards, Township Administrator

1. OPWC Project

- Mr. Edwards reported that all four entities involved in the Corwin Avenue OPWC project—the Ohio Public Works Commission, the Village of Waynesville, the Village of Corwin, and the Warren County Engineer's Office—have been invoiced.
- Payments have been received from Waynesville and Corwin, and the Engineer's Office has sent its portion to the county.
- The township's payment has been entered into the WorkWise portal for processing. Mr. Edwards stated that the project continues to move forward smoothly and should be wrapped up soon.

2. Street Lighting Districts

Mr. Edwards reported that rates and costs for the LED decorative fixture upgrades have been calculated. A resolution is on the agenda to approve the submission of the street lighting assessments to the County Auditor for inclusion on next year's tax duplicates. He explained that the affected subdivisions will see two separate assessments—one for regular maintenance (ongoing operating costs) and one for the LED upgrade, which is a one-time cost.

3. Warren County Budget Commission

Mr. Edwards stated that he and Fiscal Officer Fitzsimmons are working on a cover letter to submit to the Warren County Budget Commission by the end of the month. The letter will explain the rationale for year-end carryovers in certain township funds. This new requirement is intended to help the Commission better understand how local governments plan to use unspent funds from year to year.

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4. Cybersecurity Policy

Mr. Edwards reported that a new Cybersecurity Policy and Program has been developed and is included as Resolution 2025-67 for board approval. He explained that the policy is broad and comprehensive, covering all key areas required by the Ohio Revised Code and state cybersecurity guidelines.

While the policy exceeds current needs, it provides a strong foundation for compliance and can be refined over time to better match township operations. He noted that full implementation is not required until July 1, 2026.

Mr. Edwards also shared that the Ohio Township Association (OTA) is considering developing model policies and training programs for townships, which may allow future amendments or alignment with statewide standards.

5. Real Estate Update

Mr. Edwards noted that he has been attempting to reconnect with Tom Kretz, the township's real estate representative, regarding pending property paperwork. Mr. Edwards plans to follow up later in the week to determine the cause of the delay and move the process forward.

6. General Updates

Mr. Edwards stated that township operations remain very busy, with a high volume of phone calls and resident inquiries. He will continue coordinating with department heads and the fiscal office on ongoing projects and compliance matters.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Presented by Scott Fitzsimmons, Fiscal Officer

1. Carryover and Budget Review

Fiscal Officer Fitzsimmons reviewed a chart provided by the Tax Commission showing the township's fund balances, revenues, and expenditures for major funds: the General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, Fire District Fund, and Fire B Fund. He explained that the Tax Commission and County Budget Commission are closely examining the township's carryover balances, particularly in the General and Fire Funds.

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The Road and Bridge Fund was noted as being well-balanced, with minimal carryover each year. However, the General Fund and Fire Funds currently hold higher-than-typical reserves, prompting the county to request a written explanation (cover letter) detailing the township's intended use of these funds. This letter is due by October.

Proposed Fiscal Strategy

Mr. Fitzsimmons outlined his plan to defend maintaining moderate reserves, citing uncertainty about the upcoming fire levy renewal and the need to preserve funds in case the levy does not pass in the spring. He noted that the County Budget Commission would prefer that the township reduce its reserves—potentially to 100% of anticipated annual expenditures in the General Fund—but expressed concern about depleting funds too quickly.

Mr. Fitzsimmons emphasized that his primary goal is to avoid unnecessary spending until the township's long-term revenue picture is clear, especially regarding the levy outcome.

2. Bank Transition Update

Mr. Fitzsimmons also provided a brief update on the transition to Peoples Bank. The process is moving forward smoothly, with most trustee signature cards successfully verified.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Property Sale and Broker Coordination

No Updates

2. Fire Cadet Program

Sam Fitzsimmons provided a brief update on the Fire Cadet Program. He reported that the program is finalizing uniform orders and will hold a parent meeting at the firehouse the following day, with sessions scheduled at 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Trustees expressed appreciation for the progress and community engagement.

