

RAVENNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2025

The Ravenna Township Board of Trustees met in Regular Session at the Ravenna Township Trustee's Meeting Room, 6145 Spring Street, Ravenna, Ohio, on December 9, 2025. Trustee Hank Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:11 P.M.

Roll call showed the following present: Trustees Jim DiPaola and Hank Gibson, Fiscal Officer Gail Pittman, Fire Chief Abbie Buday, Zoning Inspector Lori Rotondo, Road Superintendent Ray Taylor, Fire Dept. Liaison Mark Kozak, and Asst. Fiscal Officer Jon Summers. Trustee Vince Coia was absent

In the audience was Kristi Blazek-Hack, Steve Morris, Harry Muir, Todd Peetz and Amy Reichlin.

AUDIENCE

Deputy Harry Muir gave an update on the November activity in the township – 18 arrests, 330 calls.

Steve Morris, treasurer of the homeowners association for Forest Ridge Development, inquired about the status on the property at 3145 Wolf Run Dr. Jim updated him about the process of demolishing the condemned property.

Todd Peetz and Amy Reichlin reviewed the draft Land Use Plan and presented the website they have developed.

REGULAR BUSINESS

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Jim DiPaola to table the approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 25, 2025. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Hank announced the correspondence book was available in the Fiscal Office for public viewing during normal business hours.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Jim DiPaola to approve payroll warrants for December 12, 2025, in the amount of \$101,354.86 and other warrants in the amount of \$54,018.66 with warrants over \$1,000.00 being read aloud for approval. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

TRUSTEES

Jim will be meeting with the city mayor, the economic developer and the attorney on the 18th of this month to discuss the JEDD.

The Economic Developer contract will expire on December 31, 2025. There has been no discussion on renewing the contract yet.

FISCAL OFFICER

Gail was present and reported the following:

Gail said every employee is required to take online ethics and cyber security training. She would like to get it done by the end of the year.

A motion by Jim DiPaola, seconded by Hank Gibson to require all employees to take the ethics and cyber security training before the end of December. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Gail said Chase Bank has been charging the township fees on a couple of the accounts and she needs to figure out how to change them to minimize those fees.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Jim DiPaola to authorize and approve the Fiscal Officer to make necessary changes to the types of bank accounts to minimize fees and increase effectiveness. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

The Ohio Township Association training subscription has been renewed for 2026.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Ray was present and reported the following:

The maintenance on all the equipment and trucks has been completed.

The Jeep Patriot went to Haasz for servicing. The heater/air conditioning blower has been repaired.

Ray needs to purchase about 8 tons of cold patch from Geauga Highway for the winter. They quoted \$100/ton.

A motion by Jim DiPaola, seconded by Hank Gibson to authorize the purchase of cold patch from Geauga Highway at the quoted price of \$100.00/ton. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Ray was able to sign up Doug and Hunter to go to the BWC workshop for safety training on chainsaws. It will be on Thursday this week in North Canton. He will only send one of them if it gets snowy and they have to plow.

GRANDVIEW CEMETERY

Ray discussed the Alexander family plots with the trustees. They purchased a spot from the previous owner in the mausoleum that was never built. The wife passed away previously and the previous owners had placed her temporarily in the current mausoleum. Ray has no written records for any of this, though the name plate for the wife is on the mausoleum spot. Ray has searched and the spot that she is in and it has never been sold to anyone else, so there should be no problem leaving her there, other than preparing the proper records. Ray still needs to verify that there will be a place for the husband.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

Lori Rotondo was present and reported the following:

Bissiri Construction has given Lori a quote for the demolition of 3145 Wolf Run, so she now has two quotes. The Land Bank thinks there might be some money left to do a 2026 demolition so she is going to come to the next trustee meeting to discuss. Lori asked when she should have the public hearings for the Wolf Run and Sumner Rd demos? The trustees said to set it up for right before the next Trustee Meeting on December 23, 2025 at 6:00pm . Lori said she would set up the ads and mail the necessary letters to the neighbors.

Lori gave updates on the current ongoing court cases.

Lori reviewed the most recent permits and violations and compliances.

