

Austinburg Township Meeting
May 4, 2026

The regular meeting of the Austinburg Township Board of Trustees opened at 7:30 pm. In attendance were Rob Lapuh, Ted Seifert, Ginny Seifert, Mike Petro, Morgan Dodge, Ella Haeseler, Lorna Masek, Elaine Schafer, Steve Schafer, Christina Baker and Brian O'Dell.

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

Res. 68-26 John moved to accept the minutes as written, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

Res. 69-26 John moved to pay the bills, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. Bills paid were \$33,427.34 and receipts were \$48,407.96.

In terms of correspondence, we received a letter from First Energy saying they will be filing a three-year electric distribution rate plan starting July 1, 2027. We received a message from Pam Gilbert in regards to not receiving her newsletter again this year.

The Fiscal Officer reported that we received 2 liquor control permits for change of ownership. The Trustees have no issue with the 2 liquor control permits.

Zoning Administrator Rob Lapuh reported he issued a permit for a new house on Lampson Rd. RTS did respond back to the letter sent in regards to the violations both for Zoning and the Fire Dept. Rob will be working with them to correct the issues. The lot split for the new hotel on GH drive was been approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals. The paperwork will now go to the County for approval. The new hotel would like to start construction in June.

Fire Chie Bill Wilms no report.

Road Dept. Mike Petro Jr. had a list of roads recommend to him to get chip and sealed this year. It will be 10 miles of road possibly Rodgers Rd, Orchard Dr and River Glen Dr. Rob Lapuh commented that Glenwood Dr is starting to break up also.

Pete has the paperwork for OPWC grant round 41 that he needs to fill out. We hope to use this round for paving in town. OPWC grant round 39 for paving the rest of Forman Rd can be handed out for bid per the County Engineer. One bid package will go to Koski and one to Ronyac. Plans for cleanup day were gone over. John reminded everyone of no tires or hazardous waste. Pete asked about weed spraying. John said he would look into it for the next meeting. Pete had a quote from Diamond Door for the 3 panels on the garage door at the road department.

Res. 70-26 John moved to have Diamon Door fix and adjust the garage doors on the storage shed for regular maintenance under a T&M contract seconded Pete. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

Pete got a price to fix and repair the old Road Dept garage door. The cost is \$6,250 for a 20 ft door. This will be tabled for now. Pete is working on getting a package price on what it would cost to put up 3 more lights on the east side of the Township Park. The package would include lights, electricity, and poles. There will be a sign and a chain going up in the park by the portable restroom because of an issue with dirt bikes riding in the park. Byron asked the roadmen to check on the ditches on Lampson Road on the North side by Glenwood Dr and the South side of Lampson across from the Goat Farm because they are holding water. Byron read the resignation letter from Sue Avsec from the Zoning Board of Appeals affective April 30, 2026. The Trustees accepted it with regret and thanked her for all of her years of service. John went over the quote for the new F550. It is a Sourcewell contract. The truck will come completely furnished. The truck should be delivered by October.

Res. 71-26 John moved to go with MTech for the purchase of the truck for \$146,525 Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

John asked Mike Petro Jr to contact Haines Memorial to see what footers need to be replaced due to the tree damage. John said he would like to get the small building in Center

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Cemetery painted. The door grates also need cleaned and painted. They should also check the condition of the roof while they have the ladders there. John asked Mike Petro Jr to have the road guys mark the trees they feel need to be taken down this year. Then the Trustees will take a look at them. John reported he spoke with the Austinburg Country Days committee. Austinburg Country Days will be August 28-30. The Trustees will supply the portable restrooms for the park. The Trustees will have Tim Gildersleeve make sure the electrical boxes are up and working before that weekend.

Res. 72-26 John moved to endorse Austinburg Country Days this year with the understanding that there will be beer sold in the park and a pull-tab bingo game, Pete seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

John found a precast hoop roof salt bin that is guaranteed for 25 years. John said we need to confirm plans on what the cost would be for a salt bin and what type we want.

Res. 73-26 John moved to pay off Mike Petro's 20 sick days and pay off the rest of his vacation time per the Township work rules, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

Res. 74-26 John moved to cover Mike Petro's insurance until June 1, 2026, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.

Resident Steve Schafer informed the Trustees that there is another top of a tree that has fallen and is hanging at 1079 Orchard Grove. Ted Seifert is looking at having a Forester come out to his property and harvest some trees. Ted said he would be willing to have the Forester look at the trees on the North side of Center Cemetery. The Trustees will go take a look at the trees with Ted.

Res. 75-26 John moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 pm, Pete seconded. The roll; Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.



Kanda O'Dell, Fiscal Officer



John Kusar, Chairman