3. Fire Department SAFER Grant

Chief Beckett reported that the SAFER Grant application remains under federal review. The decision period is nearing its close, and no awards have yet been announced. The Chief stated he continues to monitor federal updates and will notify the Board once results are released.

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4. Employee Time Clock Discussion

The Board revisited the discussion on implementing a time clock system for hourly employees. Fiscal Officer Fitzsimmons recommended using the ESO timekeeping system already integrated into the fire department's scheduling platform, which would incur no additional cost.

ESO would allow staff to clock in and out on station computers, eliminating the need for mobile access and improving accuracy. Volunteers would remain excluded from the system since their hours are tracked separately through the department's awards program and Excel tracking sheets.

Fiscal Officer Fitzsimmons confirmed that UAN does not interface directly with outside software, so payroll entry would remain manual, similar to current time sheet processing.

Trustees agreed that the Township should move forward utilizing ESO as a time clock system with the fire department, with the goal of a January 1 implementation date to align with the new fiscal year. This timeline allows for testing, troubleshooting, and staff orientation before full rollout. Trustee Coffman requested a resolution for the next meeting on October 7th, 2025.

The Board concurred that there is no need to purchase a separate paid platform for the Road Department at this time, as existing SCView procedures remain effective for tracking attendance and work hours.

NEW BUSINESS

Paying of the Bills:

Mr. Jacobs made a motion to approve bills as presented for payment, which was seconded by **Mr. Coffman**. A roll-call vote was taken, and the results are as follows: Mr. Coffman – Yea, Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea.

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Resolutions

A. RESOLUTION 2025-66 A RESOLUTION LEVYING A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ON LANDS IN WAYNE TOWNSHIP FOR STREET LIGHTING DISTRICTS WITH A ONE TIME DECORATIVE FIXTURE UPGRADE

Motion

Ms. Colvin motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

B. RESOLUTION 2025-67 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CYBERSECURITY POLICY THAT LAYS OUT COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR OUR CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM

Motion

Ms. Colvin motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

Discussion

The Board discussed Resolution 2025-67, which adopts a township-wide Cybersecurity Policy to establish compliance requirements for the township’s cybersecurity program.

Administrator Gus Edwards has taken some relevant training and incorporated appropriate terminology and best practices into the draft policy.

Trustee Colvin asked about the source of the policy, Edwards clarified that it was a combination (“hodgepodge”) of multiple references, customized to fit township needs.

He also noted that the policy could be revised in the future—either if the Ohio Township Association (OTA) releases a model policy or based on input from Mr. Dowell, who offered to review the document for legal sufficiency.

No further discussion was required, and the Board moved toward consideration of adoption.

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C. RESOLUTION 2025-68 APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE AND HIRING OF JOHN BOOTH TO THE WAYNE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT AS A PART-TIME FIREFIGHTER / PARAMEDIC

Motion

Mr. Coffman motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

D. RESOLUTION 2025-69 APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE AND HIRING OF MOLLI DOYLE TO THE WAYNE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT AS A PART-TIME FIREFIGHTER / PARAMEDIC

Motion

Mr. Coffman motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

E. RESOLUTION 2025-70 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Motion

Ms. Colvin motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

Discussion

The Board discussed the increase in appropriations for the Street Lighting District Fund to cover costs associated with the installation of decorative lighting fixtures.

It was clarified that the resolution serves to amend the appropriations because the fund's prior allocations will be fully expended with paying the unexpected fixture replacement, with additional lighting invoices still pending. The adjustment ensures there are sufficient appropriations available to pay remaining bills through the end of the year.

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F. RESOLUTION 2025-71 A RESOLUTION APPROVIING A “THEN AND NOW” PURCHASE ORDER TO MIAMI VALLEY LIGHTING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF STREET LIGHT FIXTURESIN THE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT

Motion

Mr. Coffman motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

G. RESOLUTION 2025-72 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ADVANCE OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND (1000) TO THE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT FUND (2401)

Motion

Ms. Colvin motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

H. RESOLUTION 2025-73 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A “THEN AND NOW” PURCHASE ORDER CONTRACTED PAVING SERVICES WITH FILLMORE CONSTRUCTION

Motion

Mr. Coffman motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

Discussion

The Fiscal Officer explained that during the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) project, discrepancies were identified in the account coding used for purchase orders. After consulting with a knowledgeable representative from the State Auditor’s Office, the necessary corrections were made to ensure compliance with State accounting requirements.