The BZA will meet December 10, 2025 for 3 hearings. Lori will be on vacation but has both Jackie and Sam attending. Jim said he would be there also.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Abbie Buday was present and reported the following:

Abbie presented the November activity report.

Lt. Frawley is requesting to attend the ICS 400 at the Cleveland Fire Training Center.

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Jim DiPaola to authorize sending Lt. Frawley to attend the ICS 400 training at the Cleveland Fire Training Center. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Julianna Moyer chose to move back to Columbus and will not be accepting the offered PT FF/EMT position.

Abbie is in the beginning stages of setting up an awards program. The program will formally recognize life saves, unit citations, achievement awards, valor awards, purple hearts and stork pins. Nominations are out and a committee has been put together for award review.

Abbie requested executive session for collective bargaining negotiations and employee discipline and promotion.

NEW BUSINESS

TRUSTEES

None

FISCAL OFFICER

RES #25-223 A motion by Jim DiPaola, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve the P.O.s listed below

Item	PO#	Amount	Vendor	Purpose	Fund
A	439-2025	\$1,400.00	CTMS	Laptop for chief	Fire
B	440-2025	\$250.00	OTA	2026 training subscription	General
C	441-2025	\$1,500.00	Sutphen	Repairs	Fire
D	442-2025	\$200.00	Blue Line	Pants for part time per cba	Fire
E	443-2025	\$300.00	Witmer Public	Lt front and badge	Fire
F	444-2025	\$250.00	Villager	Lt supplies	Fire
G	445-2025	\$1,000.00	Geauga Highway	Cold patch	Road

R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Financial reports will be distributed in excel format to the department heads and Trustees.

RES #25-224 A motion by Jim DiPaola, seconded by Hank Gibson to approve the Budgetary changes as follows for Revenue :

Revenue Budget Changes				
Fund #	Fund Name	From	To	Increase (Decrease)
1000	General	746,928.00	855,000.00	108,072.00

2011	Motor Vehicle License Tax	80,150.00	96,013.00	15,863.00
2021	Gasoline Tax	147,900.93	164,696.00	16,795.07
2031	Road and Bridge	463,537.00	500,420.00	36,883.00
2041	Grandview Cemetery	95,150.00	116,296.00	21,146.00
2111	Fire	1,154,806.00	1,204,955.00	50,149.00
2281	EMS	264,500.00	316,092.00	51,592.00
2401	Special Assessment PMHA	300.00	430.50	130.50
2402	Special Assessment Pine Ridge	500.00	752.85	252.85
2403	Special Assess Forest 1&2	1,200.00	1,782.00	582.00
2404	Special Assess Forest 3&4	750.00	1,118.00	368.00
2405	Special Assess Breakneck	700.00	2,009.00	1,309.00
2406	Special Assess Forest 5&6	350.00	602.00	252.00
2902	Flagpole Maint	0.00	\$5,000.00	5,000.00
2905	OneOhio Opioid Settle	0.00	741.67	741.67
4951	Flagpole Bequest	125.00	819.00	694.00

R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Pursuant to R.C 121.22(g) Executive Session was requested for the purpose of collective bargaining agreement negotiations, employee discipline, and employee compensation.

A motion by Jim DiPaola, seconded Hank Gibson to suspend the Regular session at 8:54 pm. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

A motion by Jim DiPaola, seconded Hank Gibson to enter Executive session at 8:55 pm. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

Attendance: Jim DiPaola, Hank Gibson, Kristi Blazek-Hack, Gail Pittman, Abbie Buday, Mark Kozak.

Returned to open session at 9:19 pm.

RES #25-225 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Jim DiPaola to promote Firefighter Jeffrey Cook to the position of Lieutenant effective December 28, 2025. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES #25-226 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Jim DiPaola to authorize posting of a full-time firefighter open position at the beginning of the year to fill an expected vacancy due to retirement. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

RES #25-227 A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Jim DiPaola to set training January 8, 2026 at 10:00 AM for Manager Training for all employees that supervise staff. R/C: Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Hank Gibson, seconded by Jim DiPaola to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 pm.
Mr. DiPaola, yes; Mr. Gibson, yes. Motion Passed.

ATTEST:

CHAIR

TRUSTEE

FISCAL OFFICER

TRUSTEE