

Austinburg Township Minutes
January 5, 2026

The regular meeting of the Austinburg Township Board of Trustees opened at 7:30 pm. In attendance were Rob Lapuh, Laurie Robishaw, Morgan Dodge, Ella Haeseler, Ted Seifert, Myles Colgan and Christina Baker.

The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

Res. 1-26 John moved to accept the minutes as written, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye

Res. 2-26 John moved to pay the bills, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. Bills paid were \$12,979.03 and receipts were \$0.

Res. 3-26 Byron moved to make John Chairman of Board for 2026, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 4-26 John moved to make Pete Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2026, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

In terms of correspondence there was nothing to report.

Zoning Administrator Rob Lapuh reported he got a complaint on a sign blocking the Fairfield Inn sign. The registered letter sent to Truckey's on Millcreek from the County Prosecutor came back undeliverable.

Fire Chief no report.

Road Sup no report.

Pete reported they are still waiting on the heat exchanger for the fire station furnace. Byron reported that it looks like Hampton is going to build another hotel at the highway. John asked Byron to try and get a contact of who owns the land because the Township needs to look at putting a culdesac in that area.

Res. 5-26 John moved to keep State Road Occupational Medical for our DOT testing, etc, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 6-26 John moved to recertify the zoning map for 2026, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 7-26 John moved that the reimbursement for mileage will be 67 cents per mile. Conference costs and lodging will be reimbursed at cost and meals up to \$65 per day with receipts, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 8-26 John moved to accept the current work rules, with work beginning at 12:01 am Monday to midnight Sunday, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 9-26 John moved to maintain the current zoning, cemetery and town hall fees allowing them to be reviewed as needed, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 10-26 John moved to accept Bill Wilms as Fire Chief, Rob Lapuh as Zoning Administrator, and Cindy Hejduk as Town Hall Rental/Maintenance Agent, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 11-26 John moved that the Township officials be paid on a salary basis, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 12-26 John moved that the Township will continue with the HealthCare Reimbursement Account as offered by the Township medical coverage, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 13-26 John moved that the Township Meetings will be held on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:30pm. When meetings fall on a legal holiday they will be held on the following Tuesday, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton,

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aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 14-26 John moved that the liaison positions will be the following: parks and cemeteries, Haase; Zoning, NAD, and Fire Department, Dutton; and Newsletter, Kusar. Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 15-26 John moved to assign Pete as the backup for the NAD meetings when Byron isn't available, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 16-26 John moved to offer group Healthcare insurance plans for all eligible employees, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 17-26 John moved that Austinburg Township adopt the Ashtabula County Road regulations for the year 2026, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 18-26 John moved that Austinburg Township recognize all Federal Holidays approved by Congress, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 19-26 John moved to keep Kanda as the Sunshine Public Reporter/Recorder for the Township, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 20-26 John moved that our Indigents fees be \$750 this year for burial, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 21-26 John moved to adopt the State and County's mailbox replacement policy which means if we physically hit the mailbox with the plow then we will replace it, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 22-26 John moved to have the Township Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 9, 2026 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Res. 23-26 Pete moved to apply for the NOPEC Community Event Sponsorship grant for 2026 and to use it towards the Township Clean Up Day, John seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Resident Laurie Robishaw Zoning Chair asked if the zoning meetings had to be kept to 1-hour meetings. John said it was up to the zoning as to how long the meetings are. The only thing we must watch is if the day or time of the meeting gets changed. If they were to change, then we would have to notify the public of the change.

The Fiscal Officer reminded everyone the next meeting will be Tuesday, January 20 because of Martin Luther King Day. That meeting will also be the Public Hearing in regards to the zoning change.

Res. 24-26 John moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm, Pete seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.



Kanda O'Dell, Fiscal Officer



John Kusar, Chairman