

Montville Township Trustees
September 22, 2026 – Regular Trustees Meeting

Present:

Trustee Jeff Brandon, Chairman
Trustee Sally Albrecht
Trustee Rob Skidmore
Fiscal Officer Mary Pawlowski
Police Chief Matt Neil
Planning & Zoning Dir. Paul Jeffers
Service Director Chris Kosman
Event Planner Kelly Barone

Also Present:

Atty. Trina Devanney
Officer Andrew Kawalek

At 1:47 p.m. **Trustee Skidmore made a motion to begin the regular Trustees meeting. Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion. The motion was passed, 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.**

Trustee Brandon opened the regular meeting of the Montville Township Trustees. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Trustee Brandon welcomed all guests and stated that the meeting is being recorded for transcription purposes only.

GUEST RECOGNITION

Events Planner Kelly Barone updated the Trustees with the status of the Not so Spooky Path and Trunk or Treat planned for Saturday, October 17th, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at Cobblestone Park. She provided the Trustees with a list of the different scenes being prepared for the event, a map of the pathway for the scenes' locations, and a list of sponsors. A large spider balloon has been donated for the entryway. There will be a costume contest, a face painter, and dancers for the Thriller dance parade. Food trucks and Spokes concession stand will have treats and goodies available for purchase.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Albrecht made a motion approving the minutes for the September 8th regular Trustees meetings. Trustee Skidmore seconded the motion. The motion was passed, 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Neil presented a letter for the Trustees to review on behalf of Officer Kawalek.

Trustee Skidmore made a motion that the Montville Township Board of Trustees accept a letter from Officer Kawalek requesting that he be placed on leave of absence for medical purposes for up to ten weeks from this date. K-9 Tino shall remain in Officer Kawalek's care during his leave of absence for the continued health, welfare and continuity of care of the K-9, and that Officer Kawalek shall continue to receive the compensation provided under the applicable collective bargaining agreement for the care and maintenance of K-9 Tino. Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion. In discussion, Chief Neil said that Officer Kawalek will work with Fiscal Officer Pawlowski on the FMLA. **The motion was passed, 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.**

Chief Neil requested, and Officer Kawalek was excused from the meeting.

CEMETERY: Trustee Albrecht had no updates to report.

PARKS: Trustee Albrecht and Service Director Kosman had no updates to report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Trustee Brandon reported that Medina County Economic Development has scheduled an A.I. Lunch and Learn for tomorrow at the Medina County Administration building. The presenter for Artificial Intelligence will be Pittsburgh Data Services.

Trustee Brandon said that the New Leaf Homes had their ribbon cutting on September 15th in Cobblestone. Trustee Brandon said that it was a very nice event and was well attended. There was a tour of their model home and there were various speakers.

COMMUNITY EVENTS: Trustee Albrecht said that everything had been already covered in the Guest Recognition portion of the meeting.

UTILITIES: Trustee Albrecht had no updates to report.

At 2:05 p.m. Attorney Devanney left the meeting.

Trustee Brandon said that he receives a weekly newsletter. The most recent newsletter headlined that the county is considering tighter control over fiber projects. The Medina County Engineer proposed changes aimed at tightening oversight of fiber optic installation projects and addressing complaints of unfinished work, property damage, and poor communication with residents. He is proposing to limit fiber companies to four open county permits at a time and forcing work to be completed more quickly. Trustee Brandon said that the commissioners' meeting minutes mirrored what was reported in the article.

Trustee Albrecht said that our letters to the county engineer and copying the commissioners finally got their attention.

Trustee Skidmore said that his concern is not with having too many vendors; however, we need to make sure that they don't tear up properties, destroy other lines and leave a mess. Trustee Skidmore said that his Spectrum cable bill increased to \$100 monthly. He thought that competition is good and that that a resident in his neighborhood switched to Frontier and has a \$40 monthly bill for internet.

ZONING: Planning & Zoning Director Jeffers reported that Ashford has finally received their zoning certificate for the nursing home and should be breaking ground within the next week or two. The zoning office continues to stay busy with new homes and are now beginning to receive the accessory use permits for these new homes (decks, patios, fences).

Mr. Jeffers said that the Zoning Commission is continuing to work on text amendments. They have no meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

The BZA has no agenda items and will not be meeting on October 5th.

Mr. Jeffers brought up the summer concerts at Blue Heron on Friday nights from 7:00 until 10:00 p.m. The last concert this season is this Friday, September 25th, and they will start back up again in late June, 2027. There had been no written complaints throughout this summer but there had been a complaint texted regarding the last two bands, which were nightclub party style bands. The conditional permit was set up so that zoning or the Police Department should be contacted in the event of a noise problem or a problem with the venue.