As a result, the original purchase order had to be voided and reissued under the correct account codes. The revised resolution formalizes these corrections and ensures the township remains in compliance with state auditing and funding standards.

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I. RESOLUTION 2025-74 A RESOLUTION FOR POSTING AN ADDITIONAL SPEED LIMIT SIGN WITHIN WAYNE MEADOWS AND HIDDEN TRAILS SUBDIVISION ON CARTER DRIVE

Motion

Ms. Colvin motioned to adopt the resolution. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted: Mr. Coffman – yea; Ms. Colvin – yea, Mr. Jacobs – yea. The resolution was adopted.

Correspondence

- **Road Superintendent Camery** reported receiving two recall notices from General Motors regarding brake issues on the township's two 26500-series trucks. Although no issues have been experienced, parts are now available, and service appointments will be scheduled before winter operations.
- **Administrator Edwards** added that the only other correspondence received was the annual report from OTARMA (Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority), which will be distributed to the Board.

Elected Officials' Comments

- **Brad Coffman** shared that his family recently experienced a barn fire and expressed appreciation for the Wayne Township Fire Department volunteers who responded to the scene. The responding personnel included Lieutenant Dowell, Jeff Patton, and Derek Brown.
- **Trustee Colvin** thanked residents for attending the meeting and sharing their input, noting that their feedback is valuable and will help guide future decisions. She also reported that She and Chief Beckett recently attended a Village of Waynesville Council meeting, where they presented data and graphs explaining the volunteer staffing challenges and Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) compliance issues affecting the fire department.

Colvin shared that council members were surprised by the FLSA violation but understanding of the situation and that the discussion helped clarify misconceptions and rumors circulating in the community. She emphasized the importance of residents attending meetings to stay informed and concluded by expressing appreciation for community engagement.

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- **Trustee Jacobs** expressed appreciation to the residents who spoke during the meeting, acknowledging their passion and dedication to the community. He noted that their engagement inspires and challenges the trustees to do better, emphasizing that the Board values and respects their input. Jacobs thanked everyone for taking the time to attend and share their concerns.

PRESENTATION

Township Administrator Edwards recognized Road Superintendent Scott Camery for 25 years of dedicated service to the township, having joined in August 2000 under the mentorship of former superintendent Randy Linebaugh. Edwards praised Camery's leadership, commitment, and ability to carry on the department's strong legacy.

In appreciation, Edwards presented Camery with a service plaque, thanking him on behalf of the township for his 25 years of loyal service to the residents of Wayne Township, Warren County, Ohio.

Road Superintendent Scott Camery expressed heartfelt thanks upon receiving recognition for 25 years of service to Wayne Township. He reflected on his lifelong background in farming, construction, and public service, including his time in the U.S. Army and the fire department.

Camery shared how he joined the township in September 2000, after leaving his job at a local feed mill and being encouraged by former Road Superintendent Randy Linebaugh and then-Trustee Gus Edwards to apply. He recounted being hired at a township meeting shortly thereafter, starting work on Cedar Hill Road, and later assuming the role of Road Superintendent on January 1, 2012.

He spoke with gratitude about the job, describing it as both challenging and rewarding, and said he plans to continue serving for at least five more years, possibly extending to a full 32-year tenure if his health allows.

Camery thanked township residents for their support, acknowledging that while there are challenges, there is also great satisfaction in the work. He expressed pride in the department's accomplishments, noting that Wayne Township's roads are recognized among the best in Warren County, crediting not himself but the dedication and legacy of those who came before him, including Administrator Gus Edwards.

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ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Coffman motioned to adjourn. **Mr. Jacobs** seconded the motion, and a voice vote was taken 3 yea / 0 nay / 0 abstain. The Wayne Township Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting 8:42 p.m.

Brad Coffman – President, Board of Trustees

Scott Fitzsimmons – Fiscal Officer