Trustee Albrecht felt that the music needs to be toned down. She received complaints from residents on Club House Point. Mr. Jeffers said that different styles of music make the volume less tolerable. There are four or five residents on Club House Point that don't want an event center, although that is where they purchased their homes. Mr. Jeffers does not think that automatically revoking the conditional permit because of complaints is not the answer, and that we should find a solution to make it work.

Mr. Jeffers will be meeting with Blue Heron this Thursday to discuss the past two weeks of their concert series. He plans to suggest that they have more community-type bands rather than rock music with heavy bass.

Trustee Skidmore said, if the business is being successful, that is great, and he would not want us to do anything that impacts them. He asked if it would help the neighbors if the music played a half hour earlier, from 6:30 until 9:30. Mr. Jeffers responded that he could bring that up, and that it would be an adjustment to their conditional. It would definitely not solve the type of music.

Mr. Jeffers said that Blue Heron contacted him via email regarding the township's employee appreciation dinner which is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15th. He does not yet know what they would like to discuss but will find out more on Thursday.

POLICE: Chief Neil thanked the Board for the time and energy spent on police matters over the last two months. He appreciated their time and thoughtfulness put into the decisions that were made.

Chief Neil requested, and **Trustee Skidmore made a motion paying expenses for Officers Eckstine and Terrion to attend the biannual SWAT training with the rest of the SWAT team at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center in Butlerville, Indiana, in September, 2026. Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion.** In discussion, Chief Neil said that this training used to be held annually but that it has changed to biannual and was not held last year. This is very beneficial training with the entire team. **The motion was passed, 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.**

LST/FIRE: Trustee Brandon read the August fire report. During the month, there had been 22 calls for service in Montville Township: 15 fire alarms; 3 motor vehicle accidents; 1 EMS assist; 2 leaks/spills; 1 smoke/odor investigation

The August LST invoice from the hospital totaled \$23,995.21, which is below the budgeted amount of \$25,394. During August, there had been 71 calls for ambulance in Montville Township.

At the last LST quarterly meeting, there was a question about the current cost for an ambulance. Joe followed up the meeting with an email estimating an ambulance to cost \$419,432. After adding in \$84,672 for on-board equipment and \$11,850 for communication equipment, the total estimate for a new ambulance is \$515,954.

Chief Neil thought that was important for the board members to know because, at some point, we will be requested to add on a fourth truck and crew. Chief Neil said that we had a total of 71 calls in July and in August. So far in 2026, we have had a total of 65 calls at Champion Creek, which cost the township \$24,415.86.

Chief Neil said that Attorney Devanney is working on an amendment for our LST contract that is due to be renewed later this year. Chief Neil said that he made an amendment that fits what we need and addresses the cost-sharing agreement with the new facility coming in, and he asked Attorney Devanney to see whether we can implement something with Champion Creek similar to the cost-sharing issue. Chief Neil said that the Cleveland Clinic's Law Department had requested to see what we want by September 1st, and we have not yet supplied that to them. Chief Neil will continue to work with Attorney Devanney to make sure they receive that information.

ROADS: Service Director Kosman reported that round two of roadside mowing has been completed. We are continuing to move ahead on the curb patching repairs in Fox Meadows. This is also plow-prep season, and we are trying to fix any pot holes needing patched although it is a slow process due to the weather.

Trustee Albrecht asked about the new employee in the Service Department. Mr. Kosman responded that he is doing well, although we have to be patient with the CDL process. We are still looking for another person, and there has been some interest but we are waiting for the right fit.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING: Mr. Kosman had no updates to report.

OTHER BUSINESS

Fiscal Officer Pawlowski requested, and **Trustee Albrecht made a motion paying Medina Hospital \$23,995.21 for August LST services. Trustee Skidmore seconded the motion. The motion was passed, 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.**

Trustee Skidmore made a motion approving BC and POs and to pay bills totaling \$47,438.74. Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion. The motion was passed, 3 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

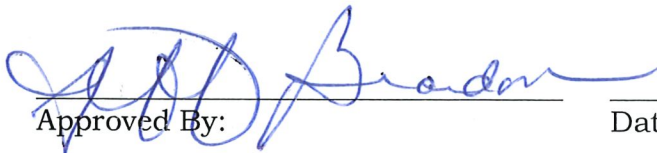
Fiscal Officer Pawlowski provided the Trustees with information that was emailed to her from Ohio Insurance Company. Attached to that is our OPEC costs: dental rates are the same for 2027; standard life insurance are the same until January 1, 2030; VSP are the same until January 1, 2031. Fiscal Officer Pawlowski has been working with Frank on our renewal for January. It will be an increase, but Fiscal Officer Pawlowski knows that Frank works very hard at keeping our costs down.

At 2:32 p.m. Trustee Brandon adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Elaine Klafczynski



Approved By: _____

10-13-26
Date: _____



Attested: _____

10-13-2026
Date: _____